

SAFETY MEETING

Company Name: Superior Waterproofing

Tool Talk #25

Date: 7/31/2020

ELECTROCUTION DECISION LEADS TO DEATH

More proof that assumptions can be fatal. (By the way, the details of this story are true)

The foreman watched in horror while his best friend was electrocuted while cleaning out an electrical cabinet. The room quickly filled with smoke and the victim, who had touched a live contact inside an electrical panel, fell to the floor with a hole in his skull. During the investigation, some witnesses said the man had screamed before he died; other witnesses said he never uttered a sound. The foreman suffered from severe depression for many months after the tragedy.

Don't let this happen to you. ELECTRICITY is DANGEROUS and you don't normally get a second chance. We are all aware of underground cables and "Dig Right", but what about electricity and conduits where we don't think about it? What about electric wires and junction boxes? Maybe an outlet is hanging out of a junction box with exposed contacts.



****INCIDENT 10/8/18** This was in a parking garage. If you see a "cover plate" (picture on left) you need to stop what you are doing and find out what it is covering. Picture on right shows the chisel after it came in contact with the live electrical wiring inside a conduit compared to a new chisel.

Basic Rules – Always assume that electric wires are hot or energized.

- ANALYZE the specific work activity and area. Do not base hazard controls on established standards and practices. PROJECT MANAGERS need to always ask about electrical lines in the area where we will be working. This was electricity for the sprinkler system in a parking garage.
- Mark all concealed electrical wiring when located.
- Drill pilot holes and check frequently for obstructive material such as wires and rebar.
- Check all cords for brittle or cracked insulation, burn spots and bare wires.
- Avoid running cords through water or working with wet hands.
- If you sustain a shock or burn get first aid immediately. The injury can be deeper than it appears and infections occur frequently if burns are not treated properly.

WHAT UNSAFE OPERATIONS DID YOU FIND ON YOUR JOBSITE THIS WEEK? _____

What Corrective action was taken? _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____