



Policy

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

Number: 55-007

Title: Other Hazards: Electrical Workers

Saskatchewan Employment Act:

OHS Regulation: 450-467

Date: January 1, 2017

Date Revised/Reaffirmed: May 28, 2018

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Purpose

To ensure the health and safety of all workers who are trained and certified to work with electricity

Roles and Responsibilities

Employer must ensure:

- That only trained electrical workers construct, install alter, repair or maintain electrical equipment
- That only approved electrical equipment is used and as it was intended and at the proper location
- That all electrical equipment is in proper working condition and is safe to operate
- That all electrical equipment is tested in accordance with the manufacturer
- That all electrical panels approved for the intended use and location and is protected from physical damage
- Where there is electrical switchgear or transformer that the equipment is properly guarded, kept free from extraneous material, adequately ventilated, has warning signs placed that indicate the voltage use and states restricted access
- That a specified minimum distance is maintained between high voltage electrical equipment, conductors and workplace equipment. If this specified minimum safe distance cannot be maintained, it requires that an employer must obtain a written assurance of certain matters from a representative of the power system.
- That an emergency program has been developed in the case that an electrical worker comes in contact or is exposed to an energized electrical conductor. It must include how to a rescue a worker who has come in contact with a live conductor, to administer first aid to the worker and how to obtain medical assistance

Manager/Supervisor must ensure:

- That roles and responsibilities of all workers are being met, as well as applicable legislation and/or standards
- Safe work procedures are written and followed
- Any and all defects identified in electrical equipment have immediate steps taken to protect the health and safety of all workers who may be at risk or the unsafe conditions are corrected or repaired as soon as possible
- Switches, receptacles, luminaries and junction boxes are fitted with approved covers and are in the proper location

Worker must ensure:

- They are trained in and follow the safe work procedures
- They are trained in and use any PPE required (selection, use, care and handling)
- They report to their supervisor and the Safety Alert System/Incident Report Line for any incidents or near misses that involve electricity

- All extension cords are approved for the proper use, location, fitted with the appropriate cord end, is grounded, maintained and protected from damage
- That when using portable luminaires the proper cords and fittings are used
- The electrical cord used for portable luminaries are not used to power any other equipment
- Electrical panels are accessible and fitted with an approved cover
- That portable electric plants do not exceed 240 volts
- If the portable plant is ungrounded all connected equipment must be of the double insulated type and clearly marked as double insulated or is supplied from a class A ground fault
- No work is performed in proximity to exposed energized high voltage electrical conductors unless the equipment is isolated, locked out and connected to ground or other effective procedures are taken to ensure worker safety

Orientation & Training

- Trained and qualified in high voltage electrical safety

Materials

- Appropriate PPE
- Written proof of approved training- proof must accessible at all times when working near high voltage
- Emergency Program

Non-Compliance/Breach:

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

May 28, 2018