

ACCIDENT REPORT

DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 126

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Electrocutation
Weather Conditions: Clear 66 Degrees, Sunshine,
Wind: ESE 4.6 mph
Type of Operation: Electrical Power Line Installation
Size of Work Crew: 2
Union or Non-Union: Non Union
Worksite inspection conducted: Yes - Infrequent
Competent safety monitoring on-site: Yes – Victim was the Foreman
Safety and Health Program in effect: Yes
Training and education for employees: Yes
Craft of deceased employee: Journeyman Lineman
Age/Sex: 30/Male
Time on job: 2 Days
Time at task: 8 Hours



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Two crew members were upgrading a single phase 15 kVA line to a three phase 37.5 kVA line along a rural road. The accident occurred while the victim was upgrading the first pole on the second day of the project. The victim, a journeyman lineman supervisor, was working from the bucket of an aerial lift when he asked the ground man to retrieve a tool from another vehicle approximately 6 poles to the west. As the ground man was returning to the worksite, he saw that the victim was slumped over in the bucket.

The victim had not installed/removed jumper clamps between phases properly, nor was he wearing rubber gloves, when his back made contact with the live line while holding the grounding conductor.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The employer shall insure that employees always wear insulating gloves when working around energized lines.
2. The employer shall insure that employees install devices, such as blankets or line covers, prior to working around energized lines.
3. The employer shall insure that appropriate procedures are developed and implemented so that employees are trained on the procedures for requesting line(s) be locked/tagged out from the power provider/company prior to starting work.

YOU HAVE A VOICE IN THE WORKPLACE

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT OF 1970 affords workers the right to a safe workplace. OSHA requires employers to provide a workplace that is free of serious recognized hazards and in compliance with OSHA standards. Workers have the right to FILE A COMPLAINT WITH OSHA if they believe that there are either violations of OSHA standards or serious workplace hazards. Contact the [OSHA Area office](#) nearest you or contact our toll free number: 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)... TTY 1-

877-889-5627. To file a complaint online or obtain information on your rights in the workplace, see the [OSHA Workers' Page](#).

OSHA Standards, regulations, documents and technical information are available on the Internet World Wide web at: <http://www.osha.gov>

For hard copies of OSHA Standards [29 CFR Parts 1910 and 1926], which include all OSHA job safety and health rules and regulations, contact the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250.

OSHA-funded free consultation services are listed in telephone directories under U.S. Labor Department or under the state government section where states administer their own OSHA programs.

Courses in occupational health and safety are offered by the OSHA Training Institute, 2020 Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, phone (847) 759-7752, and the Metropolitan Community Colleges Business & Technology Center, 1775 Universal Ave., Kansas City, MO 64120, phone (816) 604-1600.

Note: This case described was selected as being representative of improper work practices which likely contributed to a fatality from a fall and/or electrocution. The accident prevention recommendations do not necessarily reflect the outcome of the legal aspects of the incident case. OSHA encourages your company or organization to duplicate and share this information. To be placed on the email distribution list, contact Peggy Taylor at U.S. Department of Labor-OSHA, 2300 Main, Suite 1010, Kansas City, MO 64108, or e-mail to taylor.peggy@dol.gov.