

ACCIDENT REPORT

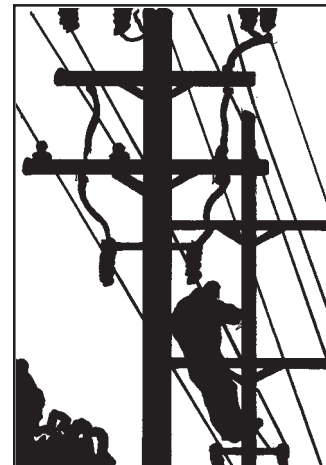
DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 58

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Electrocutation/
Fall from Overhead Powerline
Weather Conditions: Cloudy/cool
Type of Company: Construction Overhead Powerline
Size of Work Crew: 6
Collective bargaining: Yes
Worksite inspections conducted: No
Competent safety monitoring on-site: No
Safety and Health Program in effect: Yes
Training and education for employees: Employer provided Apprenticeship School,
OJT, Tailgate Talks,
Craft of deceased: Apprentice Lineman/Splicer
Age/Sex: 36/Male
Time on the job: 1 year
Time on project: 1 month



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

The victim was working on a construction crew installing a new double circuit transmission line. He failed to recognize that the west side of the second pole in line was energized. The victim climbed the west side of the pole to remove the protective grounds to the east side of the pole. While crossing over the west side of the lower cross arm, the victim came in contact with the B phase 7200 volt phase to ground. The arc knocked him from the pole and he fell 32 feet to the ground, sustaining fatal injuries.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. When constructing new or replacement lines, determine the existing energy load before each days activity and at any time that work conditions change. Communicate that status to all persons on the job site including, but not limited to line crew and ground crew. Initiate and maintain programs such that the existing energy condition is inspected before work begins, or conditions change.
2. Instruct each employee on the avoidance of all unsafe conditions associated with construction of overhead power lines, including the opportunity of energized lines prior to release to service.
3. Test or otherwise determine overhead power lines each day prior to beginning work, or when conditions change.
4. Prevent employees from approaching energized lines nearer than established distances. Erect guards and barriers when working with energized overhead power transmission lines adjacent to pole work.

SOURCES OF HELP

- OSHA Standards, regulations, documents and technical information are available on the Internet World Wide web at: <http://www.OSHA.gov/>. That information also is on CD-ROM, which may be purchased from the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800 or fax (202) 512-2250, Order No.729-13-00000-5; Cost \$79 annually; \$28 quarterly.
- For hard copies of OSHA Construction Standards [29 CFR Part 1926], which include all OSHA job safety and health rules and regulation covering construction, contact Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250, order number 869-022-00114-1, \$33.
- OSHA-funded free consultation services listed in telephone directories under U.S. Labor Department or under the state government section where states administer their own OSHA programs.
- OSHA Safety and Health Training Guidelines for Construction, Volume III (Available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161; phone (703) 487-4650; Order No. PB-239-312/AS. \$25 to help construction employers establish a training program.
- Courses in construction safety are offered by the OSHA Training Institute, 1555 Times Drive, Des Plaines, IL 60018, (847) 297-4810, and the Metropolitan Community Colleges Business & Technology Center, 6899 Executive Drive, Kansas City, MO 64120, (816) 482-5210.

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. Your company or organization is eligible to receive one free copy of this leaflet which you may duplicate and share with your co-workers. To be placed on the distribution list, send your name, title and address to: U.S. Department of Labor-OSHA, 1100 Main, Suite 800, Kansas City, MO 64105, Attn. TECFAP, or e-mail to dearing-cynthia@dol.gov.