

DISASTER FACTS

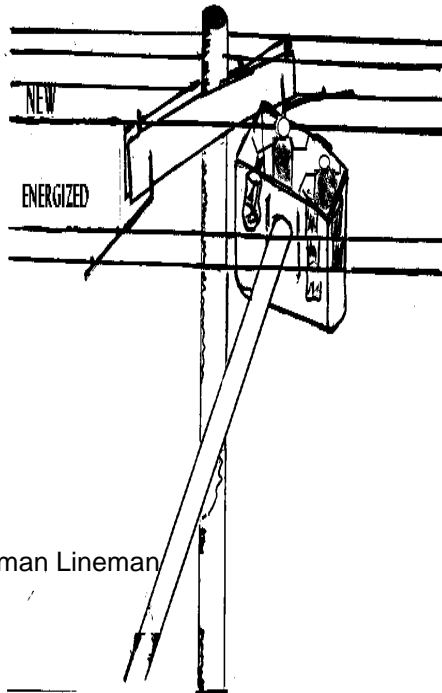
ACCIDENT REPORT



U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 18

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Electrocutation
 Weather Conditions: Clear and calm
 Type of Company: Electrical Power Transmission Contractor
 Size of Work Crew: 3
 Union or Non-Union: Union
 Worksite Inspections Conducted: Yes
 Designated Competent Person on Site: Yes
 Employer Safety and Health Program: Yes
 Training and Education for Employees: Yes
 Craft of Deceased Employee: Journeyman Lineman
 Age/Sex: 59 - M
 Time on the Job: 2 weeks
 Time at the Task: 2 hours



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 regulations 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.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

A three man crew was in the process of installing a new de-energized overhead power line next to existing energized lines. Employee's #1 and #2 were working in the extended lift bucket, with the bucket up underneath the new power line and the boom underneath the energized power lines, while employee #3 was located on the ground. Employees #1 and #2 in the bucket were not wearing any PPE, and the energized power lines were not insulated. Employee #2 had his back turned to employee #1, while trying to set the new power line in the insulator, when he heard a loud bang. He felt head and pressure hit his back. He turned to see employee #1 slumped in the bucket on fire. Employee #3 tried to lower the bucket away from the lines, but the hydraulic lines exploded and caught on fire while the bucket was still approximately 15 feet off the ground, causing the bucket to remain suspended. Employee #2 jumped to the ground. Employee #1 was pronounced dead at the scene and had an electrical entry point on his left thigh. Autopsy results confirmed electrocution as the cause of death.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Personnel working near energized overhead power lines shall always maintain minimum safe distance, for rated voltage unless; the employee is insulated or guarded from energized part; energized part is insulated from employee and any other conductive object; the employee is isolated, insulated, or guarded from any other conductive objects.

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.