

BWC Update

Safety news from the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Safety in a flash

Electric shock is a constant hazard that can literally strike in a flash. Just two seconds of exposure to a small ampere of electricity can lead to severe brain injury, amputated limbs and even death. Some injuries from electrical shock can even strike after the electrical current has left the body.

BWC can help protect your workers from the many dangers of working with electricity. BWC recommends the following control measures to ensure the safety of your workers:

- Enclose all energized electrical conductors in approved cabinets, boxes, raceways and fittings;
- Ensure employees use all electrically powered equipment according to its listing and labeling instructions;
- Establish policies that require employees and equipment to stay a minimum of 10 feet from any overhead utility wires;
- Develop lockout/tagout policies that prohibit employees from working on energized conductors and equipment.

BWC also offers instructional resources to help protect your employees. These include:

- Safety consulting services;
- Training courses on electrical safety and other safety-related practices;
- Videos on electrical safety and lockout/tagout procedures;
- *Safety Talks* on working safely with electricity;
- Educational guides on electric power tools.

BWC can also help protect your workers from other hazards, such as:

- Overexertion;
- Slips, trips and falls;
- Airborne dusts, fumes and vapors;
- Cuts and lacerations.

More information is available about preventing injuries for public employers by [clicking here](#).

Connect with a BWC safety consultant at 1-866-569-7805 or via email at besafe@ohiobwc.com.