HOT STICKING

NECA
NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

When conducting live line tool work or “hot sticking” you are at a monumental risk for experiencing electrical contact. Hot sticking is a highly specialized technique that involves the use of insulating tools designed and intended for work on energized equipment and conductors. Prior to engaging in any work of this nature, you should be properly trained.

Prior to starting any hot sticking operations inspect the structures on either side of the structure to be worked. Ensure that all ties and hardware are secure so the that it will not impede your work.

When using the live line tool method for a job you must never make direct contact with energized equipment or conductors with any part of your body. You should position yourself so that you cannot reach into, extend any conductive object into or extend any other part of the body into the Minimum Approach Distance (MAD).

Before positioning yourself to begin work using the live line tool method, you should have the proper approved safety equipment to insulate and isolate the energized conductors and devices that you will be working on

When using the live line tool method cradle-to-cradle rubber glove method safety practices do not apply. However you are required to use rubber insulating protective equipment if you will encroach the MAD.

It is not necessary to wear rubber insulating gloves and sleeves when working from a position that you are unable to reach into, extend any conductive object into or extend any other part of your body into the MAD when working with fiberglass insulating live line tools. Prior to using any live line tools, make sure that they are clean and dry.

Always wear rubber insulating gloves if you are required to reach into, extend any conductive object into or extend any other part of the body into the MAD. Rubber protective sleeves should also be worn under the same circumstances if there is arm exposure.

Whenever you are working with live lines or energized circuits between 50 and 600 volts, wear Class 0 rubber gloves with leather protectors. You do not need to wear rubber sleeves when working with less than 600 volts, unless your arms are exposed to the live device or you will breach the 5-foot rule. The 5-foot rule requires you to wear Class 2 rubber gloves and sleeves when working within 5 feet of equipment that may become energized at level greater than 600 volts.

If you are working with larger voltages ranging from 600 to 15,000 volts, always wear Class 2 rubber gloves with leather protectors and Class 2 rubber sleeves. As a general rule of thumb, rubber protective sleeves should meet or exceed the class rating of the rubber gloves that you are using.

Never conduct work using the live line tool method in adverse weather conditions. These conditions make energized conductors and equipment more volatile and too hazardous to work on.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

When should you always wear rubber insulating gloves?

SAFETY TALK ATTENDANCE ROSTER

NECA
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COMPANY: _____ JOB/DEPT: _____

DATE: ____/____/_____ TIME: _____

TOPICS ADDRESSED: _____

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURES:

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EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: _____

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ACTION TAKEN: _____

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_____ _____/_____/_____

Supervisor's Signature Date

_____ _____/_____/_____

Safety Coordinator's Signature Date