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Abstract of a Mishap

Mishap Type: *Contact with energized electrical*
Injury: *Fatality*
Type of Work: *BOS Service Contract (Preventive Maintenance)*
Equipment: *Electrical Capacitor*



DESCRIPTION OF THE MISHAP:

- Employee came in contact with live 2400v terminal on line side of oil switch while replacing faulty capacitor as part of equipment preventive maintenance.

DIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Failure to plan, evaluate hazards, implement controls, and utilize safe procedures associated with working on or near energized equipment. Equipment was not de-energized prior to work being initiated. Operated within safe working clearance for qualified electrical employees (2'1"). There was approximately 5" between the energized post on the oil switch and the fuse post.



INDIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Supervision: The lack of employee operations being supervised.
- ◆ After normal work hours: Working on weekend after normal working hours.
- ◆ Working alone: Working in energized equipment area alone.
- ◆ No pre-work meeting to review sources of energy or validate electrical safe work condition is established and verified prior to beginning work.
- ◆ No hazardous energy control plan.
- ◆ No testing or validation of energized parts location.
- ◆ No Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA).
- ◆ PPE: - Contractor employees did not utilize any electrical personal protective equipment.
- ◆ Energized equipment/termination energy sources were not grounded as required if an outage application and process was followed.

ROOT CAUSE:

- ◆ Lack of contractor supervisory oversight for safe procedures of employees on the worksite.
- ◆ Failure to follow policy for working on energized equipment.

LESSONS LEARNED:

- ◆ Proper pre task Operational Risk Management planning and supervision must be utilized at all times when working around electrical systems. Adherence to established OSHA rules must be maintained. Effective safety enforcement systems implemented by managers and supervisors can ensure proper safety practices are followed.
- ◆ Do not work electrical equipment energized without permission.
- ◆ Enhance process for BOS service contract safety quality assurance techniques.

CONTACT NAVFAC SAFETY FOR MORE INFORMATION