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Safety Lessons Learned Accident Abstract

Accident Type: Electrical Panel fire

Injury: NONE

Damage: Electrical panel, wiring, wall smoke damage

Equipment Involved: Electrical Panel

Type of Work: Install new 220V circuit into panel for copier outlet.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCIDENT:

Electrician was pulling wire cables through piping into circuit panel H-2. The panel face was off in order to pull the wire through piping. Once the wire was pulled into the circuit panel the electrician left the wire hanging freely in front of breakers and left the panel unattended. The pulled green wire sprung into the opening of the breakers and shorted on the bus line and caused the electrical fire.

DIRECT CAUSE(S):

- ◆ Pulled wire sprung into breaker opening and shorted at the bus line.

INDIRECT CAUSE(S):

- ◆ Working on a live circuit.
- ◆ No Lockout/Tag out was performed.
- ◆ No ORM was used in the process.
- ◆ No SOP was used for particular process.
- ◆ Worker was alone.
- ◆ Panel was not barricaded to keep affected personnel away.

ROOT CAUSE(S):

- ◆ Failed to follow requirements.
- ◆ Lack of supervision.

LESSONS LEARNED:

- ◆ Do not work alone on live energized circuits.
- ◆ Always perform Lockout/Tag out on energized equipment to eliminate the hazard.
- ◆ Wear proper electrical PPE such as flame resistant clothing, electrical gloves, and arc-flash face shield.
- ◆ Barricade area of work to warn affected personnel.



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