



**Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic**  
**Abstract of an Incident**



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<b>Accident Type:</b>	<b>INDUSTRIAL</b>
<b>Injury:</b>	<b>SHOCK</b>
<b>Type of Work:</b>	<b>HIGH VOLTAGE – REPAIR</b>
<b>Equipment:</b>	<b>TRANSFORMER</b>

**DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT:**

A Utilities High Voltage Electrician (HVE) SCEP intern was attempting to repair a step-down transformer. He tested the secondary side and found it to be off. His assumption was that all power was off to the transformer. He reached his right hand in the opening to remove the mounting assembly to a fuse holder. When he did this, he came in contact with the primary side and received a shock (voltage – 13.9KVA). The employee fell from the stool on which he was kneeling. He appeared to be in shock but was responsive within a few seconds. His co-worker contacted the supervisor to notify him of the incident. The injured employee was transported to local hospital where he remained overnight for observation. Employee received burns to his right forearm, left knee and lower left abdominal area. Employee was released from the hospital the next day and returned to full duty the day following.

**Direct Causes:**

- **Employee contacted energized circuit**

**Indirect Causes:**

- **Employee did not follow established working and LO/TO procedures**
- **Inadequate job brief**
- **Intern mentor not available**
- **Supervisor had been called off to a second site**
- **Poor communication between supervisor and subordinates**
- **Employee worked outside of established guidelines**
- **Working without proper oversight/supervision**

**Lessons Learned and Specific Safety Consideration:**

- **Job briefs need to be in depth and detailed. Supervisor needs to be thorough in explanation of work to be accomplished and method of doing so.**
- **Job Hazard Analysis needs to be part of all job briefs**

**Corrective Action:**

- **Immediate stand-down and employees brief on electric SAFE procedures**
- **HVE interns have been reminded that they're not authorized to work independently.**
- **Interns have been instructed to ride with mentors/journeymen at all times.**
- **PWD conducting internal review and audit of compliance with all Electric SAFE procedures.**