



Electricity creates a significant hazard in the workplace.

**Most injuries and fatalities result from:**

- Electric shock
- Electrocutation
- Burns
- Arc blasts
- Fires
- Explosions.

Flammable vapors or gases and combustible dust or fibers may be present in some locations on a construction job site and pose a significant hazard when mixed with electricity.

**Precautions to Take**

Before operating or working around electrical equipment, make sure you are properly trained. Do not install or repair equipment if you are not qualified.

**When operating or working around electrical equipment:**

- Respect the power of electricity
- De-energize electrical equipment when working on it
- Inspect and maintain equipment and tools
- Use safety features, like three-pronged plugs, double-insulated tools, and safety switches
- Make sure electrical equipment is properly grounded
- Follow lockout and tagging procedures
  - Use “C” rated extinguishers for electrical fires; Never use water
- Practice good housekeeping for cables & cords by keeping them clean & storing them properly
- Do not touch water, bare wires, or ungrounded metal if you are not protected
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment for the job
- Do not wear clothing or jewelry that can conduct electricity
- Use flexible cords only when regulations allow, and there are no other options.