

CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

Construction Safety Investigator



Instructions

The objective of this tool is to provide field supervisors with information to proactively engage workers and discuss safety related concerns that they may encounter. Safety discussions should not be limited to the subject above and should pertain to the activities that workers will be involved in that may have the potential for safety related exposures.

Case Day:

May 15, 2009

Accident Type:

Electrical Accident - Arc Flash

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.400, 1926.403(b)(1)(i) - (vii), 1926.416, NFPA 70-E

Case:

Three electricians were working in an energy facility and were attempting to remove a 480 KV breaker when an electrical arc flash occurred, severely injuring all three workers.

Accident Detail:

On the day of the incident, the workers were tasked with performing maintenance on electrical switchgear. While the contractor was obtaining information related to the equipment to be worked on, the three workers allegedly began their task before they were permitted to do so.

When they attempted to remove the 480KV breaker, it flashed over, causing severe burns to all three workers.

Reconstructive Safety Evaluation:

- What are some of the possible causes of the accident being discussed?
- What actions could have been taken that might have prevented this accident from occurring?

