

Electrical hazards can be found on every construction project. Examples:

- Overhead powerlines
 - Damaged tools or extension cords
 - Improperly insulated equipment
 - Faulty wiring or missing ground pins
 - Unsafe work practices
 - Exposed energized wires in electrical panels or outlets
- Never use metal ladders when working with or near energized electrical equipment.

OSHA Standard 1926.1053(b)(12) says that *ladders shall have nonconductive siderails if they are used where the employee or the ladder could contact exposed energized electrical equipment...*

OSHA Standard 1926.416(a)(1) states that *no employer shall permit an employee to work in such proximity to any part of an electric power circuit that the employee could contact the electric power circuit in the course of work, unless the employee is protected against electric shock by deenergizing the circuit and grounding it or by guarding it effectively by insulation or other means.*

- Workers must be protected from energized electrical parts!
- Covers should be in place and locked, if necessary, to avoid accidental contact by persons not qualified to work on electrical equipment.
- Openings in electrical panels should be covered, guarded, or protected to prevent accidental shocks or electrocution.

OSHA Standard 1926.300(a) Condition of tools. *All hand and power tools and similar equipment, whether furnished by the employer or the employee, shall be maintained in a safe condition.*

- Never use damaged or defective electrical tools!
- Always inspect your electrical tools before use.
- Never attempt to repair electrical tools or equipment unless you are qualified for the work.

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