Electric Equipment Guarding and Workspaces Stats and Facts

FACTS

1. An electrical shock of 50-150 milli-amperes for one second can cause a worker’s death. Electrical shock can also cause burns and internal injuries to workers.

2. The common types of injuries observed in cases of electric shock are:

- Damaged Tissues
- Destruction of internal organs
- Blood loss
- Damaged Nerve, muscle, and tendon
- Fractures
- Loss of limbs

3. Electrical accidents have many potential causes. Some common causes of electrical accidents include:

- Missing ground-fault protection.
- Misuse of extension cords.
- Improper use of electrical equipment.
- Improperly installed equipment.
- Negligence when using electrical equipment around water.
- Lack of proper safety training.
- Lack of proper equipment training.
- Unsafe work practices.

STATS

- About 4,000 people are electrocuted in the workplace each year. Construction and similar industries account for most of these accidents.
- According to the CDC’s NIOSH, the construction industry

comprises approximately 8% of the U.S. workforce, yet it accounts for 44% of job-related fatalities. Consider the statistics:

- Electrical hazards cause more than 300 deaths and 4,000 injuries each year in the U.S. workforce.
- Electrocution is the sixth cause of workplace deaths in America.
- Construction trades, and installation/maintenance/repair professionals are the top two groups suffering the most fatal electrocution work-related accidents.
- It’s estimated that 62 agricultural workers/yr. die from electrocution in the U.S., with overhead power lines being the most common source.
- Electrocutions kill an average of 143 construction workers each year.
- Electrical workers suffered the highest number of electrocutions per year (586 or 34 % of the total deaths caused by electrocution), followed by site laborers, carpenters, supervisors of nonelectrical workers, and roofers.

- (OSHA), estimates there are approximately 350 electrical-related fatalities a year, which roughly equals one fatality per day. Statistics from (NIOSH), show electrocution is the third-leading cause of death at work among 16 and 17-year-old workers, accounting for 12 % of all workplace deaths.