

MNMM Fatal 2005-06

- Electrical
- March 28, 2005 (Texas)
- Crushed Stone Operation
- Self-employed Electrician
- 49 years old
- 26 years experience

Overview

- The victim was troubleshooting an electrical problem at the secondary plant. He was fatally injured when he contacted an energized electrical circuit.



Why Did Accident Occur?

- The accident occurred because there were no safe operating procedures in place to ensure that the circuit breakers were de-energized, locked out, tagged, and the 480-volt circuit tested prior to performing any electrical work on individual circuits.

Causal Factor

- Management policies, standards, and controls were inadequate. The mine operator did not provide the victim with training on the electrical configuration of the secondary plant. Supervisors were unaware of which circuit was controlled by the Spokane 2 breaker.

Causal Factor

- The Spokane 2 circuit breaker was not de-energized, locked out, tagged, and tested before repairs were attempted. No procedures were in place to ensure that the task could be safely completed.

Best Practices

Before YOU work on an electrical circuit:

- Positively determine which circuit is to be worked on.
- Disconnect power from the circuit.
- Lock out and tag out the circuit with YOUR lock.
- Test the circuit for voltage using properly rated test equipment.
- Ground the circuit.