



Equipment Alert - UPDATE

Southwire Models 11060S and 12070T Digital Multimeters

UPDATE 08/05/14: Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) determined that Southwire Models 11060S and 12070T digital multimeters examined during their investigation did not comply with the UL IP67 waterproof rating. Note that water exposure was not identified as a factor in the accident referenced by this alert. If these multimeters are being used, or may be used, in environments where compliance with IP67 is necessary to assure safe use of the device, MSHA recommends that mine operators immediately discontinue their use and take the actions noted in the Consumer Notice issued by Southwire on July 20, 2014 – see <http://www.southwire.com/documents/ToolNoticeRelease-7-10-14.pdf>.



Original Alert:

An accident occurred in an underground coal mine involving an electrician who received burns to his hands and face. The electrician was using a voltmeter to take a phase-to-phase measurement at a 995V receptacle in a power center when an arc occurred, tripping power at the surface.

The electrician was using a Southwire Auto-Ranging Multimeter (Model 11060S). MSHA examination and testing of the meter involved in the accident, as well as an identical meter obtained from the mine operator, revealed that the meter's design and manufacture was not consistent with its Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Listing. UL is currently investigating. Pending UL's determination, mine operators should contact Southwire concerning the safe use of the device.

Best Practices, including **only taking phase-to-ground voltage readings**, should be followed when performing electrical work. Always use the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Other safety reminders can be found at the following links:

- http://www.msha.gov/Accident_Prevention/Tips/electest.pdf
- http://www.msha.gov/Safety_Targets/LockandTagCoal/LockOutTagOutCoal.asp