



## MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Safety Idea

Safety and  
Health are  
Values!

### Electrical Arc Flash Hazards

Arc flashing injuries typically occur when energized circuits are interrupted by the operation of circuit protective devices or disconnects. Arc flashing burns usually result in the ignition of flammable clothing, thus severely burning the victim. Only qualified persons should be performing any type of electrical work. Arc temperatures can reach a maximum temperature of 35,000°F and fatal burns can occur at distances over 10 ft. "High risk areas" include circuit breaker panels, power centers and transformers. By wearing the proper Arc Flash Protective Equipment that complies with NFPA 70E when operating circuit breakers, working around power centers and high voltage lines, you can prevent being severely burned by arc flashes. Proper Personal Protective Equipment Includes:

- Flame-resistant clothing/undergarments
- Flash suits (for high-energy arc exposure)
- Flash suit hoods (see picture)
- Insulating gloves & tools



This is in addition to normally used hard hat, safety shoes, safety glasses, and hearing protection. Always remember to use proper work procedures such as removing power, lock/tag the circuit, and testing for voltage before working on the circuit.

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