

# NEAR MISS

On August 25, 2007, a utility worker was injured when he grabbed a 480 Volt trailing cable in order to move it out of the way. He received an electrical shock when he took hold of a splice in the cable. The worker received a burn on his right thumb and severe muscular damage to his right shoulder. Inspection of the splice revealed that each of the three current carrying conductors was mechanically joined by square knotting them together instead of using proper connectors. One of the knots had ruptured the insulation and the outer jacket of the cable. The worker was wearing leather boots.



## Best Practices:

De-energize cables before contacting them, if possible.

Carefully examine the cable to avoid contacting splices or damaged areas.

Wear electrically rated gloves to protect against electrical shock.

