



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 04 – 30

## ELECTRICAL TROUBLESHOOTING INCIDENT

### WHAT HAPPENED:

A problem was experienced with a main engine-cooling pump. The electrician was asked to check the electrical supply to the cooling pump motor. The electrician opened the Motor Control Center panel and proceeded to check the fuses with his multi-meter on the Ohms scale. During his tests the probe from the meter shorted across fuses 2 and 3 causing flash burns to the electricians hands; it also blacked out the rig due to consequential reasons.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The MCC panel inter-lock was faulty causing the cubicle to remain live after the door was opened.
- The electrician did not prove the electrical supply “DEAD” prior to working in the cubicle.
- The electrician did not adhere to the Try section of Lock, Tag and Try.
- The electrician did not review the appropriate JSA for the task.

### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following action items:

1. All electricians are to make sure that the Electrical Procedures section in the company preventative maintenance manual is reviewed and understood.
2. Electricians are to make sure that electrical JSAs reflect the content of the Electrical Procedures section. (With specific regard to “PROVING DEAD” prior to starting work).
3. Electricians to make sure the JSAs are reviewed prior to starting work.
4. Electricians are to use fused and shrouded test leads to avoid short circuit risks.

It is the responsibility of the Rig Manager/OIM to make sure that any Master JSA affected by this Alert is updated. The Rig Manager/OIM will also make sure that the information in this Alert is provided immediately to all personnel, and that it will be included as a topic at the next regularly scheduled Safety Meeting. If the Alert is safety or environmentally critical to the present operation, the OIM will call a special Safety Meeting to cover the topic with all personnel.

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**The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company’s attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.**