Electrical Safety – Know the Ground Rules Stats and Facts



FACTS

1. Younger workers are most likely to experience electrical injuries.
2. The risk of shock or electrocution is greatest around metal objects and in damp conditions.
3. Only qualified electricians should repair electrical equipment or work an energized line.
4. Contact with overhead power supply lines is a frequent electrical-related killer.
5. Common Electrical Hazards
    - Overhead powerlines
    - Underground powerlines
    - Lightning
    - Faulty equipment
    - Working on energized equipment
    - Improper grounding
    - Damaged insulation

STATS

- Contact with / exposure to electric current accounted for 2.6% of all workplace fatalities. In 2016, they accounted for 2.9%, in 2015 2.7% and 3.1% in 2014.
- Contact with / exposure to electric current maintained its position as sixth most common type of workplace fatality. 54% of all fatal electrical injuries occurred in the construction industry compared to 53% in 2016. The second leading industry in electrical fatalities in professional and business services with 20 fatalities (15%).
- By occupation, workers in construction and extraction occupations (47%) and installation, maintenance, and repair occupations (22%) accounted for the largest number of deaths.
- 80% of fatal injuries from direct exposure to electricity occurred while workers were engaged in constructing, repairing, or cleaning activities.
- Electrical hazards are listed as the cause of approximately 4,000 injuries

annually.
- Total economic losses due to electrical hazards are estimated to exceed $4 billion annually.