



# GENERAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY

## TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – ELECTRICAL SAFETY

September 2022

Electrical hazards in the workplace present such a serious hazard that OSHA designated electrical hazards as part of their Focus Four campaign. This campaign was designed to address the four hazards responsible for the majority of workplace fatalities.

### Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters

These devices are designed to sense leakage of current to ground. When detected they can “interrupt” current flow within a 1/40<sup>th</sup> of a second. When an individual becomes the path to ground this can stop the flow of current before an individual can be injured. GFCIs should be utilized when there is a risk of live current being grounded through an individual.



### Jobsite Considerations

To minimize the risk of electrocution on the jobsite remember the following points:

- Take note of overhead power lines. At no time should equipment operate within 10 feet of overhead lines. As voltage increases, separation distance increases.
- Treat all electrical lines and equipment as live. Contact the electrical utility in the event of down lines or damaged equipment.
- The likelihood of electrocution increases under wet conditions. Avoid using electrical equipment when wet or in wet areas.
- Inspect all electrical equipment including tools prior to use. Do not use the equipment if damaged.

