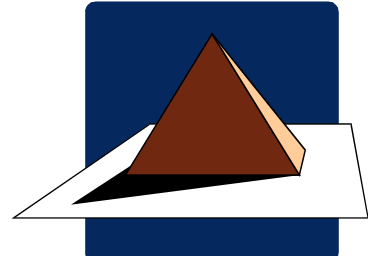


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“Service Measured To The Standard”

~ TEST EQUIPMENT ~

What is the most important piece of electrical test equipment? If you answered “voltage tester”, then you are correct. A properly used and maintained voltage tester can make your job easier, and more importantly, it can also save your life, or the life of your co-worker. All voltage test equipment should be inspected annually and tested to a known voltage standard by your local shop or a certified test equipment repair shop.

OSHA requires all electrical workers—those who come near or in contact with energized electrical circuits—to know the following:

1. The voltage levels of all circuits within or near the piece of equipment to be serviced.
2. The basic function of the piece of electrical equipment.
3. The appropriate type of voltage tester to insure that all circuits are de-energized.

Simply turning off the power and locking out the main power source may not remove all electrical hazards. Some pieces of equipment may have alternate or externally supplied power or control circuits. Wires or busses may still be “hot” due to residual charge remaining on capacitors or long lengths of cables. All pieces of electrical

equipment must be considered “hot” or energized **until** checked for voltage. Your company policies may also require grounding of the main power bus. Proper grounding minimizes circuits building up stray charges or failure of a lockout procedure.

Before working on any piece of electrical equipment, the following steps are suggested:

1. Review all power sources and disconnects.
2. Review the manufacturers’ recommended maintenance practices.
3. Use company policies to lockout the equipment. (If troubleshooting energized equipment, then additional safety precautions should be observed according to company policies.)
4. Identify the proper piece of test equipment for the various voltages to be tested.
5. Before using test equipment, inspect and verify its operation on a known energized power source.
6. Test all concerned electrical circuits.
7. Re-verify test equipment’s operation on a known energized power source.

Disclaimer

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