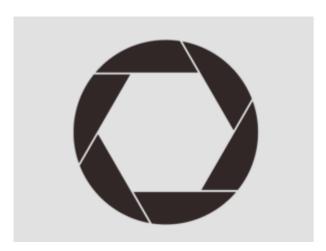
# Is This How Your Workers Do Electrical Work?



What's wrong with this picture?



You don't have to be an electrical engineer to recognize that it's not a great idea to repair electrical equipment with one's feet immersed in a puddle. It's just too bad the gentleman in the photo didn't get the memo.

**The Moral:** To avoid getting electrocuted, workers should perform electrical work only in dry locations.

## What's at Stake

# **Electrocution Deaths By the Numbers**

Maybe the worker in the picture wouldn't have parked himself in that puddle if he had been aware of these numbers about electrocution:

- 411 The average number of U.S. workers electrocuted each year
- 5 Electrocution is the fifth leading cause of U.S. workplace deaths
- 7 Seven out of 100 U.S. workers killed on the job are electrocuted
- 2 Electrocution is the second most common cause of deaths on construction sites

• 3 The 3 most common electrocution victims are workers in the electrical trades, construction and manufacturing

# What is Electrocution?

## **How It Kills You**

Electrocution is a fatal injury caused by absorption of too much electrical shock. It can happen to you at work if you touch a live wire or are otherwise exposed to shock strong enough to stop your heart.

## Why Workers Get Electrocuted

#### 5 Most Common Causes

Most workplace electrocutions happen for 1 or more of the following 5 reasons:

- 1. There were no electrical safe work procedures at the workplace
- 2. The victim had no or the wrong kind of PPE (personal protective equipment)
- 3. Lockout/Tagout procedures either didn't exist or weren't followed
- 4. The victim wasn't adequately trained in electrical hazards
- 5. The victim's supervisor wasn't adequately trained in electrical hazards

# Don't Let This Happen to You!

# 10 Electrical Safety Do's & Don'ts

- DO inspect electric cords and equipment to ensure they're in good shape
- DON'T run extension cords across doorways or under carpets
- DO avoid overloading electrical outlets
- DON'T work on electrical equipment or installations while standing in water
- DO replace or repair damaged or loose electrical cords
- **DON'T** repair electric cords or equipment unless you're qualified and authorized to do so
- DO use ground-fault circuit interrupters when working in damp locations
- DON'T touch fallen power lines
- **DO** call the electric company immediately to report downed lines
- DON'T get any closer than 10 feet away from overhead power lines while working outdoors