# Arc Flash the Easy Way 2023

Part 1 - Standards and Regulations



Presented By:
Jim Chastain – Jim@EasyPower.com

The presentation will start at the top of the hour.



## Arc Flash the Easy Way 2023

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### Series Agenda

- Arc Flash is a safety hazard
- Organizations and Regulations Involved in Electrical Safety
  - OSHA
  - Consensus standards rules & methods
    - NFPA
    - IEEE
    - CSA
- Arc Flash Study initial phase
  - Data Collection
  - System Modeling
- Updated IEEE 1584-2018
- Arc Flash Study analysis phase
  - Short Circuit Study
  - Protective Device Coordination
  - Arc Flash Hazard Assessment
- Examples, Reports, Labels
  - Mitigation
  - Comparing Results





### **Poll Questions**

Where do you currently stand with respect to NFPA-70E compliance?

What area of the study present the greatest challenge?



### Presentation Sourcebook

#### **Featured Downloads**



#### FREE Arc Flash Safety Book | A \$70 value!



#### **FREE Intro to Grounding A**

This comprehensive and val understand the need for and analysis.



#### **All Downloads**



FREE Arc Flash Study Spec



FREE Arc Flash Labeling Guide



Safety Program Resources



#### afety Book

d valuable resource will walk you steps for implementing an arc rt of your overall safety progr...



### Case Study

- Electrician replacing air filters routine PM.
- Large Forced-Cooled VFD cabinets.
- 2000 kVA 480 VAC
- First filter replaced with no incident.
- Heard strange noise from another drive.



### Case Study

- Located source as a specific drive section.
- He opened the door.
- Tremendous explosion.
- Died soon after hospital arrival.



### Case Study - What Happened

- Electrician was NOT electrocuted.
- Died as the result of burns from an arcing fault.
- Initiated by the simple act of opening the cabinet door - which allowed a loosely connected phase cable to fall onto a ground (or another phase) initiating an arcing fault.
- Arc Flash is our focus today.



### Arc Flash - Hazards

Release of energy from an electric arc causing: Arc Flash; Arc Blast

Heat from 35,000°F arcs igniting clothing and causing burns of the skin.

Projectiles of molten metal exceeding 700 mph as shrapnel penetrating the body.

Toxic Gas from vaporized metal oxide dust forming poisonous airborne particles.

Pressure of electrodes vaporing at 67,000 times at 2000 PSF collapsing lungs.

Sound level of 160dB causing permanent hearing damage and ruptured eardrums.

<u>Light</u> intensity of 1,000,000 lux causing blurry vision and permanent eye damage.

\* Arc rated PPE only protects against the thermal effects of an arc flash.



### Arc Blast Pressure

- Ralph Lee paper Pressure Developed by Arcs, 1987
- Not directly related to Incident Energy
- Calculated from Arc Current
  - Pressure =  $11.58 * I_{arc} / D^{0.9}$
  - Where impulse pressure wave ~
    - Pressure in pounds per square foot
    - D = distance from arc in feet
    - larc = arc current in kA
  - Not presently covered in NFPA 70E or IEEE 1584
  - Case: 480 vac; arc current 42kA; electrician thrown 25 feet away
  - Approx 260 lb/ft²





### Risk Trade-off for Electrical Hazards

Low Frequency



- 0.16% of Lost Time Injuries due to electrical hazards<sup>1</sup>
- 3.6% of occupational fatalities<sup>1</sup>

High Consequence

- 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of occupational fatality<sup>1</sup>
- 1-2% of total injuries, but 28-52% of total medical costs<sup>2</sup>
- (study at one utility)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> most costly workers comp claim<sup>3</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Cawley, J.C., Brenner, B.C., *Occupational Electrical Injury Statistics for the US, 2003-2009*, Conference Record, 2012 IEEE IAS Electrical Safety Workshop, January 30-February 3,2012, Daytona, FL

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Wyzka, R and Lindroos, W., "Health Implications of Global Electrification", Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, vol 888, October 30, 1999, pp 1-7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>"Work Related Electrical Injuries", From Research to Reality. Liberty Mutual Research Foundation, Winter 2010

# Overlapping Standards for Electrical Safety

**Federal Regulations** 

Consensus Standards

Guides & Methods

**OSHA** 

NESC – Electric Utility NFPA 70 (NEC) Construction NFPA 70E General Industry Z462 General Canadian Ind.

IEEE 1584 –Guide for Performing Arc Flash Hazard Calculations



### OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration

#### General Duty Clause: (SEC. 5. Duties)

'Each employer SHALL furnish to each of his employees ... a place of employment which are free from *RECOGNIZED HAZARDS* that are causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees;'

The employer shall assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present, or are likely to be present, which necessitate the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

If such hazards are present, or likely to be present, the employer shall:

- Select, and have each affected employee use, the types of PPE that will protect the affected employee from the hazards identified in the hazard assessment;
- Communicate selection decisions to each affected employee; and,
- Select PPE that properly fits each affected employee.



### **OSHA**

#### OSHA CFR 1910 - Occupational Safety & Health Standards

- Subpart I Personal Protective Equipment
  - PPE necessary for hazards capable of causing injury to the body.
- Subpart S Electrical

(NFPA 70E)

- Safety requirements necessary for safeguarding of employees in their workplace.
- Subpart R Special Industries
  - 1910.269 Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution.

#### OSHA CFR 1926 - Safety & Health Regulations for Construction

- Subpart K Electrical Standards for Construction (NFPA 70E, NPFA 70)
  - Safety requirements for safeguarding of employees involved in construction work.



### OSHA - Consensus Standards

OSHA 29 CFR Section 1910.3(b)(1) addresses the historical relationship between the Act and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

"The relevant legislative history of the Act indicates congressional recognition of the **American National Standards Institute** and the **National Fire Protection Association** as the major sources of national consensus standards. National consensus standards adopted on May 29, 1971, pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act are from those two sources."

Employers following consensus standards meet OSHA requirements.



### NFPA 70 - National Electrical Code

Practical safeguarding of persons and property from electrical hazards.

Covers the installation and removal of electrical equipment (construction).

**110.16 Arc-Flash Hazard Warning.** Electrical equipment, such as switchboards, switchgear, panelboards, industrial control panels, meter socket enclosures, and motor control centers, that is in other than dwelling units, and is likely to require examination, adjustment, servicing, or maintenance while energized, shall be field or factory marked to warn qualified persons of potential electric arc flash hazards.



Arc Flash Hazard.
Appropriate PPE required.
Failure to comply may result in injury or death.
Refer to NFPA 70 E.

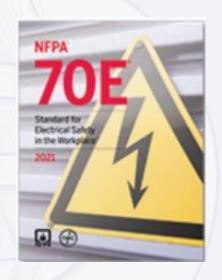
Informational Note: NFPA 70E, Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace, provides guidance, such as determining severity of potential exposure, planning safe work practices, arc flash labeling, and selecting personal protective equipment.



### NFPA 70E - Electrical Safety in the Workplace

#### Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace

Helps companies and employees avoid workplace injuries and fatalities due to shock, electrocution, arc flash, and arc blast, and assists in complying with OSHA 1910 Subpart S and OSHA 1926 Subpart K.



**Chapter I** - Safety Related Work Practices

**Chapter 2** - Safety Related Maintenance Requirements

**Chapter 3** - Safety Requirements for Special Equipment



### Not Covered by NFPA 70E but still use EasyPower

- Installations in ships, watercraft, rolling stock, aircraft mobile homes
- Installations of communications equipment
- Utilities generating or transmission of electric energy
- Federal lands, military bases, Native American reservations
- Equipment in dwelling units do not require labels



### NFPA 70E changes

- Updated on 3-year cycle
  - 2009 edition included several modifications
    - Compatible with NFPA 70
    - Definitions to clarify references and nomenclature
  - 2012 evolved to meet safety needs of employer & employee
    - Hazard identification vs risk assessment
  - 2015 refined 'hazard analysis' vs 'risk assessment'
    - HRC tables no longer valid, changed label content
    - Eliminated 'Prohibited Approach' boundary & "bare hand work"
  - 2018 moved tables for PPE standards moved to 'Informational Tables'
    - Employer still responsible for determining validity of PPE manufacture's claims
    - (Misunderstandings about Label content still prevalent)



### NFPA 70E 2021

- Article 110 revised general requirements for safety programs, practices, and procedures.
- Arc resistant equipment tables updated
- Safety related requirements involving capacitators
- Calculation methods updated to reference IEEE 1584-2018



### NFPA 70E - Safety Related Work Practices

**Article 100** Definitions

**Article 105** Application of Safety-Related Work Practices and Procedures

Article 110 General Requirements for Electrical Safety-Related Work Practices (modifications 2021)

Article 120 Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition

**Article 130** Work Involving Electrical Hazards



### NFPA 70E - Application

**Article 105** Application of Safety-Related Work Practices and Procedures

Identifies responsibilities of the employer and those of the employee.

#### **Employer:**

- Provide safety-related work procedures.
- Training employees in the practices.
- Supervise the employees, audit, and document.

#### **Employee:**

- Apply the work procedures.
- Comply with training and demonstrate ability.



### NFPA 70E - General Requirements

Article 110 General Requirements for Electrical Safety-Related Work Practices

110.1 - Electrical Safety Program

**110.2** - Training Requirements

110.3 - Host and Contract Employers' Responsibilities

110.4 - Test Instruments and Equipment

110.5 - Portable Cord- and-Plug-Connected Electric Equipment

110.6 - Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter (GFCI) Protection



### NFPA 70E

- Prime directive:
  - 'Thou shall not work on hot equipment.'
  - Electrically safe working conditions. (ESWC)
- Even when this is 'company policy,' it does not eliminate the need to do an arc flash risk assessment.
- PPE must be worn to test system and verify voltage removed.



### NFPA 70E - Electrically Safe Work Condition

Article 120 Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition

120.1 - Lockout/Tagout Program.

120.2 - Lockout/Tagout Principles.

120.3 - Lockout/Tagout Equipment.

120.4 - Lockout/Tagout Procedures.

120.5 - Process for Establishing and Verifying an Electrically Safe Work Condition.

Lockout/Tagout - Locks and tags for control of exposure to electrical hazards.





### NFPA 70E - Work Involving Electrical Hazards

**Article 130** - Work Involving Electrical Hazards

Defines situations which an ESWC must be established.

Describes situations requiring energized electrical work.

Requirements for working safely with energized electrical equipment.

130.1 - General

130.2 - Electrically Safe Work Conditions

130.3 - Working While Exposed to Electrical Hazards

130.4 - Shock Risk Assessment

130.5 - Arc Flash Risk Assessment

130.6 - Other Precautions for Personnel Activities

130.7 - Personal and Other Protective Equipment



### NFPA 70E - Working Exposed to Electrical Hazards

#### **De-energized Work** (Electrically Safe Work Condition)

- Disconnect from energized parts.
- Verifying absence of voltage.
- Ensure equipment cannot be re-energized.

#### **Energized Work**

(110.4)

#### Allowed on voltage <50 volts

#### Permitted when de-energizing introduces additional hazards:

- Interruption of life-support equipment.
- Deactivation of emergency alarm systems.
- Shutdown of hazardous location ventilation equipment.

#### Permitted when task is infeasible in a de-energized state:

- Performing diagnostics and testing.
- Equipment that is an integral part of a continuous process.



### Normal Operating Condition (110.4(D))

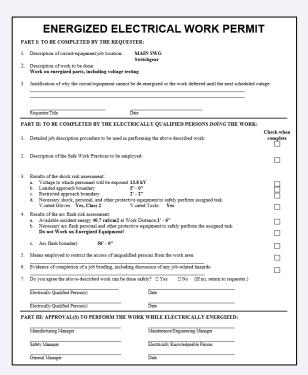
- Equipment properly installed (per manufacture's instructions
- Equipment is properly maintained (per mfgr)
- Equipment used in accordance to manufacture's instructions
- Equipment covers, doors in place and secured
- No evidence of impending failure



### NFPA 70E - Energized Electrical Work Permit (130.2)

Required when <u>management</u> has authorized work in an area where the equipment is not in an Electrically Safe Work Condition.

- Description of the circuit.
- Description of the work.
- Justification for the work.
- Description of the safe work practices.
- Results of the shock risk assessment.
- Results of the arc flash risk assessment.
- Means employed to restrict the access.
- Evidence of completion of a job briefing.
- Energized work approval.





### NFPA 70E - Shock Risk Assessment

#### 130.4 - Shock Risk Assessment

- Identify exposure to the potential electrical shock hazards.
- Estimate the potential severity of a shock injury.
- Estimate the likelihood of occurrence of this injury.
- Determine if protective measures are required.
- Determine the appropriate protective measure to use.



### NFPA 70E - Shock Approach Boundaries

Not related to arc flash or incident energy.

Applicable when approaching exposed energized electrical conductors.

May be greater than, less than, or equal to the arc flash boundary.

#### **Limited Approach Boundary**

An approach limit within which a shock hazard exists.

#### **Restricted Approach Boundary**

An approach limit within which an increased likelihood of electric shock.



### NFPA 70E - Shock Approach Boundaries

Limited Approach Boundary - Approach limit for an unqualified person.

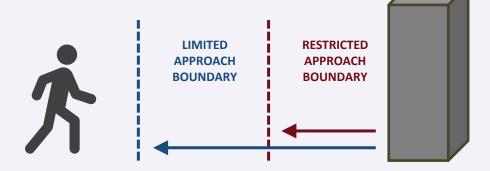
#### **Unless:**

- Advised of possible hazards by a qualified person.
- Continuously escorted by a qualified person.

Restricted Approach Boundary - Approach limit for a qualified person.

#### **Unless:**

- Qualified person is using personal and other shock protective equipment.
- Energized conductors are insulated from the qualified person.





### NFPA 70E - Arc Flash Boundary

- Boundary, Arc Flash
   Article 100 definitions
  - When an arc flash hazard exists, an approach limit from an arc source at which incident energy equals 1.2 cal/cm<sup>2</sup> (5 J/cm<sup>2</sup>).
  - Informational Note: According to the Stoll skin burn injury model, the onset of a second degree burn on unprotected skin is likely to occur at an exposure of 1.2 cal/cm<sup>2</sup> (5 J/cm<sup>2</sup>) for one second.



### NFPA 70E - Arc Flash Risk Assessment

#### 130.5 - Arc Flash Risk Assessment

- (A) General
- (B) Estimate of Likelihood and Severity
- (C) Additional Protective Measures
- (D) Documentation
- (E) Arc Flash Boundary
- (F) Arc Flash PPE
- (G) Incident Energy Analysis Method
- (H) Equipment Labeling



### NFPA 70E - Arc Flash Risk Assessment

Estimate likelihood of occurrence and potential severity:

- Consider design of the electrical equipment
- Consider operating condition and condition of maintenance.

(condensed Table 130.5(C))

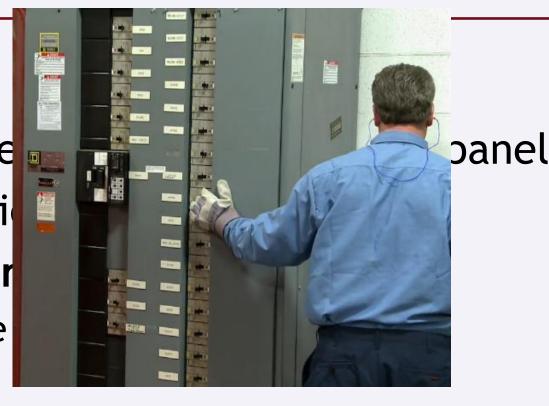
| <u>Task</u>                          | <b>Condition</b> | <u>Likelihood</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Non-Contact Inspections              | Any              | No                |
| Work Within Energized Equipment      | Any              | Yes               |
| Operation of Closed Equipment        | Normal           | No                |
| Insertion or Removal Equipment Parts | Abnormal         | Yes               |

But wait .... What if ...?



## Arc flash risk assessment reveals...

- Older facility
- Elevated incident ene
- Frequent C/B operati
- Open/Close procedur
  - Operator stand to the
  - Not face panel
  - PPE on hand and arm, hearing protection





### NFPA 70E - Arc Flash Risk Assessment

### Determine if protective measures are required:

- Appropriate safety-related work practices.
- Arc flash boundary.
- PPE to be used within the arc flash boundary.

#### Document:

Results of the arc flash risk assessment shall be documented.



## NFPA 70E - Arc Flash Boundary

### Arc Flash Boundary:

(130.5 (C))

- All body parts within must be protected.
- Distance at which incident energy is 1.2 cal/cm<sup>2</sup>.

### Two acceptable methods to determine:

(130.5(F))

- Arc Flash PPE Category Table Method.
- Incident Energy Analysis Method.



# NFPA 70E - Arc Flash Boundary

Arc Flash Boundary Table Method:

(Table 130.7 C 15 a)

|               | <u>Max</u>     | <u>Max</u>    | <u>Max</u>           | Arc<br>Flash Boundary |  |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
|               | <b>Voltage</b> | Fault Current | <b>Clearing Time</b> |                       |  |
|               | (V)            | (kA)          | (s)                  | (ft)                  |  |
| Panelboards   | 240            | 25            | 0.03                 | 1.58                  |  |
| Panelboards   | 600            | 25            | 0.03                 | 3.00                  |  |
| MCC           | 600            | 65            | 0.03                 | 5.00                  |  |
| MCC           | 600            | 42            | 0.33                 | 14.0                  |  |
| Switchgear    | 600            | 35            | 0.50                 | 20.0                  |  |
| Other         | 600            | 65            | 0.03                 | 5.00                  |  |
| Motor Starter | 7200           | 35            | 0.24                 | 40.0                  |  |
| Switchgear    | 15000          | 35            | 0.24                 | 40.0                  |  |
| Other         | 15000          | 35            | 0.24                 | 40.0                  |  |
|               |                |               |                      |                       |  |



## NFPA 70E - Arc Flash PPE

Use **one** method to select Arc Flash PPE:

- Incident energy analysis method.
- Arc Flash PPE category method.

Either, but not both, methods permitted on a single piece of equipment.

Incident energy analysis not permitted to specify an arc flash PPE category.



# NFPA 70E - Arc Flash PPE (uses Table 130.7 C 15 c)

(Table 130.7 C 15 a)

|               |                |               | <u>ıvıax</u>    | <u> IVIInimum</u> |            |  |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--|
|               | <u>Max</u>     | <u>Max</u>    | <b>Clearing</b> | <b>Working</b>    | Arc        |  |
|               | <b>Voltage</b> | Fault Current | <u>Time</u>     | <b>Distance</b>   | Flash PPE  |  |
|               | (V)            | (kA)          | (s)             | (in)              | (Category) |  |
| Panelboards   | 240            | 25            | 0.03            | 18                | 1          |  |
| Panelboards   | 600            | 25            | 0.03            | 18                | 2          |  |
| MCC           | 600            | 65            | 0.03            | 18                | 2          |  |
| MCC           | 600            | 42            | 0.33            | 18                | 2          |  |
| Switchgear    | 600            | 35            | 0.50            | 18                | 4          |  |
| Other         | 600            | 65            | 0.03            | 18                | 2          |  |
| Motor Starter | 7200           | 35            | 0.24            | 36                | 4          |  |
| Switchgear    | 15000          | 35            | 0.24            | 36                | 4          |  |
| Other         | 15000          | 35            | 0.24            | 36                | 4          |  |
|               |                |               |                 |                   |            |  |



## NFPA 70E - Arc Flash PPE (130.5 F)

### **Incident Energy Analysis Method**

- Based on the working distance of the person.
- Requires an extensive calculation.
- Allows for a more precise determination of PPE.

No specific method of incident energy calculation mandated.

Available calculation methods provided in Informative Annex D.



### NFPA 70E - Arc Flash PPE

PPE Selection with Incident Energy Analysis Method:

(Table 130.5 G)

### Incident Energy 1.2 cal/cm<sup>2</sup> to 12 cal/cm<sup>2</sup>

- Arc-rated clothing equal to or greater than the estimated incident energy
- Long-sleeve shirt and pants or coverall or arc flash suit
- Arc-rated face shield and arc-rated balaclava or arc flash suit hood
- Arc-rated outerwear, heavy-duty gloves, arc-rated gloves
- Hard hat, safety glasses, hearing protection & leather footwear

#### Incident Energy greater than 12 cal/cm<sup>2</sup>

- Arc-rated clothing equal to or greater than the estimated incident energy
- Long-sleeve shirt and pants or coverall or arc flash suit
- Arc-rated arc flash suit hood, outerwear, gloves
- Hard hat, safety glasses, hearing protection & leather footwear

\* Arc-Rated PPE provides a 50 % probability of protection from second-degree burns.



## NFPA 70E - Equipment Labeling (130.5 H)

Equipment likely to require examination or maintenance while energized.

Marked with a label containing:

- System Voltage
- Arc Flash Boundary
- At least one of the following:
  - Incident energy and working distance
     (or arc flash PPE category, but not both)
  - Minimum rating of clothing
  - Site-specific level of PPE



| <b>A WARNING</b>       |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|
| ARC FLASH HAZARD       |  |  |
| Nominal system voltage |  |  |
| Arc flash boundary     |  |  |
| Working distance       |  |  |
| PPE category           |  |  |
|                        |  |  |



### Demonstration

# Arc Flash Paradox Example

"Counter-intuitive nature of arc flash"

01 Paradox.dez



## Arc Flash Paradox

 In the same system you can have low arcing current but high Incident Energy, it all depends on the time to clear the arc.

 Take away - you cannot just look at a piece of equipment and ascertain the arc flash hazard.



# Thank you for attending today

Questions?

- Track announcements and other webinar postings on www.EasyPower.com
- Visit web site to access 'Demo' copy of software
- Join us next week for "Part 2 Data Collection & System Modeling"

