



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members

Insulating and Isolating Safety Message

Most industry workers understand that to **insulate** something in the electrical world, they must use a cover rated for the voltage they are working on to protect themselves from electrocution or flash. The idea is to insulate adequately so that you can't place yourself between two differences of potential, causing an electrical shock or contact event. To prevent a flash event, you would insulate adequately so that anything being directly worked on – whether it is grounded or energized – would not come in contact with anything else of a different potential.

Isolating is the process of separating a normally energized conductor or piece of equipment from any source of feed so that it cannot become re-energized. It also is possible to isolate a worker from differences of potential associated with what they are working on so that the opposing potentials are not accessible to the worker unless special means for access are used. Body position is everything.

