



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Care & Maintenance of fiberglass live line tools Safety Message

In the daily use of your hot stick, precautions should be taken to prevent contamination or moisture build-up. Special precautions should be taken in the handling of hot sticks, and a tarp or tool rack is recommended when using several sticks on one job.

If your hot sticks are reasonably clean and glossy, a daily inspection and thorough wiping of the stick to remove dust and other contaminants is still recommended to maintain the dielectric strength of the tool.

Cleaning

1. A silicone treated wiping cloth will do the job of wiping down the stick. This simple action not only cleans the tool, but protects it with a fine silicone film being deposited on the surface of the stick. This will aid in repelling water and contamination helping to maintain the dielectric properties when the tool is used under wet or adverse conditions.
2. If marks or contamination are more than what can be removed by simply wiping down the stick, a hot stick cleaner.
3. Wipe any excess clean.

Wax

After thoroughly cleaning your tool, fiberglass wax should be used to restore and retain the surface gloss on your stick. A glossy surface is required on all hot line tools in the event they are used under wet or rain conditions.

It's recommend two coats of stick wax, a high grade Carnuba wax which will slow down the build-up of contaminants on your hot sticks. Precautions should be taken however to avoid any wax build-up. Waxing should only be done on a clean stick in good conditions.