



## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### Opening and Closing Circuits Under Load Safety Message

#### 1910.269(I)(9)

Fuse handling. When an employee must install or remove fuses with one or both terminals energized at more than 300 volts, or with exposed parts energized at more than 50 volts, the employer shall ensure that the employee uses tools or gloves rated for the voltage. **When an employee installs or removes expulsion-type fuses with one or both terminals energized at more than 300 volts, the employer shall ensure that the employee wears eye protection meeting the requirements of subpart I of this part, uses a tool rated for the voltage, and is clear of the exhaust path of the fuse barrel.**

**FYI: We had an incident where an apprentice on the ground was struck in the face when a fuse blew when it was closed on a bad 15 KVA transformer**

#### 1910.269(I)(12)

Opening and closing circuits under load.

#### 1910.269(I)(12)(i)

The employer shall ensure that devices used by employees **to open circuits under load** conditions are designed to interrupt the current involved.

#### 1910.269(I)(12)(ii)

The employer shall ensure that devices used by employees to close circuits under load conditions are designed to safely carry the current involved.

Discussion:

1. What's your definition of a "circuit" ?
2. What your policy regarding the use of a "load bust tool" ?