



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Minimum Approach Distances: What's Required? Safety Message

Let's kick off this message with a definition of what "MAD" means in the utility sector – and it does not mean "when we need to have our rubber gloves and sleeves on". I wish I had a dollar for every time I've heard that answer to the question "What is MAD" ?

It's the calculated safe working distance that provides worker protection when working on or in the vicinity of energized lines and equipment.

OSHA MAD Working Rules

MAD working rules must ensure that no worker approaches or takes any conductive object closer to exposed energized parts than the established MAD, unless one of the following occurs:

- The worker is insulated from the energized part.
- The energized part is insulated.
- Appropriate live-line barehand work is performed.

IF YOU'RE NOT WORKING ON IT AND IT'S WITHIN THE MAD, IT NEEDS TO BE COVERED