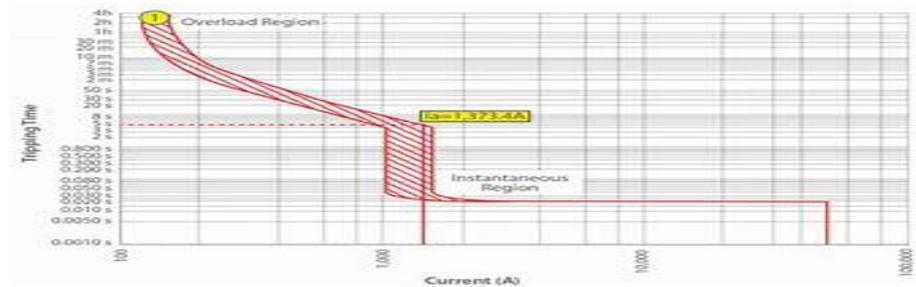




## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### "One Shot" Protocol When Working on Energized Equipment – Safety Message

Many companies have safety policies stating that when you're working on energized (or "hot") equipment, the protective device monitoring that circuit should be set to "one-shot." This means if a fault occurs—whether due to equipment, tools, or personnel—there will be no automatic reclose attempt. This approach prevents re-energization that could cause serious injury or damage.

A common question is: Does a fuse meet this "one-shot" requirement?

To phrase it more precisely: Should a fuse be considered a one-shot device if there's an upstream recloser or breaker that has not been set to one-shot?

This brings us to the concept of time-current curves. Overcurrent protective devices—including fuses and reclosers—each have unique time-current characteristics. Not all fuses respond the same, and many operate more slowly than reclosers under certain conditions.

So, what happens if a fault occurs, and the upstream recloser or breaker clears it before the fuse does—and then recloses?

The key concern is that the fuse may never operate, allowing a potentially unsafe re-energization of the circuit. This could place workers or equipment at serious risk.

Takeaway: Before considering a fuse as your one-shot protection, always evaluate the entire protection scheme, especially the settings and coordination of upstream devices. A fuse alone may not satisfy the one-shot safety requirement if a recloser is still set to automatically reclose.