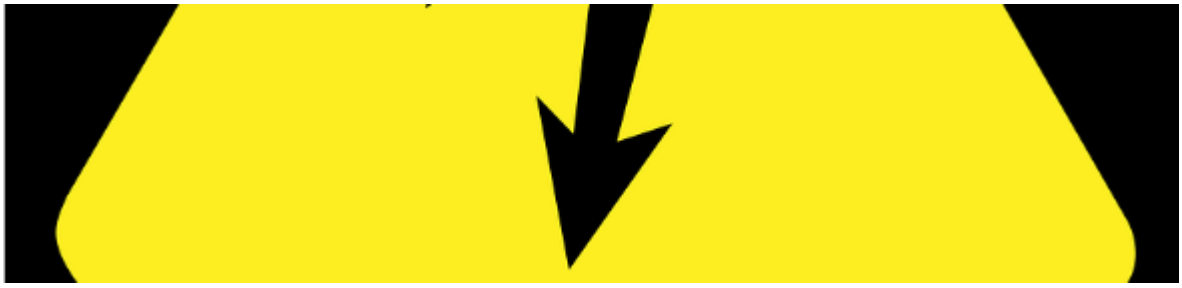
ISRI

# EHS Update

Safely, or not at all

DECEMBER 30, 2019





## SAFETYPOINT

**Preventing Electrical Shock:** Electricity is essential to modern life, both at home and on the job. Perhaps because it has become such a familiar part of our daily life, many of us don't give much thought to how much our work depends on a reliable source of electricity.

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## GEARED FOR SAFETY

**Are You Prepared for Winter Driving?** When it comes to winter driving, some folks like to believe they have things under control, but there are no secrets to winter driving, if you are driving on ice and snow it's dangerous.

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**Questions?**

Contact ISRI Vice President of Environmental, Health & Safety Scott Wiggins at (202) 662-8529.

Special thanks to *EHS Update* Founding Supporter

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SAFETYPOINT
Scrapyard Safety Training

# Preventing Electrical Shock

Electricity is essential to modern life, both at home and on the job. Perhaps because it has become such a familiar part of our daily life, many of us don't give much thought to how much our work depends on a reliable source of electricity. More importantly, we tend to overlook the hazards electricity poses and fail to treat it with the respect it deserves.

Electricity travels in closed circuits, normally through a conductor. But sometimes a person's body -- an efficient conductor of electricity -- mistakenly becomes part of the electric circuit. This can cause an electrical shock. When electric current travels through you, it can confuse the “electrical system” that controls your heart, causing it to stop beating. Other types of electrical injuries include serious burns, and physical trauma from falls. The effects of electric shock depend on the amount of voltage, how it travels though the body, and how long the contact with electricity lasts. The good news is that electrical shocks are preventable. Good housekeeping, maintenance, and awareness are the best way to protect you.

Consider the following tips when working with and around electricity:

- Keep electrical equipment clean and dry.
- Replace damaged cords and insulation.
- Guard energized equipment from accidental contact.
- Make sure circuit breakers and ground fault circuit interrupters are working properly to cut off power in the event of an overload or short circuit.
- Keep a safe distance from exposed wires and energized parts.
- Always be aware of the location of any overhead power lines when moving equipment.
- Avoid using electrical equipment in wet conditions. When you must use equipment in wet conditions, make sure the circuit is protected by a ground fault interrupter.
- Always use grounded tools and make sure cords are in good condition. Report any broken tools or unguarded exposed wiring immediately.

December 30, 2019 www.ISRISafety.org

GEARED UP FOR SAFETY

Safety Training for Scrap Transporters

# Are You Prepared for Winter Driving?

When it comes to winter driving, some folks like to believe they have things under control, but there are no secrets to winter driving, if you are driving on ice and snow it's dangerous. Listed below are some helpful winter safe driving tips:

- Before starting your day, check the weather and traffic reports, and plan accordingly.
- Conduct a thorough vehicle pre-trip inspection, check the tires for good tread, check and clean the lights, check the wiper blades and replace them if necessary, and always carry an ample supply of windshield washer fluid.
- If you notice ice on your mirrors, windshield, or truck steps then ice has also accumulated on the road surface.
- Periodically check outside temperatures, water freezes at 32 degrees, and roads become slippery.
- Maintain a proper space cushion between your truck and the vehicle ahead. For normal driving conditions your space cushion should be 3 seconds, and for winter driving conditions you should add an additional 2 seconds.
- Leave room for snow plows working on the road, and if you are traveling behind a snow plow, stay behind the plow until it is safe to pass.
- Watch for ice on the roadway, and adjust your speed when traveling on bridges, ramps, and overpasses they normally become slippery first.
- Carry some emergency supplies e.g., flashlight with extra batteries, cell phone, blankets, water, and food.
- Always know your driving limitations, if he road conditions are extremely dangerous, or if the road becomes impassable then pull over and park in a safe haven until the weather clears.

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Send comments or questions to: isrisafety@isri.org