

---

If you have any questions or comments regarding SHEQual issues please contact your local SHEQual Advisor or the SHEQual Department

## **SHEQual Bulletin** **Major Burn to Electrical Contractor**

**MWH have been made aware of the following incident.**  
**The incident does not involve MWH.**

### **What Happened?**

In May 2010, an electrical contractor was working inside a live LV panel room. During the course of his work, the IP came into contact with the live side of one of the panels. An explosion ensued, and the IP sustained potentially life threatening burns to his torso, arms and neck.

The IP is still recovering from his injuries, having spent many weeks in hospital and enduring several skin grafting operations. He is still undergoing physiotherapy to aid in his final recovery.

### **Following the Incident**

The incident is still under HSE investigation.

The Electrical Contractor issued alerts to their staff reinforcing the requirements from their own safe systems of work, specifically safe isolation and checking procedures.

### **Actions required for work on Energised Electrical Systems**

No work is to be carried out on energised electrical systems without a robust, approved system of working in place. This should include a system to log persons in and out of high risk areas.

Responsible Managers are to ensure that the site management has the required levels of competence to critically review risk assessments and method statements, and in the case of particularly specialist operations, that there is sufficient review by others within the business unit if required.

All RAMS are to have records of review completed and any comments returned to the author for amendment prior to works commencing.

Any permits required for the safe system of work must be issued prior to commencing, and if carried out by subcontractors, these permits must be checked and records kept by the site management.

Any approved safe systems are to be followed at all times. Any deviations from the system must be reviewed and approved prior to work continuing.

One single site manager is to be in overall control of any specific operation, to avoid confusion of roles and responsibilities.