

THE 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT POWERLINES

#RespectThePower

A powerline contact can end your shift, or your life. What you find out here will change the way you think about powerlines.

1 » THIS IS SHOCKING

In addition to the truck, the ground around it is also energized. It's called **Ground Gradient**, which can cause a severe or even fatal shock.



2 » KEEP CALM

If the driver stays inside the cab and doesn't step out of the vehicle, he can avoid being electrocuted. Also, first responders should not rush the scene until the power has been disconnected by the utility and they say it's safe.



SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Read on and visit esasafe.com and **ElectricalSafetyESA** on YouTube to find out more. For more information visit esasafe.com/powerlinesafety and the Ontario Ministry of Labour website at www.labour.gov.on.ca.

3 » KEEP WELL BACK

Electricity can arc from a powerline to any object (including people) if it gets too close. Make sure you know the limits of approach and how close is too close when it comes to powerlines. Ask your health and safety rep or contact the Ministry of Labour.



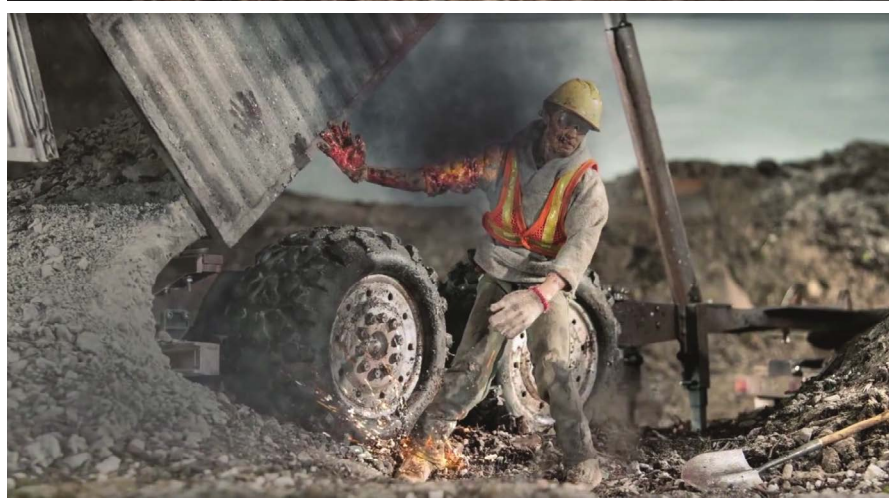
4 » BEWARE OF EXPLODING TIRES

Electricity can heat the rim of a tire, raising the temperature of the air inside. This almost instantaneous expansion can cause a violent explosion of hot air and rubber shrapnel. In fact, the danger can last as long as a full day after a powerline contact.



5 » LOOK UP. LOOK OUT.

Often incidents happen late in the day when you may be tired and rushing to finish a job. Electricity doesn't care about the end of your shift, but it can end your life. If you're lucky enough to survive a contact, it can leave severe burns where it enters and exits your body, not to mention major damage to your heart, organs, nerves and muscles.



Workplace safety goes far beyond protective clothing and safety boots. Always be aware of your surroundings and take extra precautions when using ladders, cranes, dump trucks, backhoes, cherry pickers and other 'high reach' vehicles.



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