# ELECTRICAL SAFETY

The severity of an electric shock will depend on the level of current which passes through the body and length of time of contact . Do not deley , act once . Make sure that the electric current has been disconnected .

If the casualty is still in contact with the supply – break the contact either by switching off the power , removing the plug or wrenching the cable free. If not , stand on some insulating material such as dry wood, rubber , or plasticor using whatever is at hand to islulate yourself and break the contact by pushing or pulling the person free.

If you remain un- insulated ,do not touch the victim with your bare hands until the circuit is made dead or person is moved away from the equipment .

If the victim is aloft , measures must be taken to prevent him from falling or atleast make him fall safe.

Electric burns on the victim may not cover a big area but may be deep seated. All you can do is cover the area with a clean , sterial dressing and treat for shock .Get expert help as quickly as possible.

If the casualty is unconscious but is breathing , loosen the clothing about the neck , chest and Waist and place the casualty in the recovery position.

Keep a contant check on the breathing and pulse rate . Keep the casualty warm and comfortable .

Send for help.

If the casualty is not brathing –Act at once don’t waste

Safety practice – fire extinguishers

Fire is the burning of compustible material . A fire in an unwanted place and on an unwanted occasion and in an uncontrollable quqntity can cause damage or destroy property and material. It might injure people , amd sometime cause loss of life as well . Hence , every effort must be made to prevent fire . When a fire extinguished by immediate corrective action.

Is it possible to prevent fire ? Yes, fire can be prevented by eliminating anyone of the three factors that causes fire.

The following are the three factors that must be present in combination for a fire to continue to burn.

FUEL : Any substance, liquid ,solid or gas will burn , if there is oxygen and high enough temperatures.

HEAT: Every fuel will begin to burn at a certain temperature . It varies and depends on the fuel . Solids and liquids give off vapour when heated , and it is this vapour which ignites . Some liquids do not have to be heated as they give off vapour at normal room temperature say 15 c eg. Petrol.

OXYGEN : Usually exists in sufficient quqntity in air to keep a fire burning .

EXTINGUISHING OF FIRE : Isolating or removing any of these factors from the combination will extinguish the fire . These are three basic ways of achieving this.

1. STARVING : the fire of fuel removes this element.
2. SMOTHERING : ie. Isolate the fire from the supply of oxygen by blanketing it with foam ,sand etc.
3. COOLING : Use water to lower the temperature . Removing any one of these factors will extinguisher the fire.

PEVENTING FIRES : The majority of fires begin with small outbreak which burn unnoticed until they have a secure hold. Most fires colud be prevented with more care and by following some simple common senses rules.

Accumalation of comblustible refuse ( cotton waste soaked with oil, scape wood paper, etc. ) in odd corners are a fire risk . Refuse should be removed to collaction points.

The cause of fire in electrical equipment is misuse or neglect . Loose connections, wrongly rated refuse , overloaded circuits cause overheating which may in turn lead to a fire.

Damage to insulation between conductors in cable causes fire.

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