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## NFPA 70E BREAKING NEWS

*February 2011*

### Project Integration, Inc. Special News Addition

**Hello Again!**

Recently, Dave Ternberg and Ken Jones attended the IEEE Electrical Safety Workshop in Toronto, Canada. During this workshop the upcoming changes to the NFPA 70E were announced and are expected to be implemented in June. We wanted to make all of you aware of the proposed changes. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call, as we would be happy to discuss them with you. Have a great day!

**This is based on preliminary information.**

**NFPA 70E is scheduled to be acted on at the NFPA C&E in Boston, June 12-15, 2011.**

**Article 90.2 Scope, Section (A) will be modified as follows:**

#### **90.2 Scope**

**(A) Covered. This standard addresses electrical work practices for employee workplaces that are necessary for the practical safeguarding of employees relative to the hazards associated with electrical energy during activities such as the installation, inspection, operation, maintenance, and demolition of electric conductors, electric equipment, signaling and communications conductors and equipment, and raceways. This standard also includes safe work practices for**

**employees performing other work activities that can expose them to electrical hazards.**

### **90.5 (C) Explanatory Material**

All FPN's are being changed to Informational Notes

In Article 100 - Definitions, Flame Resistant (FR) is being replaced by Arc Rated (AR) as follows.

#### **Article 100 - Definitions**

Arc Rated (AR) ~~Flame Resistant (FR)~~

Informational Note No. 1: Arc-rated clothing or equipment indicates that it has been tested for exposure to an electric arc. Flame-Resistant (FR) clothing without an arc rating has not been tested for exposure to an electric arc.

The following article section is being added:

#### **110.5 Multi-Employer Relationship (C) New**

Documentation. There shall be a documented meeting between the host employer and the contract employer.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

#### **110.6(C) Training**

including cardiopulmonary resuscitation and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) use shall be ...

The following article section is being added:

#### **110.6(D)(1)(f) New**

The employer shall determine, through regular supervision and through inspections conducted on at least an annual basis that each employee is complying with the safety-related work practices required by this standard.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

#### **110.6(E)**

The documentation shall contain the content of the training, each employee's name and dates of training.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

#### **110.7(E) ESP Procedures**

(E) Electrical Safety Program Procedures. An electrical safety program shall identify the procedures for working within the limited approach boundary and for working within the arc flash boundary of energized electrical conductors and circuit parts operating at 50 volts or more or where an electrical hazard exists before work is started.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

#### **110.7(F) Hazard/Risk Procedure**

**(F) Hazard/Risk Evaluation Procedure.** An electrical safety program shall identify a hazard/risk evaluation procedure to be used before work is started within the Limited Approach boundary and before work is started within the arc flash boundary of energized electrical conductors and circuit parts operating at 50 volts or more or where an electrical hazard exists.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**110.7(H) Electrical Safety Auditing**

**(H) Electrical Safety Auditing.**

**(1) Electrical Safety Program.** The electrical safety program shall be audited to help ensure that the principles and procedures of the electrical safety program are still in compliance with the latest requirements and regulations. The frequency of the audit shall not exceed three years.

**(2) Field Work.** Auditing of field work shall be performed to help assure that the requirements contained in the procedures of the electrical safety program are being followed. Where the auditing determines that the principles and procedures of the electrical safety program are not being followed, the appropriate revisions to the training program or revisions to the procedures shall be made.

The following article section is being added:

**110.7(H)(3) New**

**Documentation.** The audit shall be documented.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**110.9 Use of Equipment**

**Relocates 130.4 to 110.9**

**A. Test Instruments and Equipment.**

**1. General: Only qualified persons shall perform testing work within the Limited Approach Boundary of energized electrical conductors or circuit parts operating at 50 volts or more.**

The following article section is being added:

**110.9(B)(3)(d) New**

**Informational Note:** The hazard/risk evaluation procedure could also include identifying when the use of portable tools and equipment powered by sources other than 120 volts ac such as batteries, air, hydraulics, etc. should be used to minimize the potential for injury from electrical hazards for tasks performed in conductive or wet locations.

The following article section is being added:

**110.10 New**

**110.10 Underground Electrical Lines and Equipment.**

Before excavation starts and where there exists reasonable possibility of contacting electrical or utility lines or equipment, the employer shall take the necessary steps to contact the appropriate owners or authorities to identify and mark the location of the electrical lines or equipment. A hazard analysis shall be

performed to identify the appropriate safe work practices that shall be utilized during the excavation.

The following article section is being added:

### **130.1 New**

All requirements of this article shall apply whether an incident energy analysis is completed or if the tables 130.7(C)(9) and (C)(10) are utilized in lieu of an incident energy analysis in accordance with 130.3 Exception No. 2.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

### **130.1(A)**

Energized electrical conductors and circuit parts to which an employee might be exposed shall be put into an electrically safe work condition before an employee works within the Limited Approach Boundary of those conductors or parts, if any of the conditions in 130.1(A)(1) through 130.1(A)(3) exist:

(1) The employee is within the Limited Approach Boundary.

(2) The employee is within the Arc Flash Boundary.

(3) The employee interacts with equipment where conductors or circuit parts are not exposed, but an increased risk of arc flash hazard exists.

Informational Note: See definition of arc flash hazard in Article 100.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

### **130.1(B)(1) Permit**

130.1(B)(1) ~~When~~ ~~Where~~ Required. ~~When working~~ within the limited approach boundary or the arc flash boundary of exposed ~~on~~ energized electrical conductors or circuit parts that are not placed in an electrically safe work condition ... shall be performed by written permit only.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

### **130.1(B)(2)(6) Permit Elements**

(6) Results of the arc flash hazard analysis. (130.3)

a. The arc flash boundary

b. The necessary personal protective equipment to safely perform the assigned task.

c. The available incident energy or Hazard Risk Category.

Deletes (7) & (8)

The following article section is being modified as follows:

### **130.3 Exception 1 Arc Flash Hazard Analysis**

Deletes the exception and adds an Informational Note No. 3

Informational Note No. 3: An arc flash hazard analysis may not be necessary for some three-phase systems rated less than 240 volts. See IEEE 1584 for more information.

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**130.3(B) PPE & PE**

**The requirements of 130.7 shall apply regardless of the method used to select the equipment.**

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**130.3(C) Equipment Labeling**

**(C) Equipment Labeling. Electrical equipment such as switchboards, panelboards, industrial control panels, meter socket enclosures and motor control centers that are likely to require examination, adjustment, servicing or maintenance while energized shall be field marked with a label containing all the following information:**

**(1) Only one of the following:**

**a. Available incident energy**

**b. Minimum arc rating of clothing**

**(2) Date of arc flash hazard analysis**

**(3) Nominal system voltage**

**(4) Arc flash boundary**

The following article section is being added:

**130.7(C)? New (number not yet assigned)**

**130.7(C)? Hearing Protection.**

**Employees shall wear hearing protection whenever working within the arc flash boundary.**

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**Table 130.7(C)(10)**

**Includes the requirement for a balaclava in hazard/risk category 2**

**Deletes hazard/risk category 2\* and note 10.**

**Revises all tasks currently listed as hazard/risk category 2\* in Table 130.7(C)9 to hazard/risk category 2.**

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**130.7(C)(12) Clothing Factors**

**Garments that are not arc-rated shall not be permitted to be used to increase the arc rating of a clothing system.**

The following article section is being modified as follows:

**130.7(C)(13)(a) & (b)**

**Arc Flash Suits. .... When the incident energy exposure is greater than 12 cal/cm<sup>2</sup> a suitably rated arc flash suit hood shall be used. ....**

**(b) Face Protection .... Face shields with a wrap-around guarding to protect the face, chin, forehead, ears, neck area shall be used. ....**

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