

## Wessex Capacity Alliance Safety Alert 01-16

Initial Information on a serious Incident

**On the 25<sup>th</sup> December at 04:30 an operative working at Waterloo with the signalling installation and testing team suffered an electrical shock while working with 650V AC equipment within location cabinet 13 at Waterloo suburban lines**

Date of Issue: 07/01/16

Location: Waterloo Station Suburban Lines Signalling Loc. 13

### Overview of event

An operative commenced work to remove an isolated 650V AC feeder cable linking two fuse boards situated in one of four location cabinets. Having proved that the equipment was isolated in accordance with the Life Saving Rules, always test before touch, the cable was removed from the fuse panel. Whilst conducting further work on the panel the power was re-energised resulting in the IP receiving an electric shock.



### Discussion Points

- How would you ensure that planned isolations are sufficiently robust to mitigate against the potential of human error?
- How would you ensure that the person doing the work has control over the permit?
- How do you make sure that all team members are made fully aware of the method and extent of the isolation and the procedure for authorising re-energisation?
- How do you identify and confirm the competence of staff allocated to authorise, accept and close a permit to work?
- What are the criteria for closing a permit to work and authorising re-energising of an electrical circuit?
- What are the lifesaving rules concerning works on electrical equipment and how do you ensure everyone on site knows and understands these rules?
- What specific tools and PPE must be used when working on a 650V AC system, even when isolated, and what should you do if people are not complying?
- What should you do if you witness someone receive an electric shock?



Never assume equipment is isolated  
– always test before touch.



Never undertake any job unless you have  
been trained and assessed as competent.



Always be sure the required plans and  
permits are in place, before you start  
a job or go on or near the line.