

# City of Ekurhuleni

Presented by Stephen Delport: Chief Engineer Operations

## **Report on an electrical incident whilst performing work on a 6 600 volt cable in the Germiston area**



# INVESTIGATION TEAM

- Chief Engineer: Operations (Corporate Office)
- Chief Engineer: Maintenance (Corporate Office)
- Chief Area Engineer: (Alberton)
- Senior Engineer: Protection, Test and Metering: (Brakpan)

# Purpose of report

- For the purpose of preventing incidents of this nature, this report is shared with all.
- This incident can be described as an event referred to as a **“near miss”** or a **“near fatal incident”**. The incident, therefore, requires the same actions as a fatal incident.

- An almost fatal incident occurred in the Germiston area, corner of Newton and Essex Roads, when three persons of a contracting firm, sustained burns whilst working close to a 6 600 volt cable when at the same time personnel of the Germiston electricity division performed switching operations.

- Apparently, once the cable was safely isolated, earthed and spiked, the personnel incorrectly assumed that they were to perform work on the “correct” required cable and that there was no hazard or danger to prevent the contractor from proceeding with the work.





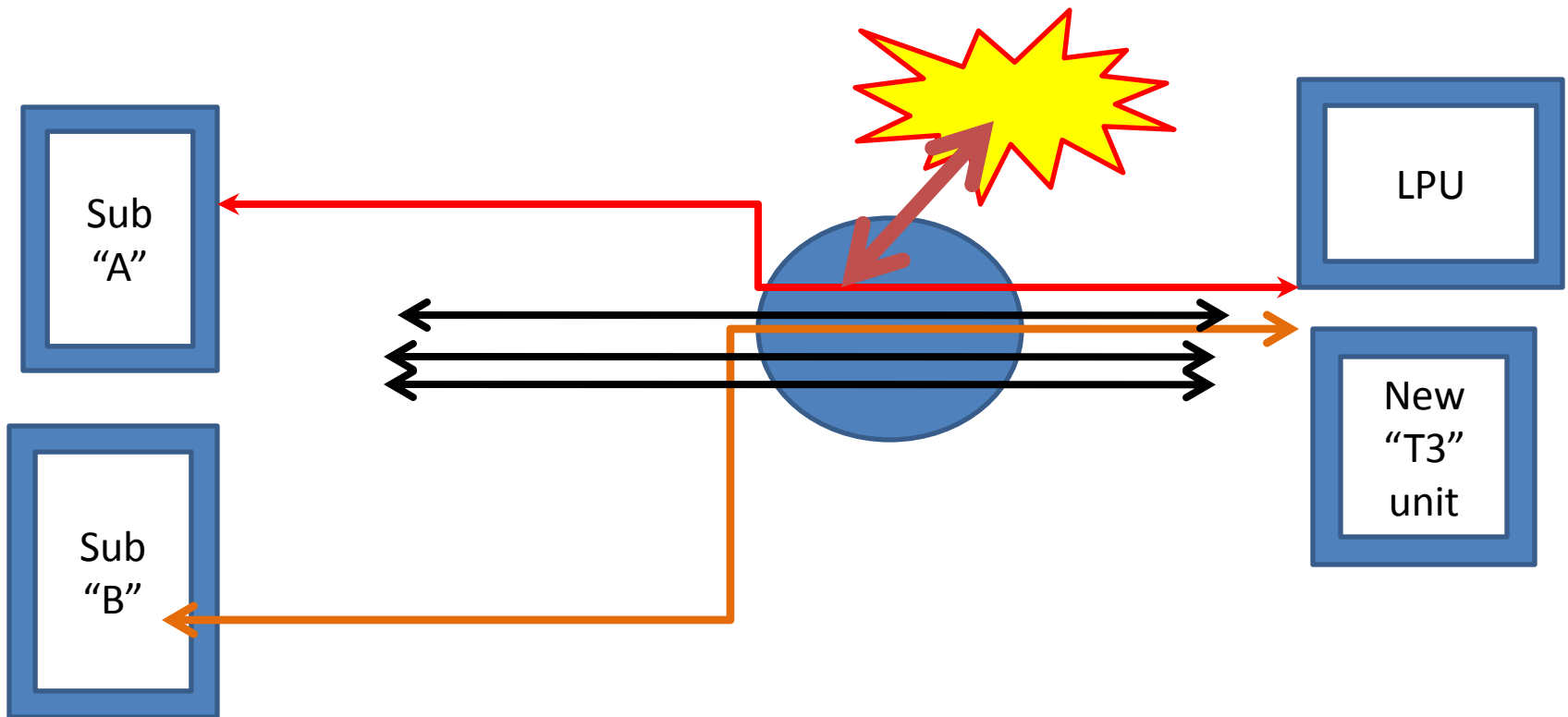








# “NEAR MISS” OR A “NEAR FATAL INCIDENT”



# **Recommendations :- essential steps to perform this type of work safely**

- **A visible circuit element must be “switched-off”, “tested - to confirm circuit is “dead” and “earthed;”**
- **A visible “earth/s” is to be installed to protect the circuit from being electrically charged;**
- **The person spiking the cable must wear a protective safety flash suite.**
- **As far as practicable possible, a continuity test be carried out that will confirm that the correct cable/overhead line/switchgear/transformer or machinery has been earthed to prevent the danger from being charged or made live.**



- As far as practicable possible, a continuity test be carried **out that will confirm that the correct cable/overhead line/switchgear/transformer or machinery has been earthed to prevent the danger from being charged or made live.**
- As far as practicable possible no person(s) be allowed to do work in a joint pit whenever switching operations are to be performed in a specific area, even when that area is perceived not to be affected.
- Work permit to be issued, by the authorised person, to responsible personnel/contractor performing the task

- **That** for the sole purpose of preventing incidents of this nature, the Training Centre Manager in conjunction with the Germiston Senior Engineer: Operations and Maintenance, was instructed to **PREPARE** an informative presentation on the incident and to **SHARE** it with all other areas within Ekurhuleni.



# Thank you!

## Questions ?



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