

Safety Week - Emergency Drill– Tuesday 17th October 2022

Contact with Overhead Electricity Lines

If your excavator/vehicle comes in contact with an overhead wire, **stay calm**, disengage gently, back away if possible.

Call ESB Emergency number **1850 372 999**. If you can **STAY IN THE CAB**.

If the risk of harm increases, do not step down from the vehicle, **jump clear and keep all other people clear of the vehicle**. Be aware of touch and step voltage.

Touch Voltage:

Many deaths and injuries occur every year that are associated with trucks or other large vehicles making contact with overhead wires.

Making contact or near contact with the tall frame of a vehicle will result in current flowing through your body to the ground.

Step Voltage:

When electricity makes contact with the ground, it has an effect like one you get when you drop a pebble into calm water.

The electricity will fan out from the point at which the live wire/conductor touches it, getting smaller as it rings out. As you move away from the contact point the voltage drops progressively.

DO NOT MAKE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND AND EQUIPMENT AT THE SAME TIME this will make you part of the circuit which could result in serious injury or death.

Always Remember!

Do	Don't
✓ Do assume all equipment is live unless otherwise confirmed with ESB Networks	✗ Don't disturb or touch any fallen wire or conductor
✓ Do keep clear of any live equipment	✗ Don't disturb or touch any underground cable
✓ Do assess the risk before proceeding	✗ Don't enter any substation without first checking with ESB Networks
✓ Do keep members of the public clear	✗ Don't remove any guards/screens around ESB Networks' equipment
✓ Do contact ESB Networks at the earliest opportunity on 1800 372 999 or 021 454 2090	✗ Don't touch or use anything else (rope, ladder etc.) to touch live electrical equipment, always check with ESB Networks first to ensure power has been switched off before you approach any ESB Networks' equipment.
✓ Do consider the risk of electrocution when dealing with incidents involving electrical equipment	
✓ Do ensure electricity supply is switched off before dealing with emergency situation	

In the event of an incident involving accidental contact with overhead electricity wires, remember these 5 steps and Stay Safe:

Step 1 – Keep Clear

The driver or operator of plant or machinery that comes into contact with overhead wires will usually remain safe in the cab. However, other people on the ground are at serious risk if they make contact with the plant or machinery - or their attachments. It is never safe to rely on rubber tyres or rubber-soled boots for protection – they will not insulate against high voltage shock. Tyres can burst into flames and boots can be destroyed.

Step 2 – Contact ESB Networks

You or someone else should immediately phone the ESB Networks' emergency Number : 1800 372 999

Step 3 – Jump Clear

If you must exit the cab, jump clear so that contact is not made between you, the vehicle and the ground. Land on your feet and do not touch the ground with your hands. Move away carefully by shuffling, keeping both feet together -or bunny hop with both feet close together

Step 4 – Stay Clear

Do not go back to the vehicle as it may still be live. Wait until ESB Networks has confirmed that it is safe to do so. Many fatal accidents have occurred when the person has jumped clear, but then returns to the vehicle

Step 5 – Safe Operation

In some situations, it may be possible to reverse away until contact is broken. Do not climb out of the vehicle or attempt to operate the vehicle when standing on the ground outside the vehicle. Never make contact with the live vehicle and the ground at the same time.



EMERGENCY
1800 372 999



Safety
Week
17th – 21st
Oct 2022

In the event of an incident

Drill Completed:		Date of Drill	
Address			
Location / Building			
Weather Conditions			
Time Alarm Activated			
Type of Alarm Used (if applicable)			
Time Taken to Complete Drill			
Responsible Person(s)	Name:	Name:	
	Position:	Position:	
	Company:	Company:	
Comments / Action Required			
Observations (Positive/Negative):			
Feedback From Participants:			

