

July 2001

Electrician narrowly escapes serious injury

While installing metering conductors in a 4160 volt switchgear, a qualified Electrician came into contact with the terminal of an energized lightning arrester.

This contact could have been FATAL!

A serious hazard exists when electricians assume lightning arresters are de-energized when the main switch is turned off or even when a breaker is racked out. Lightning arresters are typically installed on the line side of a main switch to protect the incoming supply conductors from surges. Extreme care shall be exercised to ensure lightning arresters are de-energized when working in compartments.

The following is recommended practice for

1. Check the single line drawing, ensure that tag and lock-out procedure is understood by personnel doing the work.
2. Follow the proper lock-out, tag-out procedure and test to confirm no potential exists before working within an electrical enclosure.

