Safety Advice

Action required following a serious incident



Electric shock from Bussmann CamMaster fuse carrier, CM32F, rated at 32A

Issued to: All Network Rail line managers,

safety professionals and RISQS

registered contractors

Ref: NRA 16/11

Date of issue: 27/10/2016

Location: Oxford Parkway

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Expert



Overview

A member of contractor staff supporting electrical testing of the signalling power distribution system received an electric shock from touching a Bussmann CamMaster fuse carrier in a lineside location case / Functional Supply Point (FSP).

Subsequent testing revealed that the fuse carrier had an elevated voltage of up to 300V on its surface.

Under normal operating conditions no voltage should be present. Insulation breakdown in the faulty fuse carrier caused the elevated voltage.

STE engineers are currently investigating but are unable to yet identify if this is a one-off component failure or a batch problem.

Fortunately in this instance, the contractor was not harmed by the electric shock.

Immediate action required

Touching one of these 32A fuse carriers (part reference CM32F) cannot be assumed to be safe when it is energised.

 Every member of staff must test the surface of a Bussmann CamMaster fuse before touching or removing the fuse carrier from the base. The special requirements in NR/SPS S002 (the Authority to Work Live process) must be used if touching or removing the fuse carrier when energised. Working live should be avoided wherever possible.

Copies of Safety Advice are available on Safety Central.