

# HV Distribution Equipment



Never assume equipment is isolated  
– always test before touch.

## Brief

- Always prove the testing device before use
- Where possible, reprove the device after use
- Always test a conductor which you believe is isolated but which is capable of being made live using an approved device before touching
- When joining a workgroup who are in contact with a conductor, if there is any doubt about the extent of the worksite the test must be performed again
- On multi-phase systems, all phases should be isolated and tested
- Approved devices only indicate if a conductor is live, not if it is safe to touch. Conductors must be isolated, and made dead, before touching

## This lifesaving rule applies to

- Working on all components, which may be energised at HV. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Switchgear
  - Transformers
  - Ring main units
  - Cables
  - Bus bars (including aerial bus bars)
  - Adjacent OLE on SMOS sites
  - Other exposed conductors

## This lifesaving rule does not apply to

- No assets identified*

## Learning for the future

- Every report of electric shock shall be formally investigated using the fair culture process
- A Close Call should be raised when a conductor is tested live and it is not expected to be live

## Guidance/Notes

- Wherever practical, the whole substation should be isolated rather than specific equipment.