



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Engineering and Support Center,
Huntsville

Safety Office

Mishap Lessons Learned



Subject: Arc Flash Accident



Event: Two contractor electricians, one who was an apprentice, were pulling communication cables for a meter when an arc flash occurred. The apprentice electrician entered a power cubicle and pulled cables in the vicinity of energized equipment which was not in accordance with planned daily activities. The apprentice electrician received burns to both hands, both wrists, and his upper chest area due to current passing through his body to ground. The worker's electrical safety PPE was not used.

Root Cause(s):

- Lack of Supervision.
- Working outside the approved daily activity and scope of work.

Recommendations:

- Prime contractors must properly supervise all workers.
- Work practices and procedures must prohibit work around energized equipment.
- Retrain employees and competent person(s) to stop work when procedures are not followed.
- Avoid working while exposed to electrical hazards.