



## **FORM 18.18 - RESCUE PROCEDURE PLANNING TEMPLATE**

This Rescue Procedure Planning template will be used when creating site specific safety plans (SSSP's). Each potential emergency will be checked in the table and the corresponding section will be included in the SSSP.

The health and safety team will follow these procedures:

1. Attend the Internal Pre-Construction Meeting for upcoming projects
2. Log the minutes of the project on the IPM form. See Section 6.1.
3. If the project is scheduled to be 90 days or greater, create a SSSP.
4. Include Rescue Procedures, as checked below, in the SSSP.
5. Discuss and review each emergency and rescue procedure with all workers at the project when it commences.

The health and safety team will respond promptly to any serious incident or emergency situation. Top management shall have the overall administrative responsibility. Supervisors and operations personnel shall usually be the first people to respond.

The following are potential emergencies: Check off the ones that apply to the project location.					
<input type="checkbox"/>	1.	Building or Site Evacuation	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.	Unexpected Natural Disaster
<input type="checkbox"/>	2.	First Aid/Medical Aid/Critical Injury	<input type="checkbox"/>	11.	Animal Risks to Life or Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	3.	Fire and/or Explosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.	Motor Vehicle Collision
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.	Severe Weather	<input type="checkbox"/>	13.	Property Damage
<input type="checkbox"/>	5.	Hazardous Material Spills	<input type="checkbox"/>	14.	Power Line Contact
<input type="checkbox"/>	6.	Transportation or Material Handling	<input type="checkbox"/>	15.	Falls from Heights
<input type="checkbox"/>	7.	Violence in the Workplace	<input type="checkbox"/>	16.	Confined Spaces
<input type="checkbox"/>	8.	Bomb Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	17.	Trench or Excavation cave-in
<input type="checkbox"/>	9.	Utilities Outages	<input type="checkbox"/>	18.	Electrocution

### **1. BUILDING OR SITE EVACUATION**

Contact the building supervisor/manager for a current copy of the property evacuation plan.

All employees must:

- Know the way out from their work area.
- Know the location of the nearest fire extinguisher.
- Know the location of the emergency meeting location.
- Report to the supervisor in charge of the meeting area and ensure you are accounted for
- Do not return to your work area unless specifically told to do so when the area is safe and is given the all-clear by emergency response personnel
- Know and understand what areas of the building need to be evacuated and at what times.

The Emergency Supervisor(s) shall:

- Post and ensure employees are aware of the location-specific map or building plan that marks out the location of the meeting point, first aid kit, fire extinguishers and the alarm locations etc.
- Utilize the checklist to take attendance to ensure everyone is accounted for.
- Give permission to return to the work area when safe to do so.



## **2. FIRST AID/MEDICAL AID/CRITICAL INJURY**

If the person is conscious:

- Report injury to supervisor/ first aider
- Supervisor and first aider to assess the level of injury
- If trained, perform first aid, and reassess
- Send for medical aid if necessary

If the person is unconscious:

- Call 911 for assistance
- Provide first aid until emergency response arrives

When EMS arrives:

- Guide arriving EMS personnel
- Assist as required
- Supervisor to notify top management of incident

In the event of a Critical Injury, the supervisor must contact top management and the health and safety team immediately. Secure the scene and contact the Ministry of Labour by telephone immediately. For all incidents, the supervisor must document it on HCSS.

## **3. FIRE AND/OR EXPLOSION EMERGENCY**

**If you discover fire:**

- Leave the fire area immediately.
- Close all doors behind you, if in a building.
- Sound the fire alarm system by using a pull station, air horn or paging system.
- Call 911. Give location of fire.
- Leave a building via the nearest exit.
- Meet outside at the designated meeting area(s).
- Give the Supervisor all the information.
- Stay outside until all clear to return is given by Fire Department or Emergency Supervisor.

*Only those trained in fire extinguisher use may attempt to put out a small fire with an extinguisher. If the fire cannot be contained or the smoke is too hazardous, leave the area, close all doors, and evacuate using the instructions above.*

**If you hear the fire alarm:**

- Leave a building immediately using the nearest exit.
- Close all doors behind you.
- Meet outside at the designated meeting area(s).
- Check with the Supervisor for instructions.

**If you are in a room:**

- Before opening the door, feel the door and doorknob for heat.
- If not hot, brace yourself against the door and open it slightly.
- If you feel air pressure or hot draft, close the door quickly.
- If you find no fire or smoke in the corridor, close the door behind and leave the building by the nearest exit.
- If you encounter smoke in the corridor or stairwell, consider taking another route or returning to your room.

**If you cannot leave your area or have returned because of fire or heavy smoke:**

- Close the door(s)
- Unlock door for possible entry of firefighters.
- Call 911 and tell them where you are located. Wait to be rescued.
- Seal all cracks where smoke can enter (using something wet if possible).
- Crouch low to the floor if smoke enters the room.
- If a window is available, partially open for air. Close the window if smoke comes in and remain calm. **Do not** panic or jump.

**Supervisors:**

1. Clear the area of all other personnel and visitors, instruct all employees and visitors to evacuate the area.
2. Delegate a responsible person to call 911 if not done already.
3. Ensure that all employees and visitors have evacuated the area and assembled at the predetermined muster point.
4. Take count of all employees and visitors to ensure that everyone is present.
5. Act as a liaison to emergency service personnel.
6. Wait for instruction by emergency authorities before re-entering the work area.
7. Complete any required documentation.

**4. SEVERE WEATHER EMERGENCY**

If a severe thunderstorm is imminent: Mobile Trailers or vehicles offer little protection, even if tied down.

Leave these for a sturdy shelter before the storm approaches:

- If you hear thunder, then lightning is close enough to be dangerous.
- Go to a well-constructed, enclosed building.
- Anyone working outside shall get to coverage inside and stay inside (lightning & flying debris hazards)
- Small, open structures do not provide protection from lightning.
- If no building is available, stay inside your vehicle or machine cab.
- Avoid water, high ground, isolated trees, and power lines.
- There is not a place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm.
- Close all building doors
- Tune a radio to a local weather advisory channel.
- Move away from exterior walls and window.
- If inside shelter is unavailable, find a low-lying area away from tall, pointy, isolated objects, crouch down and put your feet together. Do not lie down. Cover your ears to reduce the threat of hearing damage from thunder.
- Supervisor to account for whereabouts of personnel.

If a severe thunderstorm is imminent: Driving.

- Tune in to your radio to stay informed of approaching storms
- Turn on your headlights (low beams) and slow down.
- Do not drive unless necessary.
- Pull safely onto the shoulder of the road away from any trees that could fall on the vehicle.
- Stay in the vehicle and turn on the emergency flashers until the heavy rains subside.
- An automobile provides better insulation against lightning than being in the open
- Avoid contact with any metal conducting surfaces either inside your car or outside
- Avoid flooded roadways.
- Avoid downed power lines.
- Check your windshield wipers and tires regularly to ensure that they are ready for severe weather.
- Approach intersections with caution



If a tornado is imminent: Buildings.

**Note:** Mobile trailers offer little protection, even if tied down. Leave these for a sturdy shelter or permanent building before the storm approaches.

- Close all building doors.
- Tune a radio to a local weather advisory channel.
- Anyone working outside shall get inside and stay there.
- Go to an inside location on the ground floor or lower floor where you are away from exterior walls and windows and in a strong part of the building (this location should be marked on a site plan – if applicable)
- Avoid places with wide-span roofs.
- Get under cover (a piece of furniture such as a desk or table and hold on)
- Use arms to protect head and neck.
- Supervisor to account for whereabouts of personnel.

If a tornado is imminent: Driving.

- Do not drive during tornado conditions.
- Never try to out-drive a tornado in a vehicle. Tornadoes can change direction quickly and can lift a car or truck and toss it through the air
- Get out of your vehicle immediately and seek shelter in a nearby building. If there is no time to get indoors, or if there is no nearby shelter, get out of the car and lie in a ditch or low-lying area away from the vehicle.
- Be aware of the potential for flooding.

If a tornado is imminent: Outside.

If you are unable to get to shelter:

- Lie flat in the nearest depression, ditch, or ravine if there is no time to escape
- Avoid areas with many trees, protect your head with your arms
- Move away from the path of the tornado at a RIGHT-ANGLE direction
- Stay out of the water as lightning sometimes comes before a tornado.

Winter Weather: Driving

- If driving, pull over somewhere safe.
- Call your supervisor and report the weather.
- If your vehicle goes off the road:
  - Call 911 if assistance is needed.
  - Do not leave your vehicle unless necessary. Stay in the vehicle and wait for help. Do not leave the vehicle to search for assistance unless help is visible within 100 meters.
  - Display a trouble sign to indicate you need help. Hang a brightly colored cloth (preferably red) on the radio antenna and raise the hood after snow stops falling.
  - Run the engine occasionally to keep warm. Turn on the engine for about 10 minutes each hour (or five minutes every half hour). Running the engine for only short periods reduces the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and conserves fuel.
  - Use the heater while the engine is running.
  - Keep the exhaust pipe clear of snow.
  - Leave the overhead light on when the engine is running so that you can be seen.
  - Do light exercises to keep up circulation. Clap your hands and move your arms and legs occasionally. Try not to stay in one position for too long.

Winter Weather- Indoors

- Stay indoors and wear warm clothes.



- Listen to a local station for updated emergency information.
- Eat regularly. Food provides the body with energy for producing its own heat.
- Keep the body replenished with fluids to prevent dehydration.
- Charge cell phones.
- Prepare for power outages.
- Do not leave until safe travel is assured.

All employees in all locations will follow these severe weather procedures. Supervisors will monitor weather events in their locations and advise employees if severe weather is expected.

## **5. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPILLS EMERGENCY**

In Case of a Spill

1. If equipment/machinery is involved, shut it off if able.
2. Contain spill immediately if safe to do so.
3. Notify supervisor and workers in vicinity.
4. Participate in reporting the incident.

All spills/leaks or discharges must be cleaned up recognizing worker and public safety first. Proper protective and clean-up equipment must be readily available and used. Always refer to the SDS for proper clean-up and disposal procedures. Time is of the essence when cleaning up a spill.

Options to Reduce Spill Area:

1. Use absorption materials in the spill kit.
2. Use earth berms.
3. Eliminate any pressures or flows if safe to do so. (i.e., turn off machine).

Hazardous spills of propane or a natural gas line rupture:

- If a leak is severe, evacuate the building using evacuation procedure and contact authorities.
- If the leak is minor, such as a lift truck or cutting torch propane tank, get the tank outside and a minimum of 20 feet from the building.
- Supervisor shall contact the proper authorities.

## **6. TRANSPORTATION OR MATERIALS HANDLING INCIDENT / EMERGENCY**

This may include heavy equipment, vehicles, and cranes.

- Assess the level of emergency and secure the area.
- Contain any fluids that may be hazardous to people or the environment.
- Contact Supervisor

If personnel are injured contact first aider on site and arrange for emergency medical assistance if required. For critical injuries, contact the Ministry of Labour. Secure the area with tape or traffic cones and do not allow anyone to tamper with the incident scene or any tool or equipment that is involved (except to preserve life or reduce further damage to the area or building) Supervisor to complete the Incident Report.

## **7. VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE EMERGENCY**

Summoning Assistance

The following measures and procedures must be followed when an incident of violence has occurred or is likely to occur and immediate assistance is required.



Employees shall:

- Immediately call for emergency services - call 911, if needed.
- Contact your supervisor or manager immediately.

Supervisors shall:

- Provide all necessary information to the police if required.
- Report the incident to Top Management as soon as possible.

## **8. BOMB THREAT EMERGENCY**

Bomb threats are not to be taken lightly. Persons responsible for such threats can be prosecuted. Discontented employees may make bomb threats.

Procedures for bomb threats are as follows:

Employees receiving telephoned threats shall:

- Stay calm- do not alarm others.
- Immediately notify your supervisor who shall report the threat to authorities.
- Supervisor shall contact 911 for instructions.
- Decision to evacuate the building shall be made by a Top Manager/Supervisor with Police guidance
- Follow evacuation procedures as outlined in this document and ensure everyone is accounted for.

## **9. UTILITIES OUTAGES**

This may be an outage of electrical power, natural/propane gas, or water.

- Contact supervisor.
- If electrical outage, stay in a safe location and await instructions- this may include evacuation
- If the office area temperature drops below 18 degrees Celsius in the event of a power outage Management shall advise the steps to be taken by all employees
- If the area is without the normal use of water or washroom facilities the management team at the location shall advise the steps to be taken by all employees

## **10. UNEXPECTED NATURAL DISASTER EMERGENCY**

Provincial Emergency Management Organizations deal with public safety in the event of a major disaster.

- Communication of such events shall be widely published using such channels as the media (television, radio) email and social media feeds (Twitter, Facebook)
- If you are in close vicinity to such events, follow the advice and direction of emergency services.
- Events may be classed as Advisories, Critical, or High Danger Alerts

Some situations in which a Public Emergency Alert may be issued include:

- Large fire or explosion
- Chemical leak or spill
- Nuclear emergency
- Major transportation incident
- Terrorist attack
- Tornado alerts



### **11. ANIMAL RISKS TO LIFE OR HEALTH**

This may include risks from wild animals or domesticated animals in rural and urban work locations. Controls put in place shall be identified to all workers of the dangers.

- Call 911 in case of an emergency
- Alert supervisor to any cause for concern or hazards stemming from wildlife
- Stay in a vehicle or building if wildlife becomes a threat.

### **12. MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION**

If you are involved in an incident or motor vehicle collision:

- Assess the situation.
- Contact emergency services (call 911) if necessary.
- Notify your supervisor immediately.
- Secure the area.
- Do not admit fault.
- Do not speak to the media.
- Take down witness names and contact information or license plate numbers.
- If able take photos of the scene and the damage to the vehicles or property ensuring both close and distant photos show the complete picture of the area (close range and full scene range).
- Never post them on social media!
- Assist in completing an Incident Report.

### **13. PROPERTY DAMAGE**

Property damage could be related to another emergency.

- Report it to your supervisor.
- Assess the area for potential risks.
- Ensure that area is secure and nonessential staff are directed away from the area (when required)
- Take photos of the scene
- Assist in completing an Incident Report

### **14. POWER LINE CONTACT**

No object shall be brought closer to an energized overhead electrical conductor with a nominal phase to phase voltage rating set out in Column 1 of the table below; the minimum distance to stay away is set out in Column 2.

Nominal Phase-to-Phase Voltage Rating	Minimum Distance
750-150,000 volts	3.0 metres
More than 150,000 to 250,000 volts	4.5 metres
More than 250,000 volts and over	6.0 metres

- Do not stockpile, load, or unload material near power lines.
- Do not locate access roads or ramps near power lines.
- Treat line as energized until notified to the contrary.

### **In the Event of Contact with Overhead Lines**

If contact has been made with equipment, the operator shall stay in equipment until instructed by proper authority.

- Never touch equipment and ground at the same time
- Get someone to call local utility company to shut off power.
- If you need to leave the equipment due to other danger (ie fire) do not touch the equipment and the ground at the same time, slowly jump with two feet together and shuffle (not step) until you are well



out of the danger zone (remember electricity shall ripple like water through the ground so you must shuffle well away from the affected area)

- Follow instructions of all emergency personnel

## 15. **FALLS FROM HEIGHTS**

This information is to be reviewed prior to performing any activities associated with working at heights that may require an emergency rescue related to a fall. **See project specific WAH Plans and Rescue Procedures.**

- Notify supervisor immediately that a fall has occurred.
- Assess the scene and make sure that there are no other hazards that could injure another worker if a rescue is required. See the following methods of rescue A-C depending on the situation and equipment available.

### **Ground Rescue**

Attempt a Ground Rescue if the worker is suspended at an accessible height with an accessible ground surface.

Ground Rescue is always the safest option when available. If a Ground Rescue is not possible, perform a **Non-Ground Rescue** detailed below.

GROUND RESCUE method can be determined in this order:

- A. Scissor or Boom Lift (PEWP)
- B. Ladder or Scaffold

#### **A. Scissor or Boom Lift (PEWP)**

1. Position the elevating work platform underneath the suspended worker.
2. Ensure that the elevating work platform has enough lifting capacity to safely support all workers likely to be on the platform.
3. Ensure that all the required personal protective equipment for rescuers is being used (full body harness, attached to the designated tie off point on the platform).
4. Bring the elevating work platform up until the suspended worker safely touches the floor of the platform.
5. Once the suspended worker is safely on the floor of the elevating work platform, release the fall protection harness assembly from the lanyard or lifeline and connect the worker's full body harness to the elevating work platform for the descent of the platform (it may be necessary to have a new lanyard available for the worker – the old shock absorbing lanyard may have been destroyed during the fall arrest action).
6. Once the worker has been brought to a safe location, administer First Aid, and treat the person for suspension trauma and any other injuries.
7. Provide assistance to emergency responders as needed.

#### **B. Ladder or Scaffold**

- worker must be conscious and appears to be alert and;
  - worker has control over their arms and legs
1. Place a securely fastened ladder or scaffold (rolling or portable) under the suspended worker to allow the worker access to it in a safe, controlled manner.
  2. If possible, use a second worker positioned on another securely fastened ladder, or on the scaffold platform, to ensure that the suspended worker positions himself safely.
  3. Always check to ensure that the scaffold platform is not being overloaded. Guide the worker or assist them down the ladder or scaffold.
  4. If the lifeline restricts movement, assist the worker as required.





5. Once the worker has been brought to a safe location, administer First Aid, and treat the person for suspension trauma and any other injuries.
6. Provide assistance to emergency responders as needed.

### **Non-Ground Rescue**

If the worker is suspended at a height not accessible via elevated work platform (PEWP), ladder or scaffold, the **DBI Sala Rollgliss R550** must be deployed. **This system is only to be used by competent workers who have training in its operation and understand the manufacturer user instructions.**

**See Section 12.11.12 for specific procedures.**

### **Post-Rescue Procedure**

All workers must remain onsite in a safe location until the site supervisor notifies them to do otherwise.

**The site supervisor and health and safety representative must ensure the following is completed:**

- Secure the area where the incident occurred.
- If a critical injury or fatality has occurred, immediately notify the Ministry of Labour. The incident scene must not be disturbed.
- Notify management of the incident.
- Quarantine all fall arrest equipment used during the fall for further investigation and inspection.
- Begin the incident investigation:
  - Record all documented statements from employees, witnesses, and others.
  - Save all photographs of the incident.
  - Record all key information such as dates, time, weather, general site conditions, and specific incident locations including sketches of the immediate area, complete with measurements if applicable.
  - Record all documented communications with fire, police, EMS, Ministry of Labour, and any other contractors involved.

**Management must ensure the following is completed:**

- Review the applicable sections in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (Sec. 51-53) and O. Reg 420 to ensure the Ministry of Labour receives all required notices regarding the occurrence.
- Review and complete the incident investigation.
- Determine whether the rescue procedures were followed as designed. Discuss the incident with workers and the supervisor. Make corrections to the procedures if necessary.
- Replace any needed fall protection equipment.
- Ensure all rescue devices (i.e. DBI Sala Rollgliss) have been removed from service and subsequently inspected by a certified technician to ensure good working order.

## **16. CONFINED SPACES EMERGENCY**

Confined Space requires a site-specific rescue plan, contact your health and safety representative or employer for more information and assistance with this type of planning. Equipment shall be available and inspected regularly to ensure it is ready for use and workers shall be trained in its use.

Workers shall be trained on the plan and any modifications made shall be clearly communicated to workers. Subcontractors working in confined spaces shall submit their entry plans, including means of rescue.

### **Rescue Plan**

Planned rescue procedures must be capable of being implemented immediately by an adequate number of persons at any time from outside of the confined space.

The “On-Site Confined Space Rescue Plan” must be completed and signed by the attendant, rescue team members and the supervisor at the time the Confined Space Permit is completed.



#### The attendant will ensure:

- rescue team members are identified.
- at least one member of the rescue team is trained in Standard First Aid / CPR
- all rescue equipment is inspected and ready for use. Tripods and SRL's require annual certification by a professional. Check that inspection tags are current before use.
- the means of summoning help is available and tested.

#### The supervisor will:

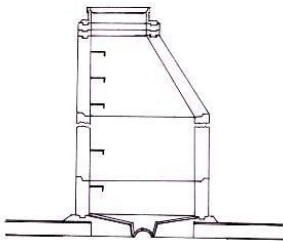
- review the rescue plan and verify it is acceptable.
- sign and date the plan.

Calling 911 is not a satisfactory rescue procedure, however, is necessary if a rescue is required.

A single attendant cannot normally rescue an entrant without the aid of a tripod or other mechanical tool or equipment.

**WARNING:** Never enter an unsafe confined space to rescue a worker. Many workers trying to save their co-workers have only become victims themselves. Call for emergency help.

#### **TYPE OF SPACE: MANHOLE**



Type of Extraction: Vertical

Type of Communication: Verbal/Visual

Rescue Equipment Required:

- Confined Space attendant
- Air monitor
- Tripod
- SRL
- 5-point harness for entrant

Content dependent: Tyvek suit, rubber boots, face shield

#### **Equipment Setup**

A tripod shall be erected directly above the opening to the manhole. The SRL shall be attached to the tripod after being thoroughly inspected. Attach the winch to the entrant's harness D-ring.

#### **Rescue Procedure**

Self-Rescue: Entrant is not injured or impaired in any way and can exit unaided.

#### **Non-Entry Rescue**

Entrant is unable to self-rescue due to injury or impairment. Attendant can utilize tripod and SRL to bring entrant to surface. Assistance may be required to safely lift entrant onto the ground. First aid response may be required. A supervisor shall be notified immediately.

**In Event of Emergency**

If required, call 911 for fire and ambulance assistance.

If a rescue is performed, the site supervisor shall be notified immediately.

**17. EXCAVATION AND TRENCH EMERGENCY AND RESCUE**

For victims of a trench collapse, time is the enemy. The longer the person is trapped the higher the incident potential for developing "Crush Syndrome".

Many times, in addition to internal traumatic injuries, hypothermia which is considered a slow killer may occur. Ensure you have completed a rescue drill with workers onsite.

**In the event of an emergency:**

- Call 911 immediately.
- Notify the supervisor immediately.
- Move everyone and everything well back. Machinery, construction material, bystanders that are close to the edge of the trench (within three feet) can easily cause a second cave-in.
- Assess the potential hazards to the rescuers, including potential damaged or undermined nearby utilities. Utility owners shall be contacted immediately to assess and if possible blank out the affected utility.
- Start pumps immediately if groundwater is a consideration.
- Shut down all equipment and stop any nearby traffic that can cause vibration and aggravate the situation.
- Barricading the rescue area with barrier tape as soon as possible shall help to prevent unnecessary personnel and bystanders being too close to the trench. This can be delegated while other steps are being taken.
- Get workers who are not trapped out of trench. Leave all tools in place, tool location can assist in finding buried victim(s).
- Determine the location, number, and condition of the victim(s).
- If there are victim(s), determine how long the victim(s) have been buried.
- Prepare for rescue personnel (EMS, fire dept., etc.) They will need to know:
  - Depth of the trench
  - Soil type
  - Volume of soil in collapse
  - Number of people trapped
  - How much soil is covering the victim(s)
  - How long have they been trapped
  - Types of utilities involved (if any). Are hazardous utilities damaged
  - Are conditions stable
  - Potential for additional collapse
  - Potential for flooding
  - Condition of surrounding soil

**Rescue:**

Trench rescue involves highly skilled and trained rescuers with the EMS departments. Workers must never enter a collapsed trench to rescue someone. Untrained or ill-equipped rescuers frequently become victims themselves from secondary cave-ins. However, the following steps can help with EMS rescue:

- Have ladders available for rescue.
- Support any unbroken utilities, if safe to do so.
- If the victim is conscious and trapped, pass them a shovel so that they can attempt to self-rescue.
- If a victim becomes free, assess them for injuries and treat where required (if safe to do so) until EMS takes over.
- Do not attempt to dig the victim out with a backhoe or excavator. Such equipment may further injure the victim.



- CPR may be required, once started DO NOT stop unless someone takes over or you cannot physically go any longer without becoming a victim yourself. You need to keep going so they have a greater chance of survival when EMS arrives.

#### **Post-rescue**

- Secure the scene for an investigation
- Contact the Ministry of Labour
- Secure all witnesses in a safe place for investigation.
- Contact top management and advise of the incident

### **18. ELECTRICAL CONTACT RESCUE**

When an electrical incident occurs, the victim may be incapable of moving or releasing the electrical conductor because of the effect of something called “muscle clamping.” Muscle clamping is the contraction of muscles caused by an electrical current running through the body. As a result of this effect, attempts to rescue a victim of an electrical incident may pose a hazard for the rescuer. A rescuer who touches a victim who is still in contact with an electrical current could also be exposed to that current. Caution must always be a primary consideration during rescue in response to any electrical emergency. At the same time, speedy and effective response is essential, because to survive, victims shall be rescued as soon as possible. Workers shall understand electrical hazards and know how to act fast and safely in an electrical emergency.

The first rule of electrical rescue is that co-workers must never rush into an emergency situation. Follow these procedures:

- Call 911
- Visually examine victims to determine if they are in contact with energized conductors. Metal surfaces, objects near the victim, or the ground itself may be energized.
- Responders could become victims if they touch an energized victim or conductive surface. Any active electrical circuits should be de-energized, if possible.
- Once the power is off and it is safe to approach, the victim can be examined to see if they can be safely moved without causing greater injuries.
- If the electrical circuit cannot be de-energized, emergency responders shall use extreme care. They must:
  - Ensure that hands and feet are dry.
  - Wear protective equipment such as low-voltage gloves and overshoes, if available.
  - Stand on a clean, dry surface, or stand on a dry rubber blanket or other insulating material, if possible.
  - Use a nonconductive material (ie. nonconductive rope, or a dry stick or board) to remove the victim from the conductor.

First aid for a victim of an electrical incident may include CPR if the person is not breathing and has no pulse. If the victim is breathing and has a heartbeat, first aid for shock and burns may be required until emergency medical help arrives.

### **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

A minimal rating of 4A40BC fire extinguishers shall be used on construction projects. Only trained personnel can use a fire extinguisher. In the event of fire, immediately call for fire department assistance. Follow on-site emergency procedures.

Fire extinguishers are designed to extinguish or control small fires. A small fire if not checked immediately can soon spread out of control. In fact, most big fires start out as small ones. Remember:

- The extinguisher shall be the correct type for the fire
- It shall be readily available
- It shall be in good working order.



- It shall have an annual and monthly inspection (tagged)

Just like any specialized tool or equipment, the annual maintenance done for a fire extinguisher shall be completed by a trained and licensed portable fire extinguisher technician. A monthly inspection can be done during site inspections by worker representatives or the supervisor.

### HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

- P – Pull the pin
- A – Aim at the base of the fire
- S – Squeeze the handle
- S – Sweep from side to side



A fire extinguisher that has been used will be taken out of service and promptly replaced with a working fire extinguisher.