How to Read an Arc Flash and Shock Hazard Label

- for Exposed Energized Conductors -

Labels are divided into two parts: Arc Flash and Shock Hazard. Machines with these labels have the potential to produce both shock and flash injuries.

**Flash Protection**

- Category rating of the Flash Protection PPE you should be wearing when within the Flash Protection Boundary of an exposed energized conductor (including verification if it is energized), consult NFPA 70E 130.7(C)(16)
- Flash Protection Boundary: Distance from the source that a person could receive a second degree burn if a flash occurred, all parts of your body in this boundary must be protected.
- Amount of energy available at the working distance, this helps pick the right PPE, consult NFPA 70E 130.7(C)(16)
- Available fault current supplied from the device's source (Cat. 1 labels or above)

**Shock Protection**

- Voltage of the labeled equipment
- Minimum glove rating
- Limited Approach Boundary: Minimum distance that un-qualified persons must remain unless advised and continuously escorted by a qualified person.
- Restricted Approach Boundary: All parts of your body in this boundary must be protected - only qualified persons allowed.
- Prohibited Approach Boundary: This distance is considered the same as making contact with the electrical conductor or part.

**Definitions:**

- **Arc Flash**: An explosion caused from an uncontrolled electrical arc within equipment. A slip of a wrench or dropping a wire while working on live equipment can start this event. The explosion can be of varying severity depending on the power supplied.
- **PPE**: Personal Protective Equipment

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Only Qualified Persons may work on or near equipment with an exposed conductor. If you are unsure whether or not you are qualified then you most likely are NOT qualified.