

Electrical Safety Innovation

How today's technology is enabling the next-generation of electrical LOTO

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Agenda

1. Review Prevention through Design, Hierarchy of Controls, Electrical Hazards
2. Electrical LOTO Example
3. Voltage Testing Technologies
4. Best practices for evaluating and applying electrical safety technology

Prevention through Design, Hierarchy of Controls & Electrical Hazards

Prevention through Design (PtD)

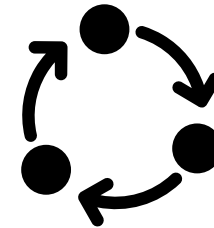
The practice of anticipating and designing out hazards as early as possible in the lifecycle of a product



Applies **throughout**
organization



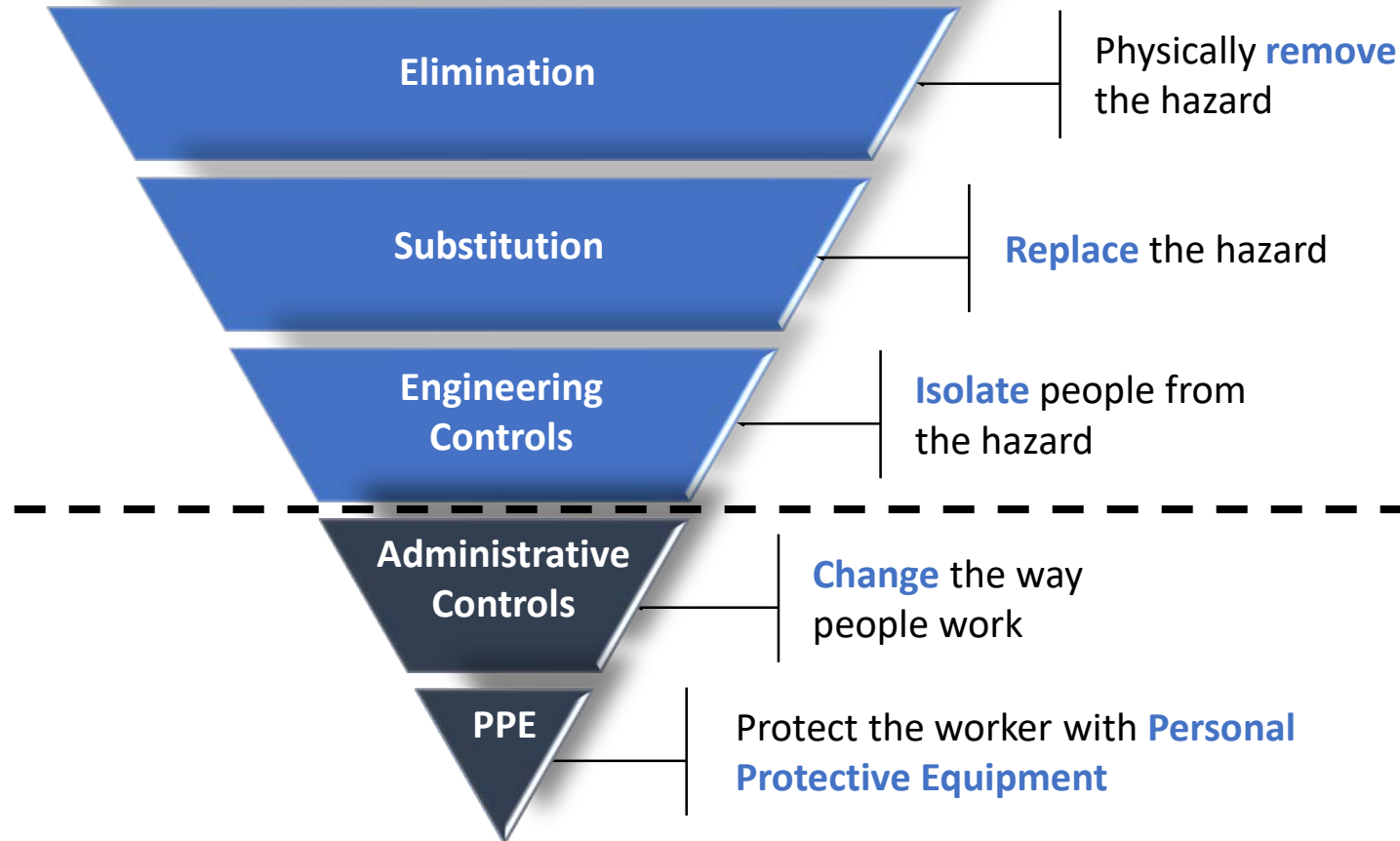
Think **new** &
existing equipment



Consider entire
lifecycle

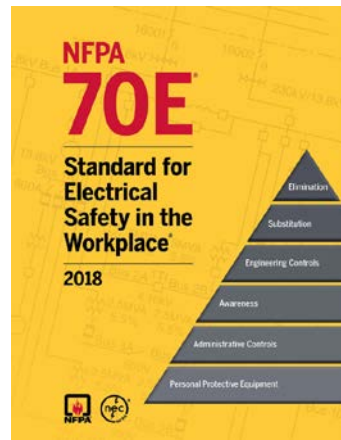
Hierarchy of Risk Controls

Most Effective



Least Effective

PtD Focus



Electrical Hazards



Shock



Arc flash



Fire

Electrical hazards impact **everyone – not just electrical workers!**

Time for Innovation

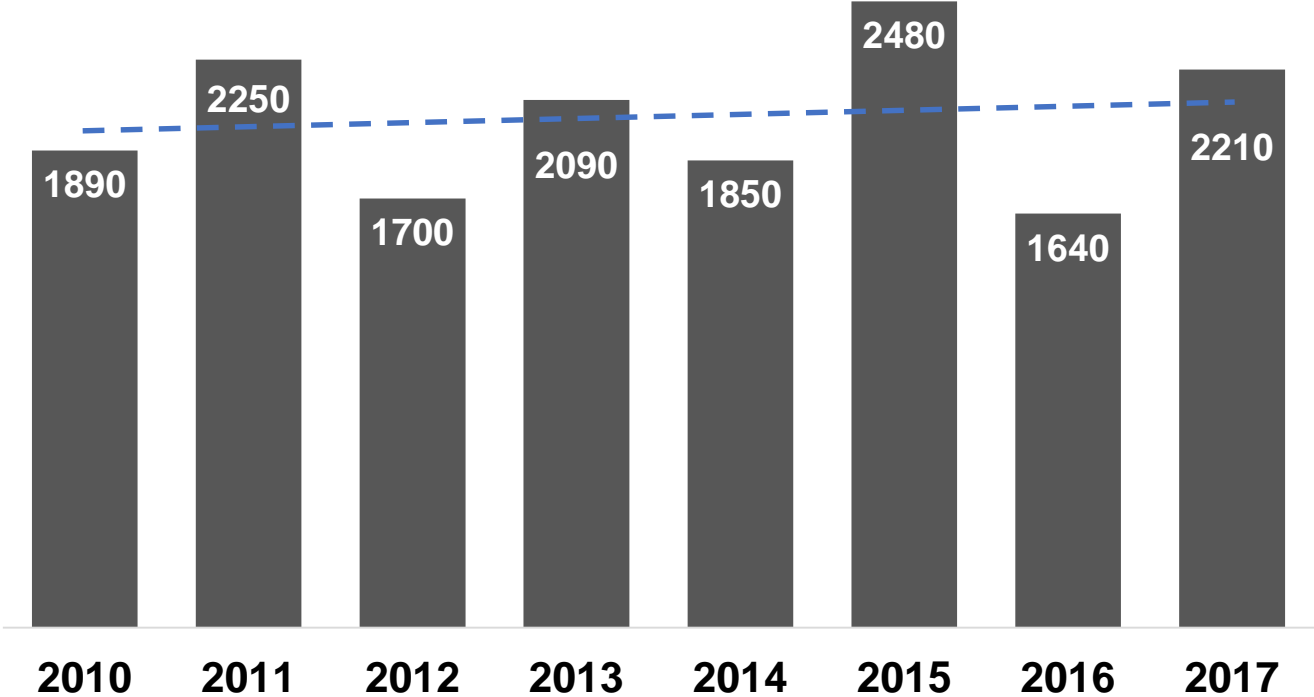


The number of electrical injuries is **no longer decreasing**



Many believe electrical injuries are **underreported**

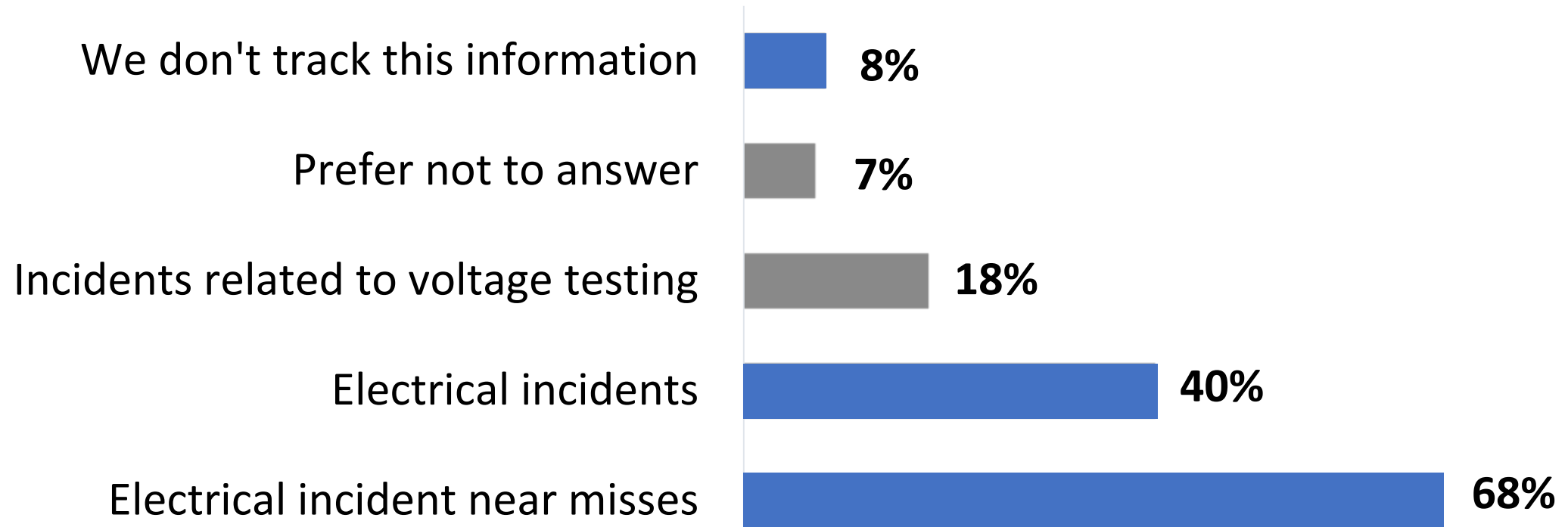
Electrical Injuries



Source: <http://files.esfi.org/file/Workplace-Electrical-Injuries-2003-2017-F927.pdf>

Frequency of Electrical Incidents

Question: Have you experienced any of the following within the past five years?



Source: EHS Today – 2019 Survey

Example: Electrical Lockout/Tagout

LOTO...and then Verify!

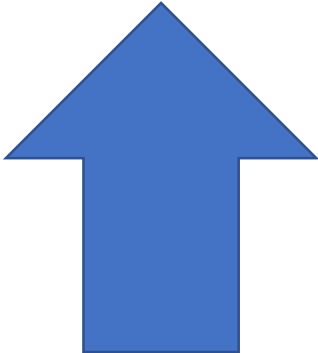
Isolate

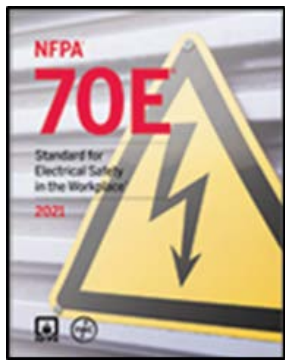


Apply
Locks/Tags



Verify





Verifying a De-Energized Condition

NFPA 70E 120.5 Process for Establishing and Verifying an Electrically Safe Work Condition

(7) Use an adequately rated portable test instrument to test each phase conductor or circuit part to verify it is de-energized. Test each phase conductor or circuit part both phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground. Before and after each test, determine that the test instrument is operating satisfactorily through verification on any known voltage source.



Portable Testers Have Limitations

Error Setting Function Selection Switch

Electrician severely burned when a multimeter switch **was incorrectly placed in resistance mode** prior to making contact with terminals in a 480V MCC.^[1]

Inadequately Rated Tester

Arc created when a voltmeter was connected across two phases of a bus bar. Arc caused tester to overload and explode resulting in one fatality and another worker with serious burn injuries.^[2]

Error Reading Digital Display

“OL” or over-range was misinterpreted to mean “zero” or no voltage present, resulting in a near-miss.^[1]



Use of Improper Portable Tester

Although a **non-contact voltage probe** did not indicate voltage, a lighting circuit was in fact energized, resulting in electrical shock.^[3]

Using a Voltmeter for verification has limitations...

- Hardware failures
- Human error
- Process failures
- Misinterpretation
- Exposure to hazards

[1] H. L. Floyd and B. J. Nenninger, "Personnel safety and plant reliability considerations in the selection and use of voltage test instruments," *IEEE Trans. Ind. Appl.*, vol. 33, no. 2, pp. 367–373, 1997.

[2] "Hispanic factory worker dies of burns after improperly testing a 480-volt electrical bus bar," *Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program*, Nat. Inst. Occupational Safety Health, Centers Disease Control Prevention, U.S. Dept. Health Human Services, Cincinnati, OH, 2005.

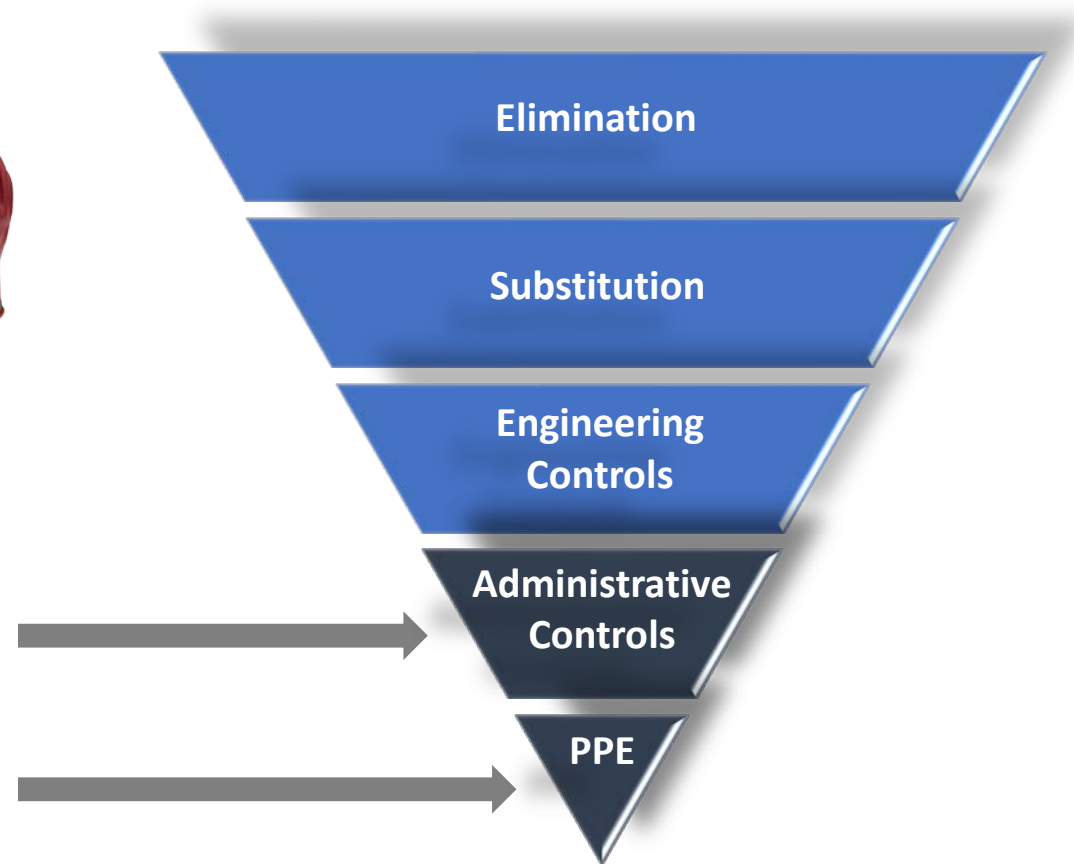
[3] J. Prigmore, J. Bishop and J. Martens, "Electrical Investigations: Case Studies, Common Electrical Safety Mistakes, and Lessons Learned," *IEEE Electrical Safety Workshop*, 2018.

LOTO and Verification



Traditional process relies on:

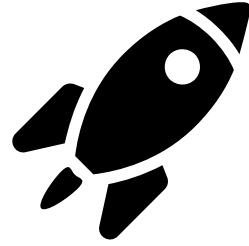
- Portable testers
- Procedures
- Training
- Personal protective equipment



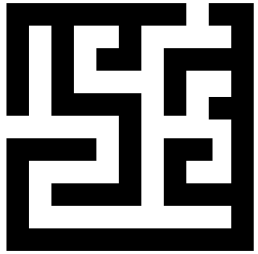
Administrative Controls



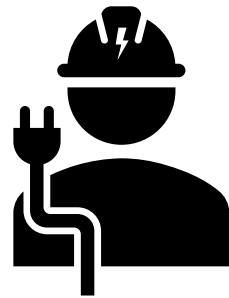
Effective when **performed as prescribed**



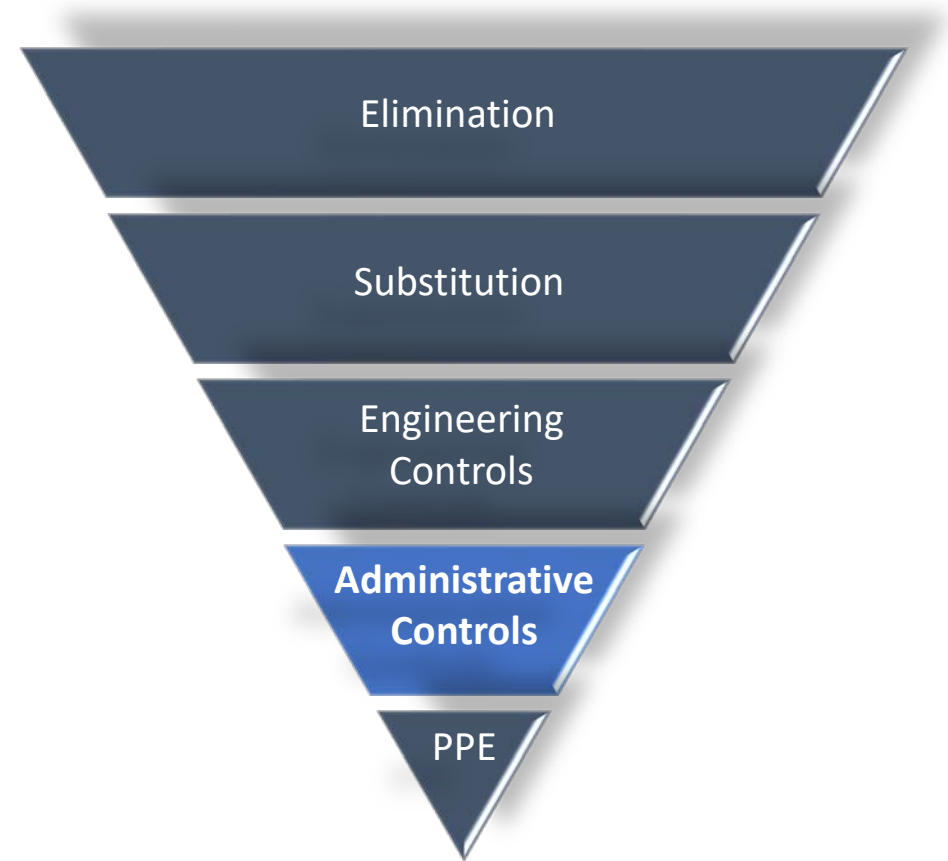
Normalization of deviance



Complexity leads to **shortcuts**



Experience does **not mean fewer errors**



Human Factors





In a study of **electrical burn** patients, researchers found that **no patient** in the study **followed all appropriate safety measures.**

Could design features help ensure **each step** of the process is completed?



Can design options make voltage testing more **efficient**?

Can **exposures** be reduced?

Applying Prevention through Design



Use of an **installed** tester

- ☑ Reduces **likelihood** of exposure and **severity** of exposure
- ☑ Reduces **errors** from inadequately rated testers

Automating the test process

- ☑ Improves **consistency** of the verification process
- ☑ Reduces **human errors**
- ☑ Improves **efficiency**



Verifying a De-Energized Condition

NFPA 70E-2021 120.5 Process for Establishing and Verifying an Electrically Safe Work Condition

CSA Z462-2021 4.2.5 g) Exception 2) & Note 1

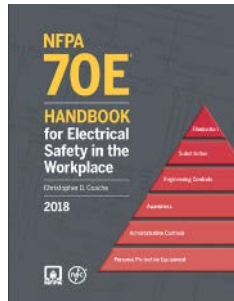
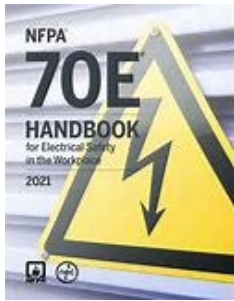
(7) Use an adequately rated **portable test instrument** to test each phase conductor or circuit part to test for the absence of voltage. Test each phase conductor or circuit part both phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground. Before and after each test, determine that the test instrument is operating satisfactorily through verification on any known voltage source.

Exception No. 1 to (7): An adequately rated **permanently mounted absence of voltage tester** shall be permitted to be used to test for the absence of voltage of the conductors or circuit parts at the work location, provided it meets the all following requirements:

- 1) It is permanently mounted and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and tests the conductors and circuit parts at the point of work
- 2) It is listed and labeled for the purpose of verifying the absence of voltage
- 3) It tests each phase conductor or circuit part both phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground
- 4) The test device is verified as operating satisfactorily on any known voltage source before and after testing for the absence of voltage

Informational Note No. 2. For additional **information on rating and design requirements** for permanently mounted absence of voltage testers, refer to **UL 1436**, Outlet Circuit Testers and Other Similar Indicating Devices.





NFPA 70E Handbook, 2018 & 2021 Edition

120.5(7)

Article 120

Exception No. 1: An adequately rated permanently mounted test device shall be permitted to be used to verify the absence of voltage of the conductors or circuit parts at the work location, provided it meets the all following requirements: (1) It is permanently mounted and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and tests the conductors and circuit parts at the point of work; (2) It is listed and labeled for the purpose of verifying the absence of voltage; (3) It tests each phase conductor or circuit part both phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground; (4) The test device is verified as operating satisfactorily on any known voltage source before and after verifying the absence of voltage.

Typically measurement devices indicate when voltage is present, but lack of indicating a voltage does not guarantee the equipment has been de-energized. For this reason, these mounted devices are designed to run internal diagnostics, verify operation on a known voltage source, confirm contact with the circuit, and verify the lack of voltage. These measurement devices do not use equipment voltage to verify the operation of the device. A secondary test source is available to perform this function. The device will then actively indicate the lack of voltage. See [Exhibit 120.14](#) for an installed absence of voltage tester indicating that equipment is de-energized. Absence of voltage testing equipment for fixed installations is listed to UL 1436, *Standard for Outlet Circuit Testers and Similar Indicating Devices*.

Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition

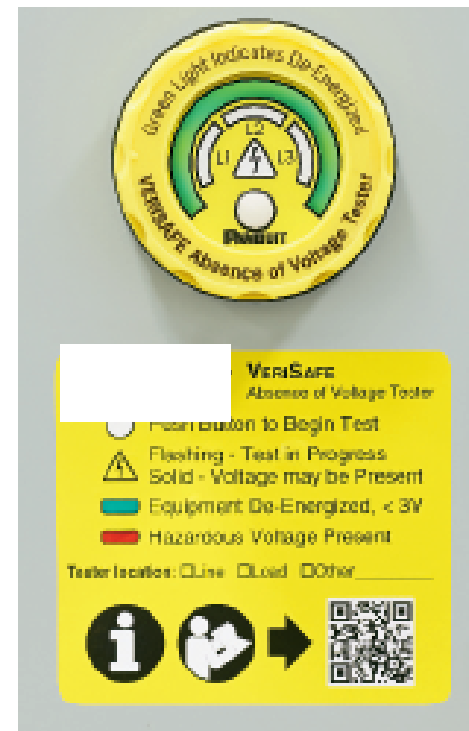
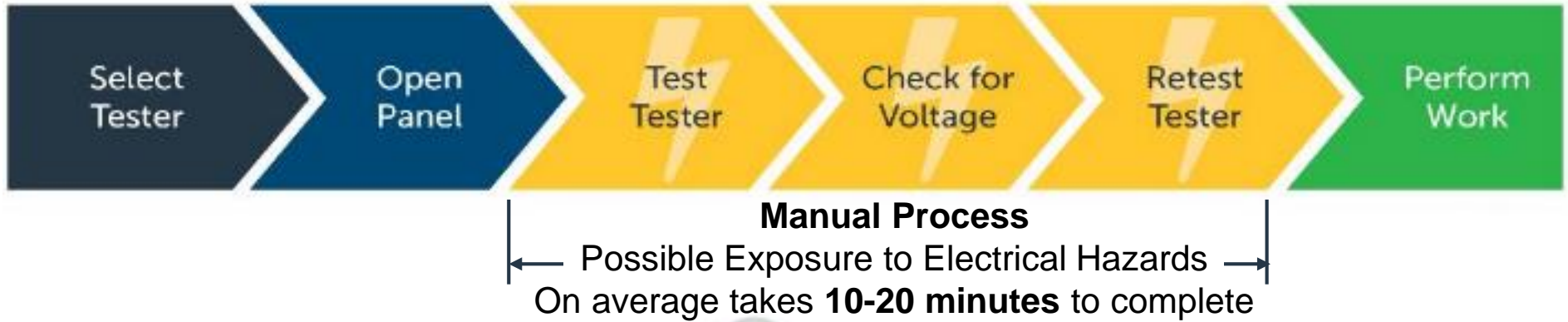


EXHIBIT 120.14

Absence of voltage tester.
(Courtesy of Panduit Corp.)

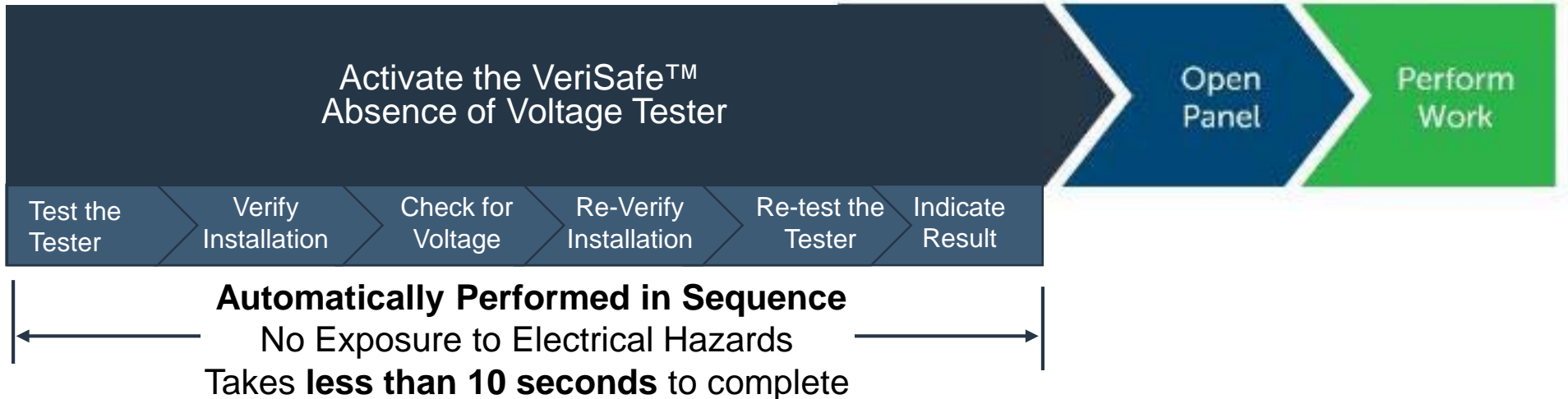
Comparison of Test Methods

Portable Testers



vs.

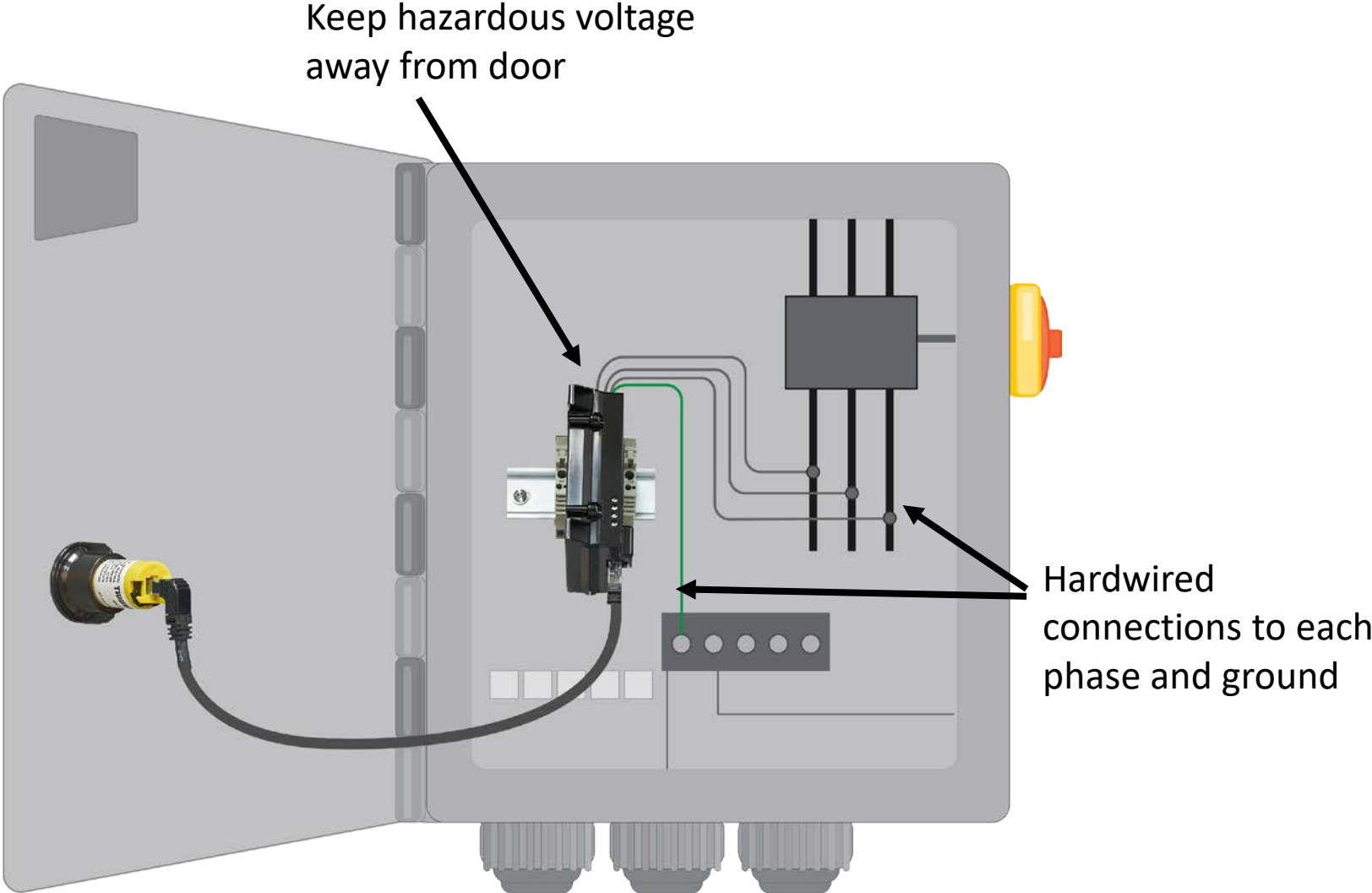
Absence of Voltage Testers



Permanently-Mounted Absence of Voltage Tester



Test before doors are open



Keep hazardous voltage away from door

Hardwired connections to each phase and ground



Traditional Method with **Portable Tester**



Using a **Permanently-Mounted Absence of Voltage Tester (AVT)**

VeriSafe™ Absence of Voltage Tester

Combines **Voltage Presence** Indication with **Absence of Voltage Testing**

Red LEDs indicate **hazardous voltage present**



Upstream Power: ON

Lack of red LEDs **does not guarantee** voltage absence



Upstream Power: OFF

Push to initiate test and see progress



Upstream Power: OFF

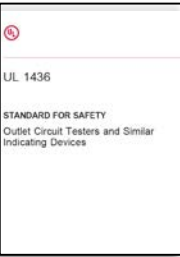
Green indicates **absence of voltage** is confirmed



Upstream Power: OFF

UL 1436

AVT Listing & Labeling Requirements



Key AVT Requirements

UL 1436 Standard for Outlet Circuit Testers and Similar Indicating Devices, 6th Edition (September 6, 2016)
https://standardscatalog.ul.com/standards/en/standard_1436



User initiated test



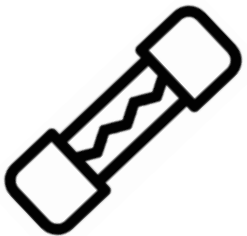
Installation test & “test the tester”



Test for AC and DC voltage



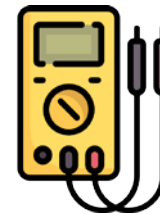
Active indication



Internal overcurrent protection



Keep Hazardous voltage off the door



Electrical requirements in UL 61010



Functional safety requirements

Electrical Construction

- IEC 61010 Provides general safety requirements for electrical and test measurement equipment
 - Protection from electrical shock
 - Electrical spacing and insulation requirements
 - Impulse and transients
 - Mechanical impact
 - Environmental hazards
- Electrical construction requirements are based on combination of Overvoltage Category and Working Voltage
 - CAT IV 1000V – 12 kV impulse
6 kV impulse
 - CAT III 1000V – 8 kV impulse
4 kV impulse



CAT IV 600V – 8 kV impulse

CAT IV 300V –

CAT III 600V – 6 kV impulse

CAT III 300V –

Functional Safety and VeriSafe AVTs

- Any part of the AVT **safety function** must meet **SIL 3 requirements**
- The VeriSafe AVT exceeds SIL 3
 - Hazardous failure rate (λ_{DU}) of 10
 - Probability Failure per Hour (PFH) of 10^{-8}

10^{-8} equates to **1 failure per:**

100 million operating hours

11,000+ years

36 billion tests

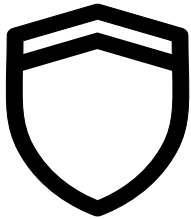


Use Cases

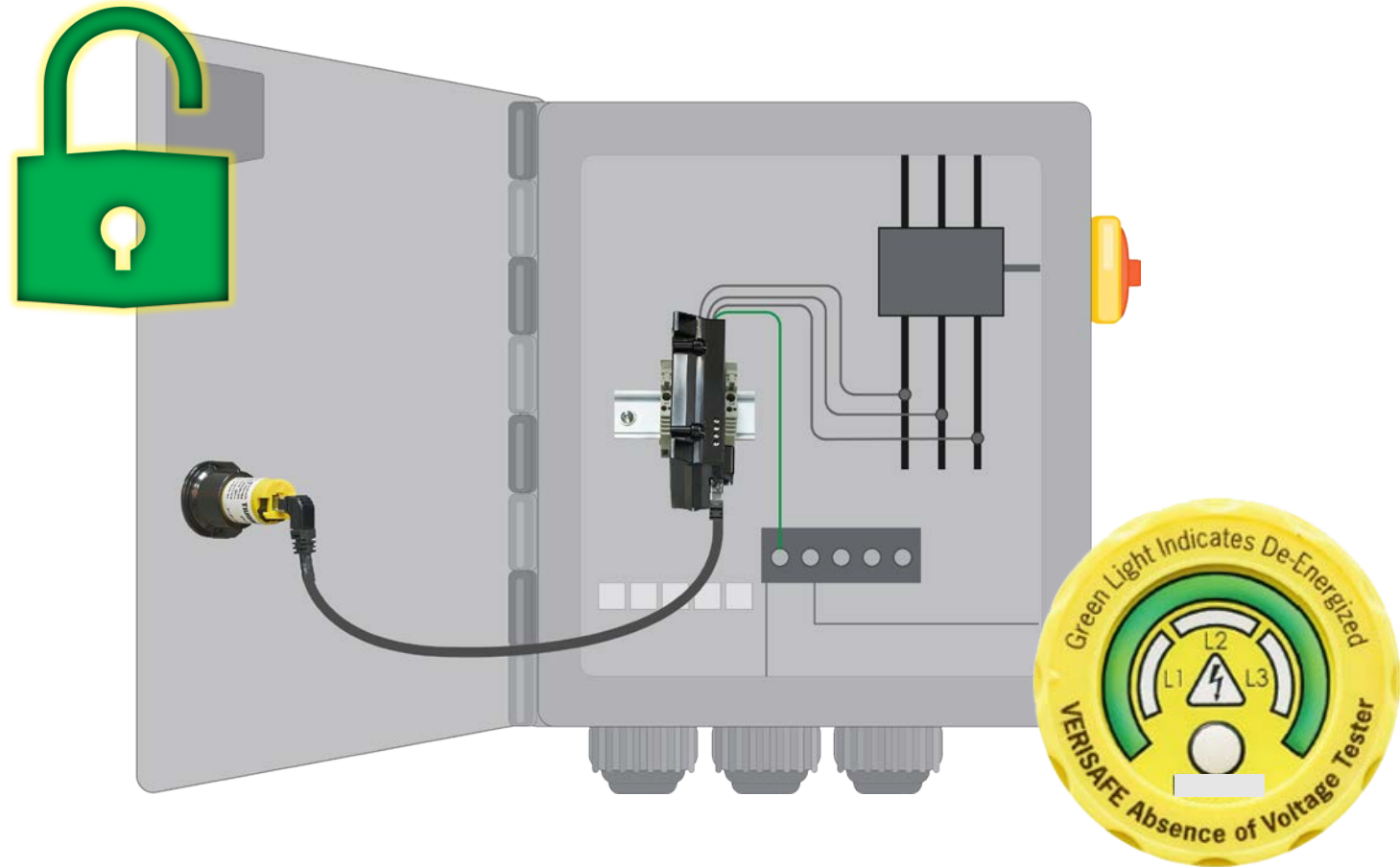
Access Control



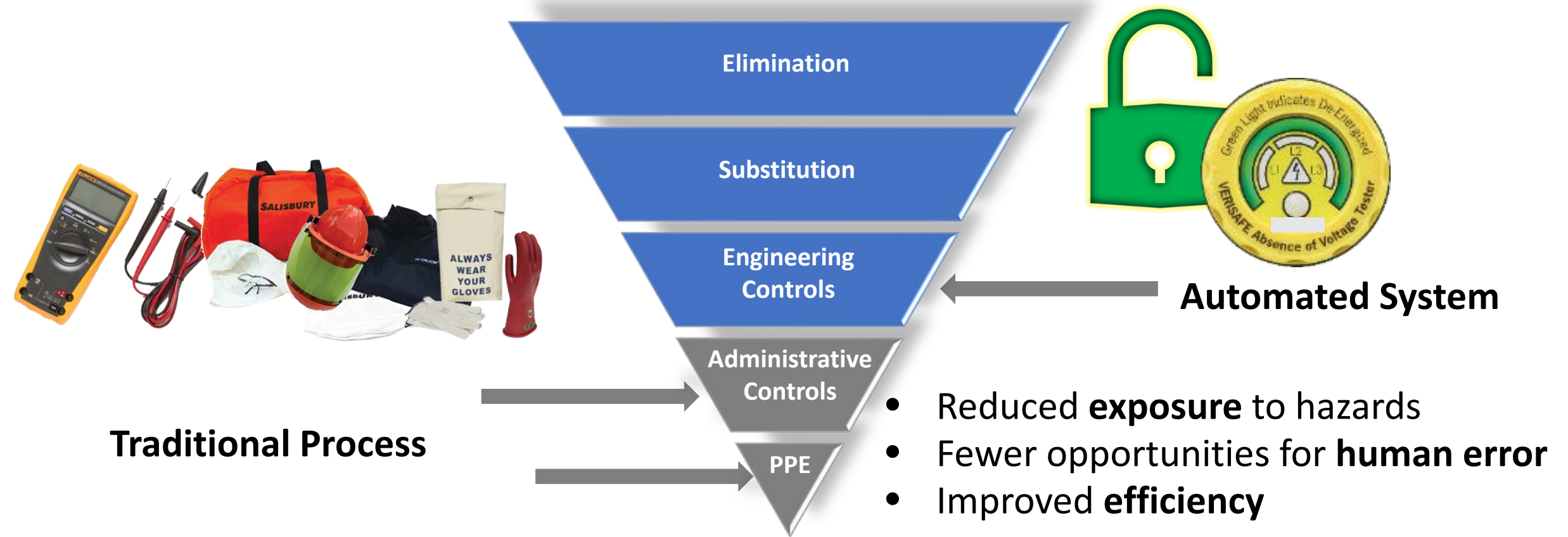
Reduce workplace hazards through design



Provides an **added layer of protection**



Next-Generation of Electrical LOTO



Absence of Voltage Testers & Lockout/Tagout

Safety Lockout

ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE

Locks Required: **4** For Zero Energy

Page 1 of 2 LOCKPORT – MOLDING – RS-MME440-01

LOCKOUT MUST FOLLOW PANDUIT LOCKOUT PROCEDURES AND BE PERFORMED BY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

1. Inform the affected personnel that you are locking out and then shut down the equipment by normal means.
2. Shut off power on the appropriate disconnects and turn off all energy isolation devices indicated on the diagram.
3. Apply your personal lock. Make sure the lock hasp is closed and the key is removed. If more than one person is locking out, each person must apply his or her personal lock.
4. Test the equipment to ensure that what you have locked out has made the equipment safe.
5. Complete your task.
6. Remove all tools and materials. Inform the crew before removing your lock.
7. Check to ensure the safe position of all employees.
8. Re-engage power.

REMEMBER LOCKOUT

- Notify All Affected Personnel Before Servicing Equipment And Before Returning Equipment To Service.
- Refer To Company Lockout Procedure For Lockout Requirements And Safe Practices.
- Always Perform Check To Verify Energy Is Controlled.
- Assure Release Of All Stored Energy.
- Only Work Under Your APPROVED Lock.

LEGEND

- Primary Machine
- Associated/Adjacent Machine
- Safety Fence/Gates
- Light Curtain

ALWAYS PERFORM CONTROLLED SHUTDOWN BEFORE LOCKING OUT DISCONNECTS

ENERGY TYPE AND SOURCE	LOCKOUT LOCATION	PROCEDURE FOR LOCKING OUT AND/OR RELEASING ENERGIES	VERIFY PROCEDURE
ELECTRICAL 480 VOLTS	E1 MAIN ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE ELECTRICAL DISCONNECT	PLACE CIRCUIT BREAKER IN THE OFF POSITION AND APPLY SAFETY LOCK. SHUTS OFF ELECTRICAL POWER TO THE ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE CIRCUITS.	TEST THE ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS AND INDICATORS POWERED BY THIS CIRCUIT BREAKER. THEY SHOULD NOT TURN ON AND NO ACTION SHOULD OCCUR. ATTEMPT TO START OR
ELECTRICAL 480 VOLTS HYDRAULIC 1000 PSI	E1.1 ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE ELECTRICAL DISCONNECT	PLACE DISCONNECT SWITCH IN THE OFF POSITION AND APPLY SAFETY LOCK. DISCONNECT SHUTS OFF ELECTRICAL POWER TO THE ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE AND THE HYDRAULIC PUMPS. HYDRAULIC PRESSURE IS VENTED TO THE RESERVOIR.	TEST FOR DE-ENERGIZATION OF THE ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS AND INDICATORS USING THE VERISAFE AVT. GREEN LIGHT INDICATES CIRCUIT IS DE-ENERGIZED. HYDRAULIC PRESSURE AT GAGES SHOULD GO TO 0. ATTEMPT TO START OR OPERATE THE EQUIPMENT.
ELECTRICAL 480 VOLTS	E1.2 ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE GANTRY ROBOT CONTROL ELECTRICAL DISCONNECT	PLACE DISCONNECT SWITCH IN THE OFF POSITION AND APPLY SAFETY LOCK. SHUTS OFF ELECTRICAL POWER TO THE ENGEL INJECTION MOLD MACHINE GANTRY ROBOT CONTROL CIRCUITS.	GANTRY ROBOT CONTROL ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS AND INDICATORS POWERED BY THIS DISCONNECT SWITCH. THEY SHOULD NOT TURN ON AND NO ACTION SHOULD OCCUR. ATTEMPT TO START OR OPERATE THE EQUIPMENT.

YOU ARE HERE

E1.1

VERISAFE AVT

Test for de-energization of the Engel injection mold machine using the VeriSafe AVT. Green light indicates circuit is de-energized. Hydraulic pressure at Gages should go to 0. Attempt to start or operate the equipment.

Equipment with AVTs

Control Panels, Motor Control Centers, Safety Switches, Switchgear, Switchboards, Transformers, Packaged Drives, Bus Duct, etc.

AVTs are solutions for

- ✓ New equipment
- ✓ Retrofits
- ✓ OEM installations



CONTROL PANEL



MOTOR CONTROL CENTER (MCC)



SWITCHBOARD

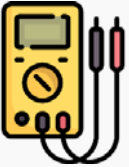
Comparing Voltage Testing Technologies

“But I Trust My Portable Tester...”




	Typical Portable Tester	VeriSafe AVT
I can see what I'm testing	Exposure to hazards, conductors may not be exposed	Connectivity is part of every test
Functionality Test	Live-Dead-Live	Automatic Live-Dead-Live with Built-in Known Voltage Source
Voltage Rating	Varies	Up to 600V
Overvoltage CAT	CAT III / IV	CAT III (600) / CAT IV (300)
UL Listing	UL 61010 or IEC 61243-3	UL 61010, UL 1436, UL 508
Functional Safety		SIL 3
Third-party certification	✓	


Portable Testers Have Risk

 **Inadequate ratings**


 **Exposure to Hazards**

Human Error 



Misinterpretation of Settings or Readings 

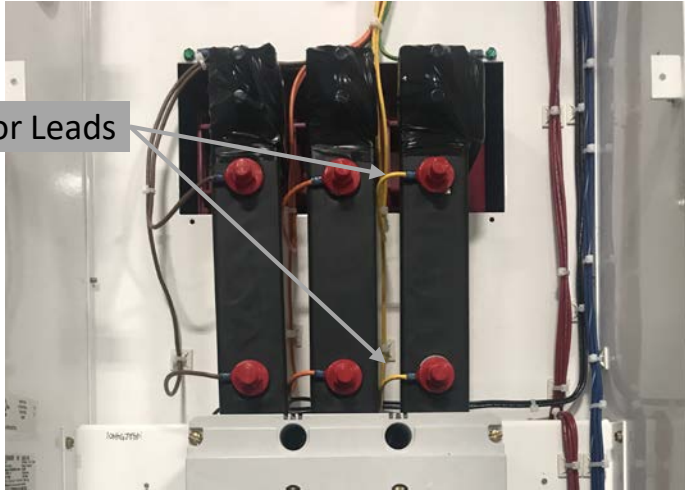
 **Damaged or improperly installed probes**

Access to a known voltage source 

 **Lack of contact with conductors or ground**

Voltage Testing Traps

AVT Sensor Leads



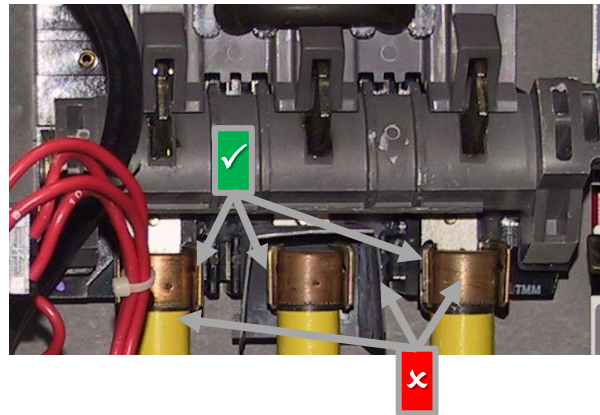
Insulated Conductors



Barriers



Finding a Reliable Ground



Fuses & Accessories



Obstructed Access/Poor Visibility

Terminology Matters

Portable Test Instruments

Digital Multimeter

UL/IEC 61010



Voltage Detector

IEC 61243-3



Voltage Presence Indicator / Voltage Detector

UL 1436 / UL/IEC 61010



Permanently Mounted Products

Absence of Voltage Tester (AVT)

UL 1436 / IEC/UL 61010



Voltage Indicator

UL/IEC 61010



Voltage Portals

UL/IEC 61010

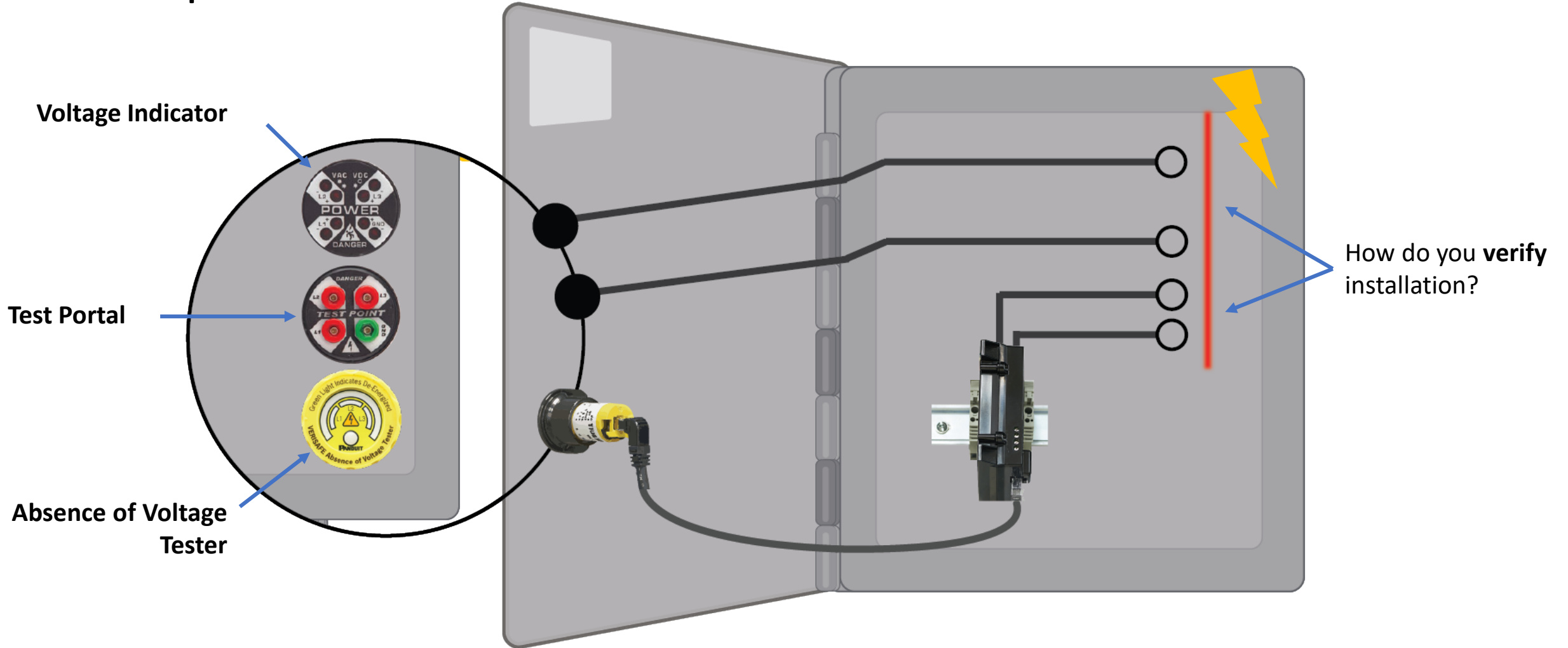


Analog or Digital Panel Meter

IEC/UL 61010



Importance of the Installation Test





Best Practices evaluating and applying electrical safety technology

Future Vision

A connected infrastructure...designed for **safety**.



Summary

- To advance electrical safety, embrace the continuous improvement mindset
 - Leverage the near miss
- Use Prevention through Design when mitigating hazards
 - Control measures that are designed in are more effective than administrative controls and PPE alone
- Seek out new technology and innovation
 - New solutions to old problems like LOTO and verification are now viable



How can you apply
PREVENTION THROUGH DESIGN
at your organization?