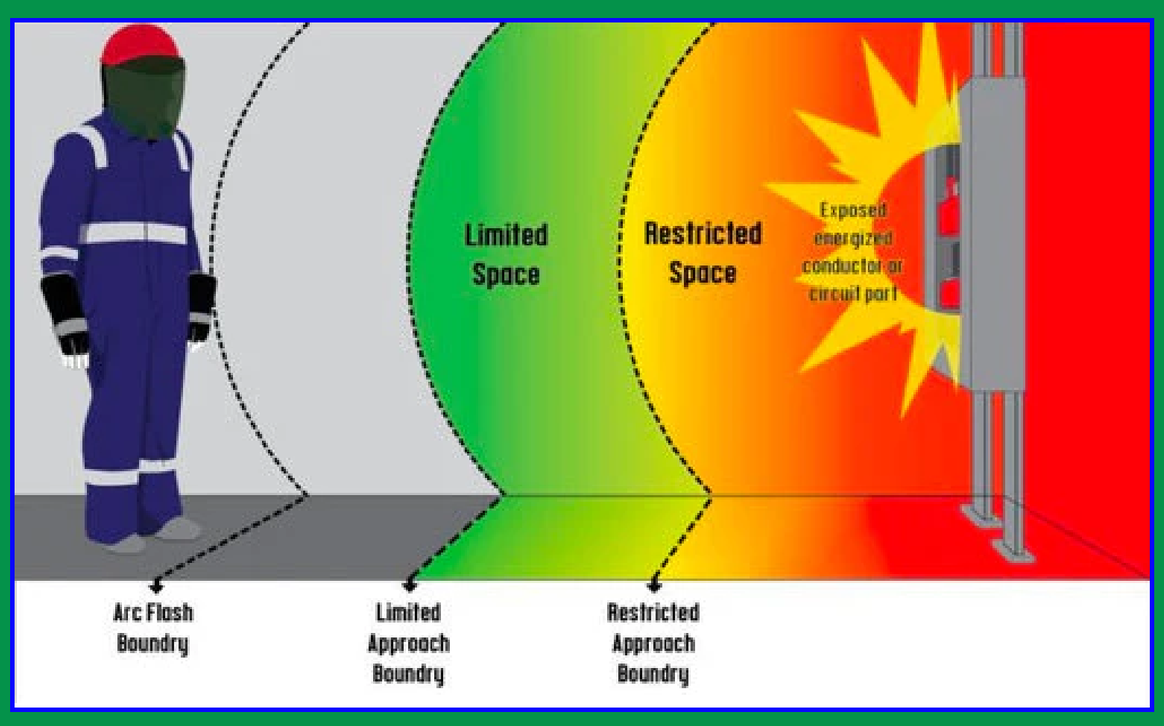
Arc Flash Hazards

Anyone who works around energized equipment is at risk of arc flash hazards. It is important to identify, assess and control these hazards to maintain a safe work environment.

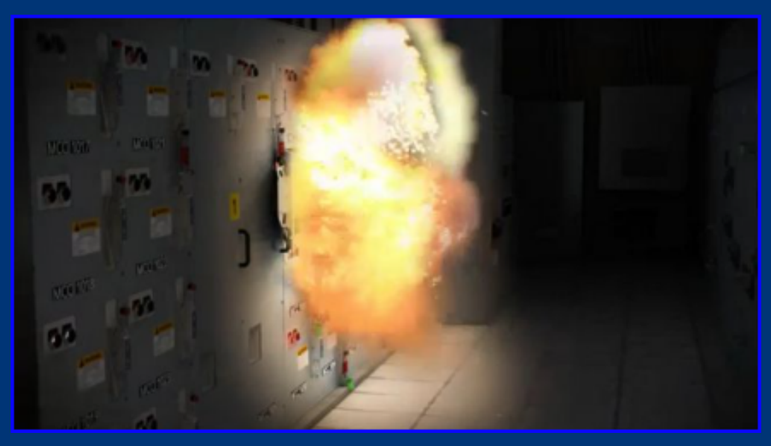


What is an Arc Flash?

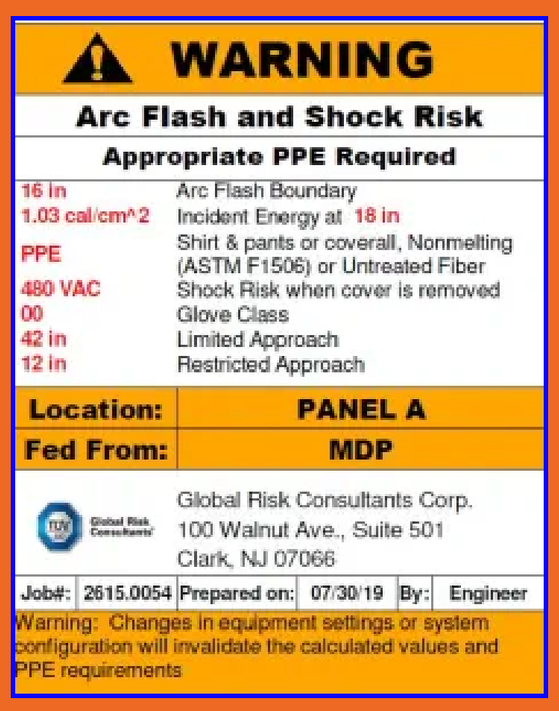
An electric arc is an electrical explosion that produces a bright flash gas, where temperatures can exceed 35,000 °F (19,400 °C). The energy released in the arc vaporizes the metal conducting the electricity and produces an explosive arc blast with deafening noises, supersonic concussive forces, and super-heated shrapnel.

Causes:

- Faulty, damaged, dirty, or improperly maintained electrical equipment;
- Inadvertent movement within the restricted or arc flash boundaries, especially when conductive tools are used, also increases the likelihood of an arc flash incident.



Prevention Methods:



- Using lockout/tagout procedures and ensuring the deenergization of electrical equipment.
- Conducting an arc flash study/risk assessment to determine the potential for arc flash hazard, determine the available incident energy of the exposed energized electrical conductor or part and determine the appropriate arc-rated PPE.
- Identifying and using approach boundaries for qualified and unqualified employees.
- Proper maintenance of electrical equipment reduces the risk of an arc flash incident.
- Using and maintaining arc-rated PPE and insulated tools.
- Appropriate training of qualified workers to ensure they are aware of the arc flash hazards.

Together, let's do our part to keep each other safe

CONTACT US: EHS@RPMINC.COM www.rpminc.com