

Safety Tip of the Month

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI)

Where employees are exposed to potential line-to-ground shock hazards GFCI protection should be used. This is especially important in workplaces where portable electrical equipment is being used in wet or damp areas in contact with earth or grounded conductive surfaces. The GFCI should always be located as close as possible to the electrical equipment it protects. Remember that GFCI's do not prevent shock. It simply limits the duration so the heart is not affected. The shock lasts about 1/40 second (.025 seconds) and can be intense enough to knock a person off a ladder or otherwise cause an accidental injury. Emphasize to your workers that they should not consider a GFCI adequate protection against electrical hazards and that they must follow all safety steps rigorously.

Important:

This information is offered by the Gases and Welding Distributors Association and your local distributor as general guidance only and may not explain all relevant safety precautions or hazards