



# SAFETY BULLETIN IBEW 104 OSHE

APRIL 1, 2022

# BATTERY POWERED TOOLS

IBEW Local 104 OSHE has become aware of multiple incidents, inside and outside our jurisdiction, involving battery powered tools contributing to a flash on energized distribution work. Battery Powered tools are a useful tool but can create additional hazards and insulate / isolate concerns.

- When using Battery powered tools on energized parts, the entire tool must be considered energized (including any hanging attachments such as “chicken chokers” or other tool lanyards).
- Consider using a different tool depending on the task and the energized part’s proximity to ground and/or other phase potentials.
- Always use insulate / isolate procedures to cover other potentials within the MAD of the energized tool
- Battery Powered Impacts can deliver torque values to line materials multiple times higher than manufacturer’s recommended torque values, resulting in line material failure of energized parts.

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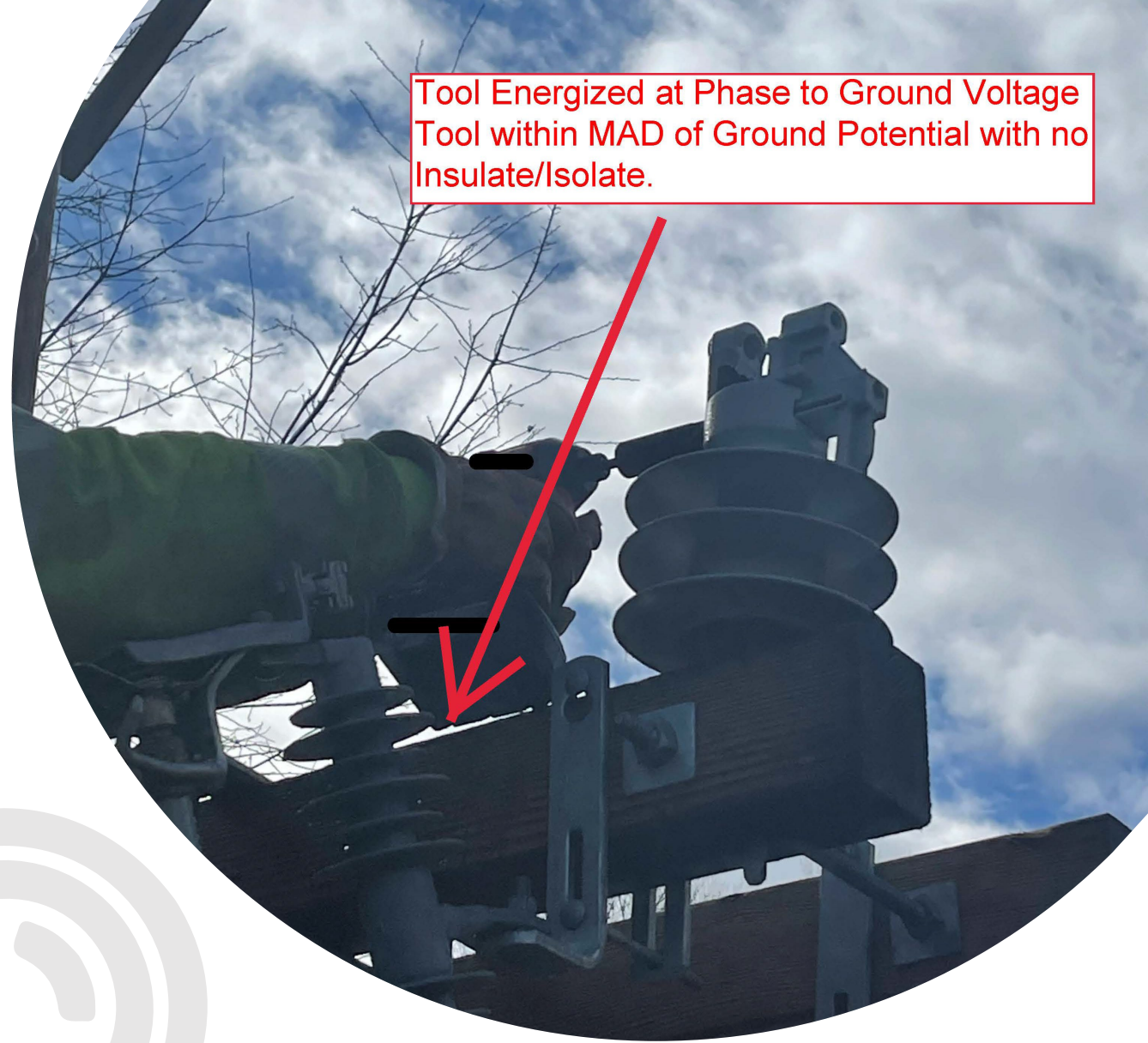


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## EXAMPLE 1, RE-CREATION ONLY

Battery Powered Impact Gun being used to tighten vice top insulator. Tool is within MAD of Energized parts and a grounded crossarm.

- Install Rubber Blanket on crossarm and all other potentials within MAD
- Install Rubber Blanket on Crossarm cross arm and all other potentials within MAD AND use a hand tool



Tool Energized at Phase to Ground Voltage  
Tool within MAD of Ground Potential with no  
Insulate/Isolate.



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## EXAMPLE 2, RE-CREATION ONLY

Battery Powered Impact Gun being used to loosen tap on the load side of an energized back fed cutout. Tool is energized and within MAD of grounded cross brace and Pole.

- Install Rubber Blanket on pole / cross brace crossarm and all other potentials within MAD AND use a hand tool



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## EXAMPLE 3, RE-CREATION ONLY

Battery Powered Impact Gun being used to loosen tap on the load side of an energized back fed cutout. Tool is energized and within MAD of a different phase potential and a grounded cross brace

- Install Rubber Blanket on adjacent cutout crossarm and all other potentials within MAD AND select a different tool



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# THANK YOU!



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