

Safety Talk: Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)

Background Info

This talk can be used by industry or construction supervisors to explain to workers why they must use GFCI's and how to use them correctly. For more information see:

http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/construction/electrical_incidents/gfci.html

OSHA Requirements

- The GFCI is a fast-acting current interrupter designed to shut off electric power in the event of a ground fault.
 - OSHA requires that all electrical equipment on construction sites plugged into a power source be protected by a GFCI.
 - OSHA requires that all 120-volt, single phase 15- and 20-ampere receptacle outlets on construction sites which are not a part of the permanent wiring of the building or structure be protected by GFCI.
 - OSHA requires under NFPA 70E, that all temporary electrical wiring in contact with, or having the possibility of coming in contact with liquids be protected by GFCI on worksites.
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Our Company Requires

Here the supervisor should remind workers about their own required GFCI use. Be sure to include the following info:

- When and where GFCI's are required.
 - Who will provide and inspect GFCI's.
 - What to do if the GFCI "trips" off.
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Basic Safety Rules

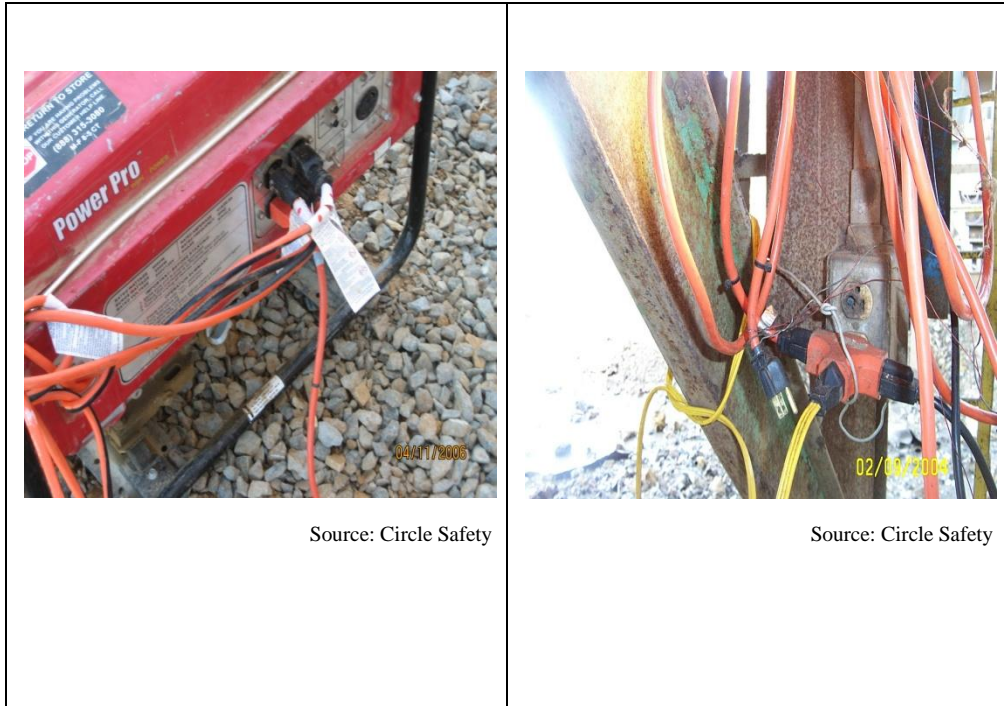
Here is a list of recommended practices. Be sure to add any others required by your organization.

- Always use GFCI's in temporary or damp locations, including when using a portable generator for electrical power.
 - Always check a building or structure's permanent electrical outlets for GFCI protection. Use outlets with built in GFCI protection if available.
 - When using a cord-connected GFCI type, always plug the GFCI in at the power source. Do not plug into the end of an extension cord.
 - Always test your GFCI protection before beginning work.
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Safety Talk: Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI), Continued

What's Wrong?



Yes, I Was Listening

Sign below if you can tell everyone on this worksite:

- 1) Why we use GFCI's
- 2) When to use GFCI's, and
- 3) About the basic safety rules for GFCI's:

This information is provided as a free of charge resource to the public to be used in conjunction with site specific safety and health practices. Circle Safety accepts no legal responsibility for the use of this material or its application in the field.