

Arc Flash Hazards

*“An Investment in
Workplace Safety”*

Engineered Solutions

Arc Flash Hazards

It is estimated that in the United States, up to ten arc flash explosions occur in electrical equipment every day. According to the National Safety Council up to 2,000 workers each year are sent to burn centers with sever ARC-FLASH burns. Facilities have a legal responsibility to provide a safe workplace for their employees and contractors, and to provide them with a place of employment which is free from all recognized hazards that could possibly cause death or serious injury to them.

Arc Flash Studies performed by National Switchgear Systems identify approach boundaries and appropriate levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for employees. Each study is presented in a clear tabular format in accordance with NFPA 70E, Electrical Safety in the Work place and IEEE Standard 1584.

OSHA Compliance Requirements

A facility must provide, and demonstrate;

- ◆ A safety program with defined responsibilities.
- ◆ Calculations for the degree of arc flash hazard.
- ◆ Correct personal safety equipment (PPE) for workers.
- ◆ training for workers on the hazards of arc flash.
- ◆ appropriate tools for safe working.
- ◆ warning labels on equipment.



Benefits of Arc Flash Studies

- ◆ Written report of findings and recommendations including methods to reduce *Arc Flash* incident energy levels and enhance worker safety.
- ◆ PPE category recommendations for all electrical equipment within the scope of the study.
- ◆ Arc Flash incident energy equipment labels listing PPE category recommendations for attachment to existing enclosures.
- ◆ NFPA70E onsite electrical safety training for company personnel.