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Subject: Blue Alert- Worker Receives Electrical Shock

Title Worker Receives Electrical Shock During Light Fixture Installation

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**Lessons Learned-** Electricians should always install wire connectors addressing the size of the connector and the number of connectors joined by them. Additionally, they should always verify the integrity of the connection prior to energization of the new circuit. Further, electricians should recognize that connectors are the final barrier between them and energized circuits. The connectors should be checked prior to moving conductors inside existing junction boxes.

**Discussion-** An electrical apprentice was installing a new conduit raceway into an existing electrical junction box and came into contact with a 277vac electrical circuit. He received an electrical shock to his right and left hand/forearm. While moving existing conductors inside the junction box the wire connector (wire nut) fell off the conductors and exposed the apprentice to the energized circuit. While this activity did take place while the apprentice was on a ladder and in a "tight" location, the activity is common practice for electrical work. Had the wire connector been installed properly it would have provided an adequate physical barrier from the hazard. It is important to emphasize the value of the proper installation of wire connectors. Additionally, it is important to re-emphasize the care taken by electricians when moving conductors inside existing junction boxes. This activity is acceptable risk. However, care to check wire connectors previously installed is always prudent practice.

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