



## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### Insulate and Isolate Safety Message

Properly performed Insulate and Isolate (I&I) techniques used in conjunction with the necessary Insulating Personal Protective Equipment (IPPE) allows a qualified line worker to safely work on and around energized equipment and conductors. Lets look at some commonly misunderstood definitions.

#### Definitions:

Effective cover-up is used to describe the installation of phase-to-phase rated insulating protective cover on energized conductors and/or equipment of different potentials when the lineman is within reaching distance or in areas extended by handling conductive objects.

Extended reach is used to describe being within five feet of energized conductors and/or equipment or having a conductive object within five feet of energized conductors and/or equipment.

**Insulate:** The use of IPE to protect the line worker while gloving energized lines/equipment.

Insulating Personal Protective Equipment (IPPE): Rubber Gloves and Sleeves.

Insulating Protective Equipment (IPE): rubber blankets, rubber line hose, rubber hoods, plastic covers, etc.

**Isolate:** (A) Physically separated, electrically and mechanically, from all sources of electrical energy. Such separation may not eliminate the effects of induction. (B) Not readily accessible to persons unless special means for access are used.

Minimum Approach Distance (M.A.D.): The distances set forth in 29 CFR 1910.269. This distance is measured from the end of the line workers reach or from the end of any conductive object being handled by the line worker.

Second points of contact: Accidental/inadvertent contact made with any conductive object within your extended reach that could have a difference of potential and would allow current to pass through the body.