



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Situational Awareness Safety Message

Every work site contains hazards. For linemen, these hazards can be dangerous and deadly. Due to this reality, all workers, regardless of expertise, should strive to improve their situational awareness. Not paying attention to your surroundings puts you and your co-workers at risk of minor or even fatal accidents. The risk is even greater for those workers who repeatedly perform the same task. As the task becomes routine, their situational awareness decreases.

To prevent this complacency, workers should make a habit of taking quick breaks to mentally assess their surroundings. During this quick break, review these key questions:

1. What around me presents a threat to my safety and health?
2. Is the threat large enough that I should stop working?
3. How can I reduce the threat while continuing to work?

Use the SLAM technique to improve situational awareness

STOP - LOOK - ASSESS - MANAGE

The SLAM technique and other exercises should be used by everyone to improve situational awareness in the workplace.