



## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### How Dangerous is Arc Flash?

The consequences of an arc flash are devastating, impacting both workers' safety and the financial stability of organizations. In the U.S., between 5 to 10 arc flash accidents occur daily, with over 2,000 people treated annually in burn centers for related injuries. Tragically, 1-2 deaths happen each day, leading to profound personal and professional losses. The medical costs are staggering, averaging \$1.5 million per incident, while victims often face extended recovery periods of 8-12 months and may suffer permanent disabilities.

Legal and financial repercussions add further strain, with litigation costs for general industry incidents ranging from \$10 to \$15 million. The danger is intensified by the sheer power of arc flashes, which can reach temperatures exceeding 30,000°F, hotter than the Sun's surface, and produce pressure waves over 2,000 pounds per square foot, capable of causing severe damage. These statistics emphasize the urgent need for stringent safety measures and effective protective equipment.