



## Lock-to-Lock Use of Insulating Rubber Gloves and Sleeves

When employees are working on energized circuits or equipment using the rubber glove method, rubber protective-insulating gloves and sleeves that are rated for the highest nominal voltage shall be worn “lock-to-lock.” This shall be done prior to the time the pad mounted transformer is unlocked and until work is complete and the pad mounted transformer is relocked. If these conditions cannot be met, alternative work methods that ensure worker safety will be identified, implemented, and communicated to all affected workers and documented as part of the Job Briefing process.

- A complete, thorough inspection and hazard assessment must be conducted prior to any action involving manipulation of locking mechanism being performed. This hazard assessment could include the following based on geographical location: Visible damage, hinge conditions, foundation (stability and general condition), rust, site conditions (landscaping), noise in the enclosure, oil present in and around enclosure, wildlife concerns (bees, snakes, etc.)
  - If no physical, sensory, or environmental condition is present during the hazard assessment that would necessitate the use of gloves and sleeves to unlock the lock, gloves and sleeves may be omitted for unlocking. Gloves and sleeves are required for lock removal without exception.
- Rubber gloves and sleeves need to be worn when unlocking, opening and closing the pad mount transformer regardless of the work that is being conducted.
- Rubber gloves and sleeves can be removed after the secondary bushings and primary terminations have been effectively covered and the cable being terminated has been tested and ground and the cable has been pulled beyond the face of the transformer.

The benefit of this best practice is that it reduces electrical contact injuries and fatalities by providing specific use requirements. This also provides a uniform use guideline that can be applied industry wide.

Read the complete Best Practice here: [Lock-to-Lock Use of Insulating Rubber Gloves and Sleeves](#)