Regular Live Line Tool Inspection and Testing Ensures Compliance and Worker Safety

Before and after use each day:

- Inspect the surface of the tool for contaminants such as dirt, creosote, grease, oil, gas/fuel, moisture, or any other foreign material. If contaminated, a quick rag wipe may be required to improve the integrity of the fiberglass.

- Visually inspect the tool for a smooth glossy surface. Check for deep cuts, scratches, nicks, gouges or signs of bruising or crushing. Pay special attention to the tip or working section of the tool.

Field inspection results:

- Do not use if ANY defects are found on the tool surface...
  
The tool should be tagged, removed from service, and sent to LTL for repair.

- Broken strands of fiberglass allow water to wick within the fiberglass stick itself, which promotes dielectric failure or reduced insulating values.

The manufacturer recommends all Grip-Alls have a threaded ferrule installed on the 3/8” control rod which attaches to the jaw holder assembly. As a failure can occur in the rod where it connects to the jaw holder, some units may require that the entire jaw assembly be replaced. (Please refer to the Chance Safety Bulletin 2001-14 attached)

E&USA RULE 134

6 All live line tools, rubber gloves and protective equipment must be clean and visually inspected each day prior to use.

7 When defects such as cracks, bruises, punctures or other abnormalities are detected through inspection, the equipment must be removed from service and returned to a certified laboratory for re-testing.

IEEE Standard 978-1984

4.2 Insulating tools should be visually inspected before use for indications that they may have been mechanically or electrically overstressed (see 5.1.1). Tools that show evidence of overstress (such as damaged, bent, worn, or cracked components) should be removed from service and evaluated for repair.

LTL recommends annual laboratory cleaning, inspection, waxing, and testing of fiberglass tools to ensure safety and to extend the life of your live line tools.

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Telescopic Sticks

Do not use if moisture is present on the inside of the tool; tracking may occur resulting in reduced insulation integrity or stick failure.
HOT STICK FAILS

#2001 - 14

While installing a live 138,000 volt jumper with an AB Chance Grip - All Clampstick "Shotgun", the jaw holder released the jumper because of a failure between the operating rod and the jaw holder.

Before using your "Shotgun", please remove the operating rod and do a visual inspection on the area where the operating rod and the jaw holder come together. If any fraying or deformation of the operating rod is observed, please remove the stick from service and return to the test lab for repair.

Efforts are currently underway to have all sticks upgraded as parts become available.

Clinton Sharpe
Safety Specialist, CRSP
2001-11-20

“No work is of such urgency or importance to justify not taking the necessary steps and time to ensure the safety of every member of the working force and the public.”

DÉFAILLANCE D’UNE PERCHE DE TRAVAIL SOUS TENSION

N° 2001 - 14

Pendant l’installation d’une bretelle sous tension à 138 000 V avec une perche «Grip-All Clampstick Shotgun» d’AB Chance, la pince a laissé tomber la bretelle à cause d’une défaillance entre la tige d’actionnement et la pince.

Avant d’utiliser votre «Shotgun», enlevez la tige d’actionnement et inspectez visuellement l’endroit où la tige et la pince se touchent. Si vous voyez que la tige est effiloché ou déformé, mettez la perche hors service et renvoyez-la au laboratoire d’essai pour être réparée.

Nos essayons de réparer toutes les perches au fur et à mesure que les pièces deviennent disponibles.

Clinton Sharpe
Spécialiste, Sécurité, CRSP
2001-11-20