



# I.A.T.S.E. Local 728

## Studio Electrical Lighting Technicians

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### **SAFETY & TRAINING PROGRAM**

#### BULLETIN ARTICLE - NEAR-MISS POLICY/PHASE ID

There is no question that we all want to be safe and that we all want to avoid accidents. The very nature of an accident causes the safety regulations that would prevent the accident to be written only *after* the accident has occurred. However, an accident rarely happens that hasn't *nearly* happened before. If we can identify hazards when they *nearly* happen we can save lives and prevent injuries. It is very important that we share this information with each other and do what we can to adopt our own safety practices and avoid accidents. If we do not and a serious accident occurs, then someone else, from outside of our Local, will mandate what we can and cannot do.

I personally feel that it is better to be pro-active and approach these problems head-on and avoid outside interference in our business. In order to avoid accidents and protect our interests, our Safety Program is instituting a "Near-Miss Policy" which includes publishing Safety Information and recommended procedures based on actual situations that almost lead to an accident. If you are involved in a "Near-Miss Accident" please contact me at the Training Office (818) 843-0012 or email me at [amrowe@iatse728.org](mailto:amrowe@iatse728.org). The details of the production and persons involved will remain confidential.

One such topic that can easily lead to a serious accident is the improper identification of electrical phases. It is the accepted standard throughout the entire Entertainment Industry, in practice and manufacturing, to identify the phases of electrical systems as follows:

#### **For 120/208/240V Systems:**

GREEN = Ground  
WHITE = Neutral  
RED = Phase Leg  
BLUE = Phase Leg  
BLACK = Phase Leg

#### **For 480V Systems:**

GREEN = Ground  
WHITE = Neutral (when required)  
BROWN = Phase Leg  
ORANGE = Phase Leg  
YELLOW = Phase Leg

With the widespread use of 480V power systems on set, **YELLOW IS NOT SUITABLE TO USE AS A PHASE IDENTIFIER IN 120V POWER SYSTEMS.** This applies whether or not 480V systems are currently in use. 480V circuits are found with transformers, air conditioning, special effects and some lighting fixtures. These items may become present on any set at any time.

Within the jurisdiction of our Local, it is the standard practice to use the ROPE KNOT SYSTEM as a backup to identify all single conductors used on 120/208/240V power systems. If you do not know the ROPE KNOT SYSTEM it is your responsibility to learn it and use it with ALL single conductor cable in 120/208/240V power systems.