

STAY SAFE WITH SOCIETY

ELECTRICAL GROUNDING: GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTERS

An electrical grounding system helps to prevent electrocution. Check to see if workers at your job site/work area are using ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).

GFCIs help prevent electric-shock injuries to employees who work in or near areas where liquids exist. Such areas may include restaurant kitchens, delis, bakeries, swimming and wading pool areas, medical/dental offices, housekeeping wash rooms, laundry rooms, janitorial areas, car washes, garages, stone cutting areas, construction and landscaping sites, supermarket produce and meat departments, and where any exterior electric outlets exist.

A GFCI is, in effect, a fast-acting circuit breaker that senses small imbalances in the circuit caused by current leakage to ground and instantly shuts off the electricity. This feature provides protection against the most common form of electric-shock hazard: the ground fault. It also provides protection against fires, overheating, and destruction of insulation on wiring.

Look at all connections. Are any wet, in water, or within 6 feet of a water/liquid source? If yes, are they connected to a GFCI outlet?

Checklist:

- Are GFCIs in place for all tools, equipment, and cords potentially exposed to water or other liquids at any time?
- Are all tools, equipment, cords, and other connectors in good working order (not frayed, cut, melted, or damaged)?
- Do all tools and cords have a third grounding prong (exception: double-insulated tools)? We recommend that even double-insulated tools be connected to a GFCI in the areas listed above, and where any liquids may be present.



**A GFCI HELPS
TO PREVENT
ELECTRIC-SHOCK
INJURIES TO
EMPLOYEES WHO
WORK IN OR NEAR
AREAS WHERE
LIQUIDS EXIST.**

A Small Detail
That Can Make a
Big Difference.

Risk Control Services, riskcontrol@societyinsurance.com

150 Camelot Drive, P.O. Box 1029, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1029

P. 888.576.2438 | societyinsurance.com

This information is advisory, and it must not be assumed that it has detected all unsafe acts or conditions. This information is designed to assist you in recognizing potential safe work problems and not to establish compliance with any law, rule or regulation.

© 2013 Society Insurance



Small details. Big difference.™

