

## 2009 NFPA 70E

With the approval and adoption of the new 2009 NFPA 70E, many significant changes are to take place in the industrial segment that will directly affect the safety of people performing electrical work.

These new or revised rules will change how the employer and onsite contractors are to address the protection and training requirements for their employees.

### **Some of the major changes include:**

- Training of employees in the use of test instruments making contact with energized parts
- Retraining – An employee shall receive training (retraining) under any of the following conditions: (1) If the supervisor or annual inspections indicate that an employee is not complying with the safety-related work practices, (2) If new technology, new types of equipment, or changes in procedure necessitates the use of safety-related work practices that are different from those that the employee would normally use, (3) If he/she must employ safety-related work that are not normally used during his/her regular job duties
- Method of determining the Arc Flash hazards and boundaries
- New restriction on unqualified persons around exposed electrical equipment
- Changes in marking of electrical equipment with respect to the arc thermo performance value rating or hazard risk categories. Equipment shall be field marked with the available incident energy or required level of PPE
- The effect of maintenance on equipment and how it reduces injury
- New clothing requirements for employers using hair and beard nets
- Requirements for the care and repair of arc thermo performance value clothing
- New head and face protection requirements
- New approach boundaries for workers
- Revised hazard risk categories tables
- New tasks added to hazard risk categories tables
- Revised clothing matrix
- Arc flash boundaries when not calculated have been revised for faster clearing time

These changes will have a direct impact on how the worker is to prepare for and complete their task.

NFPA codes and standards change on a regular basis, which is an important reason for employers and electrical workers to stay current in their training.