



Contact:
Larry O'Brien
Bader Rutter & Associates
Phone: (262) 938-5585
Fax: (262) 938-5422
lobrien@bader-rutter.com

Tim Trush
Schneider Electric, North American Operating Division
Phone: (847) 397-2600
timothy-m.trush@us.schneider-electric.com

www.us.schneider-electric.com

Schneider Electric North American Operating Division Video Provides Vital Safety Information About Industrial Electrical Safety

Palatine, IL (August 29, 2005) – Schneider Electric's North American Operating Division has released a video titled, "It's a Matter of Your Safety," and is distributing it to plant facility managers, trainers of electrical workers and others who can help prevent electrical hazards.

The 17-minute video's three objectives are to demonstrate how potentially dangerous electrical hazards can be to equipment and human life, the importance of properly de-energizing a circuit before you do any repair work or perform any job function, and to address situations where work on an energized electrical circuit may be required.

"Safety is the priority at Schneider Electric," said David Petratis, president and CEO of Schneider Electric's North American Operating Division. "All accidents are preventable if we start our jobs with safety in mind. Schneider Electric manufactures products to use electricity productively and safely. Electrical workers are our partners in this journey."

- more -



Schneider Electric
North American Operating Division
1415 South Roselle Road
Palatine, IL 60067-7399
Tel. (1) 847-397-2600
Fax (1) 847-925-7271
www.us.schneider-electric.com

While the video talks about the dangers of electrical shock, it focuses much attention on arc flash explosions. The video demonstrates how an arc flash explosion is caused by the release of energy when an electric arc forms between two energized parts or energized part and ground. The graphic displays of the actual explosion show the importance of safety to avoid such catastrophes.

The video also features 10 steps to take regarding the assurance of an electrically safe position. These tips include:

- Completing and communicating a detailed job plan
- Identifying all potential sources of energy from a one-line drawing or other reliable document
- Calculating the available fault current for each source
- Selecting properly rated personal protective equipment per NFPA 70E guidelines
- Wearing personal protective equipment before performing any task
- Interrupting the load circuit
- Opening the disconnecting device for each source on both line and load sides
- Applying locks and tags on each disconnect per OSHA requirements
- Verifying that the circuit is de-energized using a properly rated and tested voltage detector
- Applying ground-connecting devices per NEC and NFPA guidelines as necessary

The safety video concludes with a message to persons who can help control and prevent electrical hazards in the workplace to pursue training, implement safety practices, enforce safety policies, stay informed as to updated safety guidelines and never take for granted that the system has been de-energized.

A copy of the video may be ordered free of charge by calling the Schneider Electric Customer Literature Fulfillment Center at 1-800-888-2448. Internet users may also order the video by logging on to <http://squared.banta-im.com/SquareD/literature/>, and typing in document number 0100EP0501.

Schneider Electric North American Operating Division

Headquartered in Palatine, Ill., the North American Operating Division of Schneider Electric had sales of \$2.6 billion (U.S.) in 2004. The North American Operating Division is one of four operating divisions of Schneider Electric, headquartered in Paris, France, and markets the Square D, Telemecanique and Merlin Gerin brand products to customers in the United States, Canada and Mexico. In the United States, Schneider Electric is best known by its flagship Square D brand, with Telemecanique becoming increasingly known in the industrial control and automation markets and supported by many Square D distributors. For 100 years, Square D has been a market-leading brand of electrical distribution and industrial control products, systems and services. Schneider Electric is a global electrical industry leader with 2004 sales of approximately \$12.8 billion (U.S.). Visit Schneider Electric on the Internet at:

- Corporate – <http://www.us.schneider-electric.com>
- Telemecanique Products – <http://www.us.telemecanique.com>
- Square D Products – <http://www.us.squared.com>
- Merlin Gerin Products – <http://www.us.merlengerin.com>