



Petrotek

EXTENSION CORD USE

You use extension cords to make your life easier, right? You place them in an area where you think is safe. Good job. Did you know that it should be plugged into a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) if you are using it on a construction site, well site or outside? Before you plug that extension cord in, make sure you perform a visual inspection of the cord and plug ends. This inspection must be done each day the extension cord is going to be used. If a ground prong is missing, do not use the cord. Damaged cords must be removed and tagged out of service.



Damaged external insulation



Exposed internal conductors.

You should not plug more than one extension cord into a single outlet. If you do plug more than one in, you may have a chance of overloading the power source. You should never use more than one extension cord for the tool you are using. If you plug two extension cords together, you may over load the circuit or even cause the cords to overheat.

Some of the hazards in using extension cords only you can control. For example, use your extension cord with care. Do not place it where it can be run over by heavy vehicles, in a door way where the door will be constantly closing on it and crushing the insulation. Do not kink it, knot it or crush it, and even bends at a sharp angle may result in broken insulation which may cause a short circuit and possibly a fire or even an electric shock to a fellow worker.

Most extension cords used carry regular 110-volt electricity. At some point in your career you have received a shock from a 110-volt line without serious harm – remember that tingling sensation? You are fortunate to be around, as even a 10-volt current can kill. The environment must be just right; such as making a good connection with a live wire carrying a 110 voltage with wet or sweaty hands, and standing or lying on the ground, a wet floor, or leaning against a metal water pipe or some other sort of electrical connection.



GFCIs



10 gage cords are best to use on construction sites. They are best for any outdoor use as they withstand the abuse that comes from constant use and will withstand some abuse.

If you or one of your co-workers receives an electrical shock or burn, you should seek immediate medical attention as internal damage may not be immediately apparent.

Name & Signature of Employees at Tailgate Meeting

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Referenced Standards: 29 CFR 1926.405

Information is provided as general information only and should not be used as legal guidance to comply with federal, state or local regulations.

Contact Petrotek at 303.290.9414 or druddy@petrotek.com for safety support services.

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