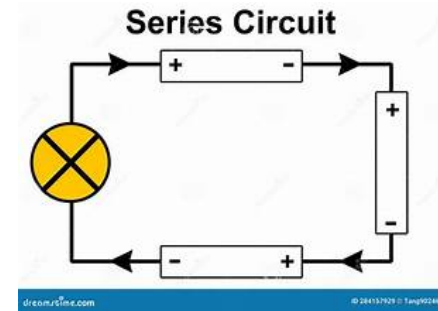




Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



What Does “Putting Yourself in Series” Mean for a Lineman?

When a lineman puts themselves in series with an electrical circuit, their body becomes part of the path the current can flow through.

This is extremely dangerous because if the lineman contacts a live conductor and there’s a return path to ground, current can flow through their body, leading to electric shock or electrocution.

How Linemen Avoid Putting Themselves in Series

Use Insulating Tools and Equipment:

Hot sticks, insulated gloves, and sleeves.

Insulated platforms or buckets on aerial devices.

Maintain Proper Grounding and Bonding:

Use personal protective grounds (PPGs) to safely discharge circuits.

Properly ground equipment to prevent current flow through the body.

Stay Clear of Return Paths:

Avoid touching anything that could complete a circuit through you (like the ground or a grounded structure) while touching a live conductor.

Use insulating barriers and mats.

Follow Lockout/Tagout and De-energize Procedures:

When possible, work on de-energized lines.

If working live, follow strict live-line working procedures.