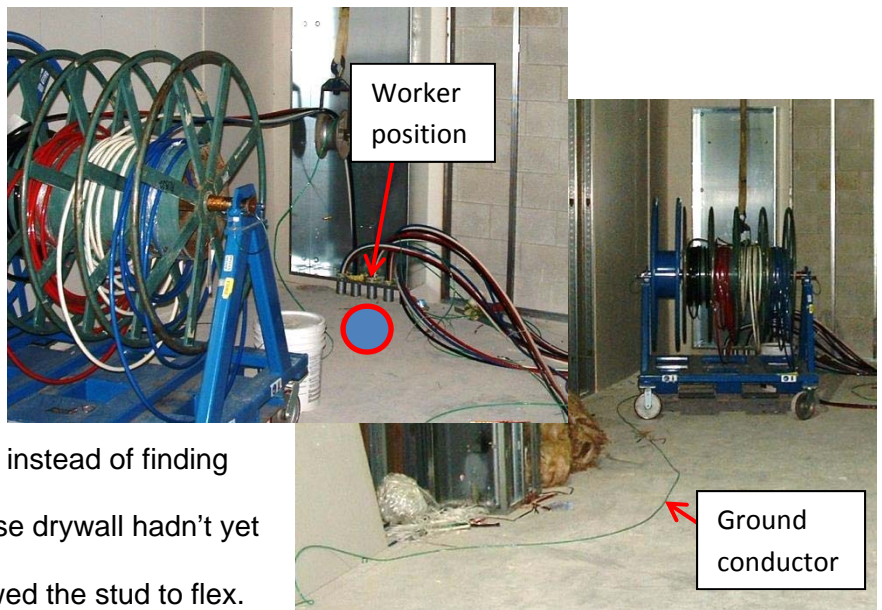


Safety Flash: Incident with Injury

Incident: An electrician was feeding cable into a conduit when he noticed the ground conductor was hung up. As he pulled it free, the conductor came loose and he stepped back onto the previously pulled cables off to the side, losing his balance and cutting his arm on a metal stud. He required stitches.

Possible contributing factors:

- Previously pulled conductors had been moved off to the side on the floor to keep the work area clear.
- When the ground wire came to the end of the spool, the electrician pulled the last 50 feet off and laid it on the ground so it would pull more easily with the larger cables.
- When the ground wire became stuck, the electrician pulled it free instead of finding out where it was caught.
- Metal studs were exposed because drywall hadn't yet been installed.
- The gauge of the metal stud allowed the stud to flex.
- The electrician was wearing a short-sleeved shirt.



Primary contributing factor

- When the ground wire came to the end of the spool, the electrician pulled the last 50 feet off and laid it on the ground so it would pull easier with the larger cables.

Possible solutions

- When possible, continue to keep cables out of work areas, off the floor and secured until the cables are placed in the panel.
- When laying conductors on the floor for pulling, make sure the area is clear with no obstructions that conductors can become caught on.
- Consider adding another worker to help feed conductors that are not on reels or spools.
- Be aware of surroundings and changing conditions on site.

Action plan

- The contractor will review the incident at upcoming department/project manager/foremen meetings.
- Continue to use pre-task planning and STACs to plan work and identify existing hazards and hazards created by ongoing work.

Keep improving

Your health and safety are the most important part of every project. We need *your* help to eliminate unsafe behaviors and conditions. If you see a safer and better way to do a task, see your supervisor, or contact GEM Safety: Tim Clark – 419 /720-2699; Bill Cornett – 419 /720-2728. To get personal protection equipment from the warehouse, call 419/720-2688.