

OSHA Electric Power Standards - Session 5 - Q & A Report

when working and having a third oarty on your work site, such as flaggers or a traffic company, should the third party be documented and briefed on the work taking place?	Yes. If they are working on an electric power job site
It is worth noting that the address of the jobsite is crutial for all crew member to know. Seconds count when a distress call has to be made.	Yes. Very vital
If I can show documentation for a Job briefing should that be enough to cover my company if an incident occurs?	Possibly- Job briefings are required to ensure work tasks are planned effectively. If everyone on the job site reviews that planning was conducted and it uniform then the written document validates that the Job briefing was given.
How long should I maintain Job Briefings?	OSHA does not have a set amount of time Depends on your internal document control processes.
How do I handle situations where I have two workers on the site that are Journeyman who are responsible for giving the Job Briefing when they are the same level of seniority?	According to OSHA, one person must be in change and responsible for the Job Briefing. A possible way to accomplish this is have one employee responsible one day and the other responsible the next day and so on
What are special precautions?	No clear answer that I can find but I suggest that it is things out of the ordinary that need to have effective controls. Things such as equipotential ground mats. This would require an extensive discussion to ensure everyone is aware of work processes dealing with worker positioning, insulation, isolation and many other factors.
How do you feel about electronic job briefings, especially given they are often completed on password protected devices that belong to the employee in charge	Job briefings that are completed electronically are completely fine. The method of delivery isn't as important as the content of the briefing. If briefings are done electronically I would encourage supervisors to ask workers about what they discussed in thier job briefings to see if they actually discussed things or just checked them off.
What is the difference between a JHA and a job briefing?	A JHA or Job Hazard Analysis is a detailed work plan that is performed to determined hazards and controls. A JHA breaks identifies each task involved in the work. JHA can easily be used to provide training or retaining. A Job Briefing is performed at the job site to plan the work to be performed that day reviewing all hazards and controls that must be put in place that day.

Job briefings, as they should, focus on hazards and what could go wrong. Rarely do I see anyone talking about what could go right and what a perfect day would look like. Is that important to discuss?	Absolutely! I think it's a great idea to discuss what we want everything to look like at the end of job and how we want to things to go.
How should safety representatives and other observers / visitors to a crew evaluate the quality of their job briefings?	If they evaluate the participation in the Job Briefing. Also did the briefing identify hazards based on risk effectively?
Fantastic explanation of the hierarchy. Why don't more people have this on their pre job briefing forms to help with conversations about how to control hazards?	We agree. It is a great way to address hazards. Adding to a Job Briefing really adds value to what safety is all about. Hazards and effective Controls.
Is a job briefing required if I am performing work covered only by a horizontal standard such as excavations?	If you are performing electric power work with electrical system hazards during excavation processes then yes you are required. If you are not performing electric power work covered work does not apply. It is always a good idea to perform a Job briefing to plan work.
What can the employee in charge do when they have a crew that refuses to verbally participate in job briefings? In other words, they just agree with everything and want to go to work.	Encourge everyone to participate and allow them to participate.
What happens if someone refuses to sign the job briefing?	Refer to company policy.
Is it mandated that more than 1 job briefing is completed if the tasks are different. I've seen one job briefing completed where all hazards have been identified and discussed for the various tasks being completed at the job site.	Additional job briefing have to held when the work changes or any significant conditions change. i.e. hazards change within the work performed.