

SAFETY ALERT

Incident Type: Electrical Shock injury **Location**: North Dining Hall

Date: August 2014 RMS Contact: Kirk Flickinger, kflickin@nd.edu

Incident Description:

A kitchen associate came in contact with a stainless steel prep table on the east end of the cooking range area. He received an electrical shock unexpectedly. Notre Dame Fire Department personnel responded and arranged for the employee to be transported to an emergency room as a precaution. No further medical treatment was required.

Figure 1: Hot Holding Box.



Investigation Findings:

- The stainless steel prep table became energized unexpectedly. A hot holding box was nearby and the cord for the hot holding box was found to be damaged.
- The cord was in contact with the stainless steel table and provided an electrical shock when the employee placed both of his hands down on the table.
- The age and wiring methods used for the electrical outlet that the hot holding box was plugged into were questionable .

Root Causes:

An electrical outlet existed that relied on the conduit to act as a ground. This practice was more common when the building was constructed. A hot holding box contained a cord with damaged insulation and was plugged into this electrical outlet. The cord was in contact with the stainless steel table and when an employee came in contact with the table he received an electrical shock.

Recommendations to prevent re-occurrence:

- 1. Replace the cord of the hot holding box. **Complete**
- 2. Food Service maintenance inspect cord and plug equipment in the facility looking for conditions that could cause electrical shock. **Complete**
- 3. Add a grounding wire to the electrical outlet involved in incident . Complete
- 4. Inspect north dining hall electrical outlets and determine that grounds are in tact. Complete
- 5. Communicate incident to employees. Complete