



## SAFETY INFORMATION

### BASIC LIGHTING SAFETY GUIDELINES

#### **APPLICABLE TO:**

All persons using the theatrical lighting systems for the Theatre Arts Department class labs.

#### **RISKS AND/OR CONSEQUENCES INVOLVED:**

Death or injury (burns) by electrocution to self and others. Damage to equipment and facilities.

#### **GUIDELINES, RULES AND PROCEDURES:**

- Lighting has many functions--illumination, focus attention to specific area or person, set the tone or mood of a scene—and varies with each production.
- Working in lighting has the potential to cause a variety of accidents and injuries, such as falls, fires, electrocution, burns, cuts, and injuries from falling objects or from improper lifting of heavy equipment.
- Risks:
  - Fire – lighting equipment may burn hot and lenses may intensify the heat. Make sure that lights are clear of anything that could ignite (fabric, paper, plastic, props, scenery, etc.)
  - Electrical:
    - Shock may range from a tingle to death. Do not ignore a slight tingle when handling equipment since this is an indication of something is wrong. Consult your supervisor immediately.
    - If equipment is or appears damaged, including cables, connectors, and lighting fixtures, consult your supervisor immediately.
  - Risk of Falling: hanging and focusing lights may require you to work at various heights from catwalks, scaffolding, ladders, aerial lifts, platforms, or other elevated areas.
    - Proper PPE must be used.
    - Fall arrest/restraint equipment must be used in in specific areas – consult your supervisor for directions.
  - Overhead lighting positions:
    - To prevent injuries, make sure that equipment is in working order and secured correctly. Double check to make sure safety cables are correctly attached.
    - If hanging in the catwalks, ensure that no one is walking below the work area.
  - Battens:
    - When working with moving lighting battens, a hard hat is required. Make sure that the lighting fixtures are a safe distance from scenic elements and drapers.
  - Dimmers/Power distribution
    - NEVER work on dimmers or power distribution without direct supervision.
- Make sure proper PPE is used in the various theatres and work spaces, and check with your supervisor if you are not sure of what is required.
- If in doubt, ASK!
- ALWAYS ask your supervisor or instructor if you have any questions or concerns.

#### **REFERENCES:**

CSULB Theatre Arts Department, Lighting Lab  
University of California Office of the President—Environmental, Health & Safety, Performing Arts Safety Manual

**EMERGENCY ☎: 911**