400V Switchboard Arc Over Event

Background:

- Following the commissioning of the new 400 V LVAC Board, the HMI screen on the board wasn't working which was proven to be working in pre-livening checks.
- To investigate, the control cabinet was opened, and the suspected fuse was inspected which revealed a loose wire that was close to touching the earth. A MCB was switched off to isolate the loose wire.



Affected controls cabinet

• Following that individual went ahead to test and prove that the loose wire was not live. This action dislodged the wire which happened to be not isolated leading to a phase-to-earth fault. The fault resulted in a flashover and vaporizing of a section of the wire.

Immediate actions

- Work was stopped and confirmed that that everyone was safe. There were no injuries.
- The cause was identified.
- Transpower and the management team were notified.

Further actions

- Investigation commenced. Early indication is that a manufacturing error may be a cause.
- All those installing this equipment, be vigilant and check wiring terminations to ensure they are secure.
- Always ensure that the correct PPE is worn for the task.

For more information, please contact:

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