



## MEDIA RELEASE

CT Department of Labor *Communications Office*  
Sharon M. Palmer, Commissioner

# Arc Flash Compliance and Protection Is Topic of February 18 CONN-OSHA Breakfast Roundtable

February 11, 2014 – Arc Flash safety and compliance, and the ways that an employer can best protect employees, contractors and their facility will be the topic during a February 18 Breakfast Roundtable Discussion meeting sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Labor’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CONN-OSHA). Mark Haskins, owner of Practical Safety Solutions, LLC of Old Lyme, and Scott Vandeweghe of Electrical Contractors Inc. of Hartford, will facilitate the discussion. The Roundtable will be held 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. at the Labor Department’s Wethersfield office, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard.

“An arc flash, or ‘flashover,’ is a type of electrical explosion that results from a low impedance connection to a ground or another voltage phase in an electrical system,” explains CONN-OSHA Training Specialist and Breakfast Roundtable project coordinator John Able. “This light and heat which is generated in the process of welding, for example, supplies enough electrical energy to cause substantial damage, fire or injury. Arc flash temperatures can reach or exceed 35,000 °F (19,400 °C). Therefore, taking proper precautions and protecting yourself and your surroundings is vital.”

Relevant OSHA cases, as well as comment about arc flash studies, and appropriate arc flash Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be presented, along with handout materials. Roundtable participants will also have the opportunity to ask questions.

Admission to the event is free, but pre-registration is required. Please contact John Able at [able.john@dol.gov](mailto:able.john@dol.gov) to register for the breakfast roundtable or for additional information.

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