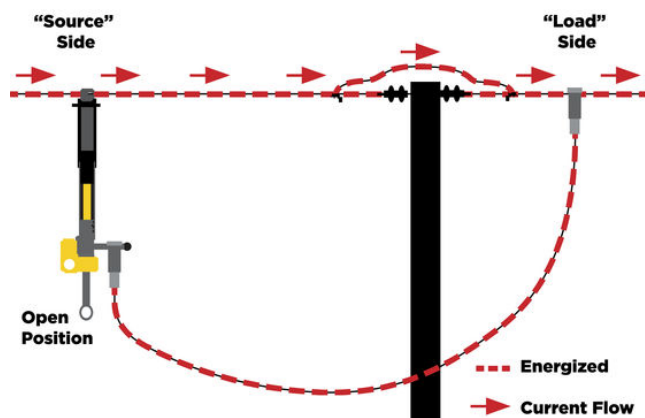
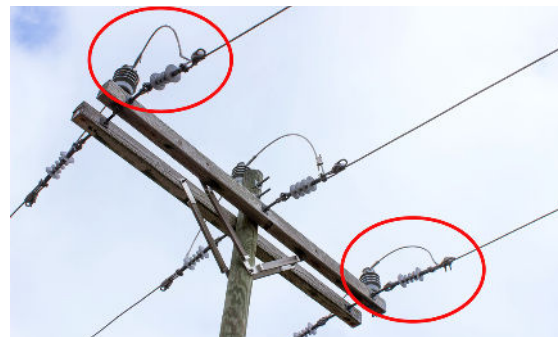


MAKING PARALLELS: THERMAL IMAGING VS HOT SPOTS

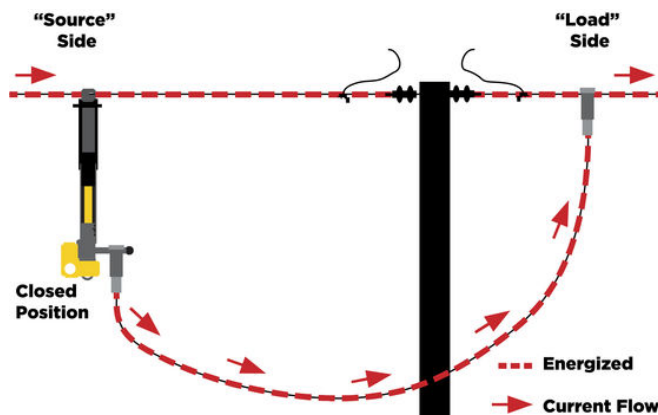
BREAK-SAFE® Portable Load Break & Load Pick-Up Tool

Line crews frequently make parallel circuits to support system reliability, energize critical loads, and service customers during system maintenance or storm restoration. This common practice of making parallels is not just an effective way to keep the meter running when system maintenance is required, but also a testament to the paramount importance of line worker safety in our operations.

One such situation required permanent jumpers to be replaced after a preventative maintenance thermal scan revealed hot spots. Previously cut open to isolate the system during a storm, these jumpers were spliced back together. However, the crimp connections were flagged during the thermal scan and must be replaced without an outage.



Various methods exist to make parallel circuits; however, traditional methods are not turnkey, requiring multiple tools and additional time. The Break-Safe® load break and pick-up tool, designed with safety as a top priority, is a turnkey solution that ensures the safety of line crews. This tool is effective in making a parallel circuit and provides a secure and protected working environment.



The parallel circuit allowed the crew to remove and repair the spliced permanent jumpers. The crew then utilized the load-break capability of the Break-Safe® to break the parallel circuit, demonstrating the tool's functionality in making and breaking parallel circuits.

Making parallels can be done in multiple ways and using various work methods; however, the portability and effectiveness of the Break-Safe® portable switch offer a turn-key, stick-operable solution when making parallel circuits to maintain power and increase line worker safety by being rated to perform load break and load pick-up duties.

