



## 2.3 Non - Numeric Targets

### (a) Industry - wide Collective Safety Targets Related to Specific Issues

#### Contractor Safety - Standards of Competence

##### Target

*The target is to improve levels of basic electrical safety competence for contractors leading to improvements in safety performance across the Industry. This will be achieved by:*

- i. Promoting an Industry-wide scheme*
- ii. Sharing best practice with contractors*
- iii. Sharing best practice within the Electricity Industry on management of contractors*
- iv. Seeking "best in class" external comparators to share best practice.*

##### Progress

ENA Notes of Guidance 020 – 'Basic Electrical Safety Competence for Contractors' was issued in September 2002 and each ENA member company is applying these standards within their induction training before contractors are allowed to work in close proximity to the electricity supply networks.

In **National Grid Transco** a common assessment and passport scheme is being developed in conjunction with ENA and Energy Utility Skills, which will require all contractors working in the High Voltage (HV) environment to undergo a basic electrical safety assessment every three years.

Last year, **CE Electric UK** organised a safety conference for contractors and also hold bi-monthly safety forums with their contractors.

**Scottish & Southern Energy** are developing a partnering approach with their main contractors. Contractors were included in activities arranged as part of the 2004 European Health and Safety Week.

**EDF Energy** report good progress towards capturing lost day incidents from major contractors. They now capture data from nearly 3000 contract field staff. The rate of direct and contact field staff is similar and falling. The company captures nearly 3 times more data than at the start of the year. Balanced Score Cards incorporate a range of performance measures including some SAFELEC 2010 data and utility/cable strike rates have been introduced.

**United Utilities Electricity** is an active member of the recently established ENA Training and Competency Task Force. As part of its drive to improve the health and safety performance of its contractors, UUE has reviewed contractual requirements with its contractors. These new contracts will establish more robust systems for the management of both occupational health and safety by contractors. The requirements will include ensuring that contractors' staff are fully trained and competent. In addition, the company has set clear guidance on health and safety performance. A new approach to training in basic electrical safety has moved to an assessment rather than a formal classroom approach. On an on-going basis, UUE maintains its regular review meetings with its contractors to review health and safety performance standards. European Week for Safety and Health in October 2004 gave a valuable opportunity to work jointly with contractors to share common issues around the theme of 'Building in Safety'.

**ScottishPower PowerSystems** Strategic Health and Safety Advisory Committee reviewed contractors' performance and is considering inviting them to quarterly meetings to exchange best practice. Two seminars with major contractors were held during European Health and Safety Week focusing on operational safety issues.