Tips

EV Transit Fleet Concerns

Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming a mainstay in many organizations which is why it is important to understand the potential hazards and risk management strategies associated with the operation of EV fleets.

- High voltage (HV) systems - including energy storage systems - operate at dangerous levels. **Many EV buses operate at 700 to 800 volts and 350 amps.** Workers should be familiar with and properly trained on the components of HV systems including **HV Cabling, HV Isometers, and HV Junction Boxes.**

- Lithium-ion batteries contain a flammable electrolyte that can vent, ignite, and produce sparks when damaged and subjected to elevated temperatures or water. **Store in a cool, well-ventilated area, in the original packaging until use, away from moisture, sources of heat, open flames, food, and drink.**

- EVs present different safety risks requiring mitigation strategies that differ from diesel and gasoline fueled vehicles. Ensuring continued safe operation of EV transit vehicles will require EV-specific facility design and staff training. **A hazard analysis should be conducted on all fleet EV charging stations.**

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