

Powering down high voltage systems is **critical for safety**

As more EV and Hybrid vehicles come into independent workshops, it has never been more important to follow safe working processes. Before working on any high-voltage system, the Autobiz Helpline knows the importance of powering down high voltage systems, cannot be over-explained.

Sometimes, the removal of the service connector is required, or the removal of a low-voltage interlock plug. Whatever the process, before removing personal protective equipment (PPE), you need to prove the absence of dangerous high voltage.

Voltage levels above 30 volts AC, and 60 Volts DC, are considered hazardous to health. In reality, you are looking for a voltage near zero, in a system that you are going to be working on.

Once you have followed the manufacturer-prescribed process to power



Ensure your multimeter is functional before checking high voltage circuits



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down a system, you could use a multi-meter rated to CAT III 1000 volts. But, this can be an issue that you need to consider. Should you trust the accuracy of the test equipment?

When working with high-voltage testing, you should first prove the test equipment is working correctly. Then, test the circuit you are working with. Finally, return to proving your meter is still recording accurately. Only then, can you remove your PPE and begin repairs.

To do this proving process, you should only use an industry-approved proving unit. The recommended process is to use it before testing, and after testing, to confirm the meter is working accurately.