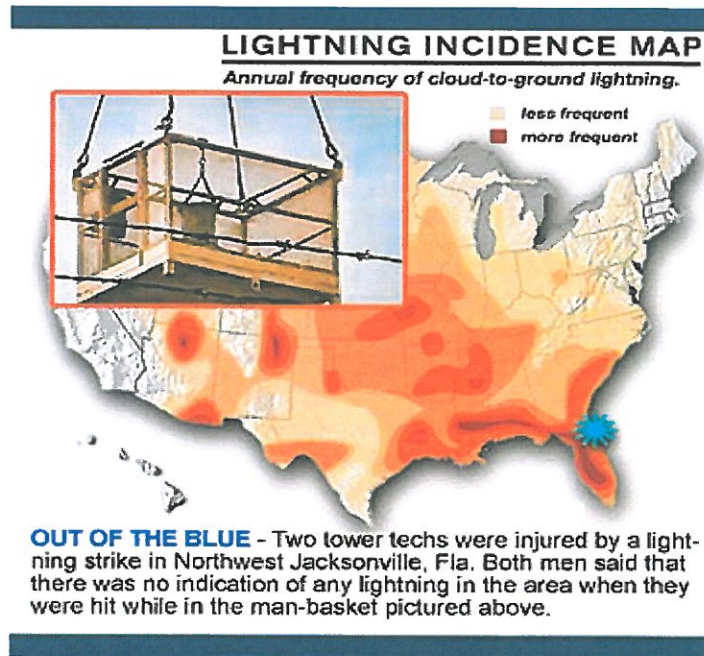


LIGHTNING: THE UNDERRATED WEATHER HAZARD



The two tower workers received their unexpected visit from Mother Nature last Wednesday at approximately 1:00 p.m. Their supervisor said that both men had burns on their stomachs near their safety harness belts and were taken to Shands Jacksonville Medical Center. They were later released. On average, lightning causes more casualties annually in the US than any other storm related phenomena, except floods. To the best of the industry's knowledge, no tower technician has been killed by lightning; however, numerous personnel have been hit.

Lightning 30/30 rule: If it takes less than 30 seconds to hear thunder after seeing the flash, lightning is near enough to pose a threat; after the storm ends, **wait 30 minutes** before resuming outdoor activities.

Don't take chances, luck runs out. SAFETY is everyone's responsibility.

Bob Geary, MAC Safety