The voltage and current waveforms were used to calculate the electrical energy dissipated in the arc. Figure 14 shows the electrical power during a flashing event, it reaching a peak of 8 kilowatts (kW). The total electrical energy dissipated was about 4 joules [4]. Over time the flashing can cause damage to the insulation and the conductor.

Figure12. An example of a flashing event.

4. This is the energy needed to melt about 6 milligrams of aluminum, the equivalent of a fraction of a paper clip