

## ELECTRON TUBES

### METHOD OF DISPOSAL

#### 1. GENERAL

**1.01** This section covers the recommended procedure for the disposal of electron tubes in central offices.

**1.02** This section applies to all electron tubes for which there is no credit allowance and are being junked due to (1) their being defective and not meeting requirements and (2) their being considered surplus with no further requirement for any such new or reusable tubes.

#### 2. DISPOSAL

**2.01** "Special" eye protection and leather palmed gloves must be worn whenever electron tubes are broken for disposal purposes. Refer to Section 010-100-005 for information on "special" eye protection. (See 2.03 for disposal of 416C electron tubes)

**2.02** Break several of the base pins on the electron tubes being destroyed. Where this is not feasible, destroy the envelope of the tube by smashing it in a suitable closed waste container using a metal rod.

**2.03** The 416C electron tube contains Beryllium Oxide which is potentially hazardous. Tubes to be disposed of shall be marked defective and returned to the Western Electric Service Center for further shipment to Nassau Smelting and Refining Company, Inc. The defective tubes should be packed carefully, preferably in the box in which replacement tubes are received, so there is no danger of breakage in transit. The package should be marked similar to the carton or box containing

new tubes; ie, "Caution Beryllium Product" so that any one handling it will immediately recognize the hazard.

**Warning:** *The 416C tube contains Beryllium Oxide, an extremely dangerous substance. All wounds or lacerations caused by broken fragments of the tube and all contacts between fragments and skin abrasions or open wounds should be reported to the Medical Department immediately.*

**2.04** *In the event of breakage of a 416C tube in the field, leather palmed gloves shall be worn while picking up all the visible pieces of the tube. These pieces shall then be placed in an impervious container, eg, a plastic bag, and then sealed and disposed of through the channels described above. Loose pieces of Beryllium Oxide (BeO) ceramic must not be allowed to remain on the floor where they may be ground into small particles underfoot. All wounds caused by the BeO ceramic should be attended promptly by a physician.*

**2.05** Cathode-ray, cold cathode, and fluorescent tubes should be disposed of in accordance with standard instructions listed as follows:

SECTION	TITLE
010-110-002	Cathode Ray
010-110-003	Fluorescent
024-700-801	Cold Cathode
024-709-801	Cold Cathode