

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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Provisional Standard

**SIGNALS FOR USE OF OUTSIDE
PLANT FORCES**

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This practice covers a system of signals which is recommended for the use of the outside plant forces in connection with the operation of pole derricks, winches, stringing open wire, pulling or removing aerial or underground cable, and other classes of work where the use of signals offers advantages.

1.02 Both visual and sound signals are included. Sound signals, however, should be used only under conditions where it is inconvenient or impracticable to use the visual signals and only when the person to be controlled by the signals is positively known to be within hearing distance of the person signaling. Conditions may arise where it will be desirable to use the two systems in conjunction with each other.

2. VISUAL SIGNALS

2.01 The system of visual signals is represented by diagrams accompanied by a brief description of each signal.

2.02 The person doing the signaling should face the operator or person signaled if signals are being transmitted directly from one to the other.

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2.03 Obstructions or intervening distance may require that the signals be relayed through intermediate signalmen. Such signalmen should assume a position so that the person signaled can discern the signals clearly and unmistakably and the eyes of the intervening signalmen should be focused upon the person from whom the signals are being received. Signals should not be relayed through more men than is absolutely necessary in order to minimize the time required for transmission.

2.04 A white, yellow, or checkered signal flag can frequently be used to advantage if the distance over which signals are transmitted is great or if visibility is low. A red danger flag should not be used for this purpose because of the likelihood of confusing drivers of passing vehicles.

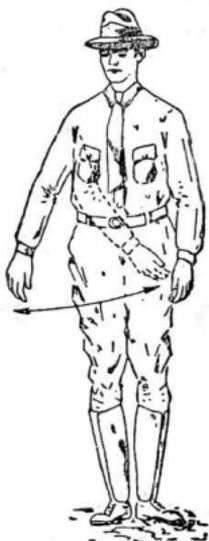
2.05 It is desirable in so far as practicable that signalmen assume positions from which the view will not be obstructed by pedestrians or passing vehicles at a critical moment.

SIGNAL

DIAGRAM

DETAILS OF SIGNAL

(a) Go Ahead



Swing either arm extended full length in arc across front of body.

SIGNAL

DIAGRAM

DETAILS OF SIGNAL

(b) Go Ahead
Slowly



Swing either arm extended full length in arc across front of body. Extend other arm horizontally in plane of body, with palm down.

(c) Back Up



Extend either arm horizontally in plane of body, with palm to the front, and execute vertical arc.

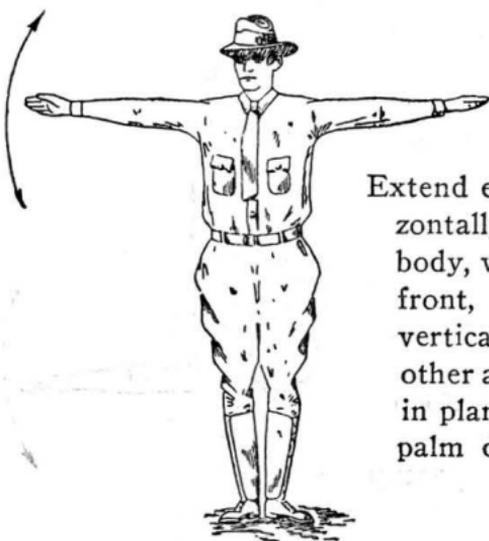
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SIGNAL

DIAGRAM

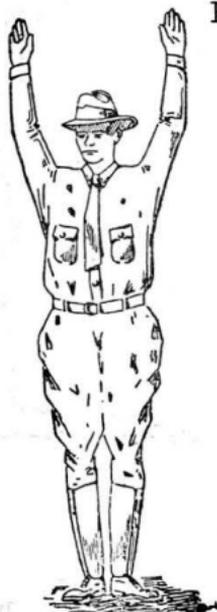
DETAILS OF SIGNAL

(d) Back Up Slowly



Extend either arm horizontally in plane of body, with palm to the front, and execute vertical arc. Extend other arm horizontally in plane of body, with palm down.

(e) Stop



Extend both arms full length above head, with palms to the front.

SIGNAL

DIAGRAM

DETAILS OF SIGNAL

(f) Up



Extend either arm horizontally in plane of body, with palm of hand up. Execute short swings with forearm upward and back to horizontal.

(g) Down



Extend either arm horizontally in plane of body, with palm of hand down. Execute short swings with arm downward, and back to horizontal.

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SIGNAL

DIAGRAM

DETAILS OF SIGNAL

(h) Hold



Extend arms full length in plane of body to an angle of 45° , palm of hand down.

(i) Release or Cut Off



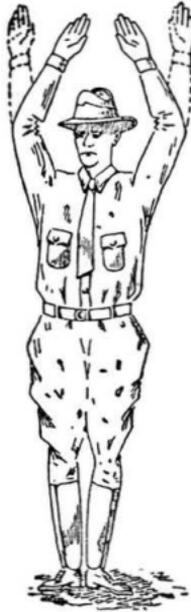
Extend both arms to horizontal position on either side of body. Swing arms horizontally in opposite directions in short vertical arcs.

SIGNAL

DIAGRAM

DETAILS OF SIGNAL

(j) All O. K.



Extend both arms full length above head, with palms to the front. Swing both arms horizontally in short arcs in plane of body.

(k) Return, or
Go Back



Extend either arm full length horizontally in plane of body. Swing in arc extending across front of body.

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3. SOUND SIGNALS

3.01 A whistle having a distinctive tone may be used for sound signals to avoid possible confusion with other whistles, such as traffic officer's whistles, etc.

3.02 The number of blasts to be used for various operations are as follows:

- (a) Go—Blow two short sharp blasts.
- (b) Stop—Blow one long blast.
- (c) Back—Three short sharp blasts.

3.03 Talking circuits can sometimes be used to advantage where facilities are available or can readily be improvised.

4. SIGNALS TO TRAFFIC

4.01 Where it is necessary to station a workman to warn traffic, he shall use a red warning flag and make the warning conspicuous by swinging the flag up and down.