

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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Standard

POLES—GENERAL
ORDERING AND DELIVERY OF MATERIAL

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1. DIRECT SHIPMENTS AND SUPPLIES FROM STOCK

1.01 In connection with large construction jobs it is usually advantageous to have the poles and other materials shipped directly from the treating plant, manufacturing plant, or other source of supply to the freight station or siding nearest to the location where the material will be required.

1.02 For the smaller jobs, it will frequently be more advantageous to draw the materials from stock, rather than to have direct shipments made.

2. SELECTION OF DELIVERY POINTS

2.01 In reaching a decision as to whether it is desirable to have poles and other materials shipped directly from the supplier in carload lots, consideration should be given to the following points:

- (a) The size of the job.
- (b) The siding facilities for unloading poles.

- (c) The available storage facilities for materials that cannot be installed immediately.
- (d) Conditions affecting the hauling of poles and material from the delivery point to the job, such as length of haul, condition of highway or right-of-way, etc.

3. ORDERING POLES IN CARLOAD LOTS

3.01 Poles should be ordered in carload lots, either for pole yard or siding delivery, except where the poles are to be obtained locally.

3.02 In placing the orders for poles, each order should state the required number of each length and class of poles to permit constructing the line in accordance with the plans.

3.03 Instructions should be included with each order, specifying the delivery point and the required delivery date.

4. DELIVERY OF POLES

4.01 In connection with the loading, handling and delivery of poles, observe any existing highway or other local regulations covering such work.

4.02 Where poles are purchased locally it is usually desirable to have them delivered at the stake by the supplier, and orders should so specify, if conditions permit.

4.03 The person making deliveries should be furnished with a location or stake list showing the length and class of pole to be delivered at each location and the date when delivery is required.

4.04 Where practicable, a representative of the telephone company should be present when delivery is made to see that:

- (a) Poles and stubs of proper size and straightness are left at corners, dead ends, etc.

- (b) Poles are left as close as practicable to the stakes and in such a position that they can be handled conveniently by the erection crew. If poles are to be set by a pole derrick, it is desirable that the poles be left with the mid-point of the pole close to the stake. Where poles are to be erected by man-power, it is desirable to have the poles left with the butt close to the stake. Where holes are to be machine bored, deliver pole on field side of stake so that there will be no interference with boring machine getting to stake location.

(c) Poles are left so as not to interfere with drainage or traffic.

4.05 Where it is not practicable for a representative of the telephone company to be present at the time the poles are being delivered, instructions covering the above details shall be given on the stake list furnished to the supplier.

5. AVOIDANCE OF PILING OF POLES ALONG ROUTE

5.01 The piling of poles along a route should be avoided where practicable on account of the extra handling which is thereby necessitated and the possibility of accidents resulting from rolling of the poles off the pile.

6. METHOD OF DELIVERING POLES

6.01 It will usually be desirable to load poles on a trailer or dinkey and haul them to the job by a truck. Where necessary to haul poles over difficult roads or private right-of-way, however, it may be necessary to employ a tractor or a four-wheel-drive truck and semi-trailer.

6.02 Where necessary to construct a line over rugged right-of-way that is not easily accessible, the only available means of delivering the poles at the required locations may be to use a tractor or snake the poles along the right-of-way from the most accessible point.

6.03 Where necessary to snake treated poles, care should be exercised to prevent, so far as practicable, damage to the treated portion of the poles, inasmuch as such damage is likely to reduce the effectiveness of the treatment.

7. METHOD OF LOADING POLES

7.01 If the poles are sufficiently light, they may be loaded by hand. Ordinarily, however, it will be desirable to use either a pole derrick or gin pole.

7.02 Poles may be loaded so that their weight is supported in either of the following ways:

(a) Entirely on the trailer or dinkey. (Balanced Load Method.) Use this method where a two-wheel trailer is to be used behind a construction truck.

(b) Partly on the truck and partly on the trailer. (Semi-trailer Method.) Use this method where a large job of pole moving is to be done. For this work the body is removed from the truck and a large bolster supported on the rear of the truck chassis, which in turn is connected with the trailer.

7.03 Detailed instructions covering the loading and binding of poles are included in Section J6.621 of the Bell System Practices.

8. SELECTION OF POLES

8.01 In distributing poles, select the best looking poles for those locations where good appearance of the pole plant is an important factor. In urban districts it is desirable if creosoted pine poles are to be used, to select the drier poles.

8.02 Select the largest poles from those shipped to the job, for use at dead ends, corners and junctions and at locations where the poles are to carry a large amount of equipment. It is desirable to provide the extra strength at these points on account of their importance and the greater expense involved in restoring them if they should fail.

