

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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MARKINGS ON POLES
AND STUBS

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section contains information in regard to the markings which are provided on the face and the butt of poles and stubs for the purpose of identifying their length and class and other features.

1.02 It is being revised to include the markings on old poles, to add the markings on poles and stubs treated with creosote-pentachlorophenol solution and with chemonite, to revise the information on butt markings and to omit reference to anchor logs. Because this section has been rewritten the arrows indicating changes have been omitted.

2. MARKINGS ON OLD POLES

2.01 Before 1924 there was no requirement for marking poles. The supplier at his option could brand his name or trademark on the pole but the location of the brand with respect to the butt was not specified.

2.02 From 1924 to 1930 poles were marked on the face at 10 feet from the butt with a scribe or with a marking hammer or brand showing the supplier's name or trademark. The class and length of the poles were stamped in the butt surface with a marking hammer.

2.03 From 1930 to 1938 poles were branded on the face at 10 feet from the butt with the supplier's name or trademark and the year in which the poles were treated. Butt mark-

ing remained the same except that the class numeral was circumscribed by the letter C.

2.04 From 1938 to 1947 poles were branded on the face at 10 feet from the butt with a brand showing the supplier's name or trademark, the year in which the poles were treated and the class and length. In 1946 and 1947, during a critical shortage of creosote, the brands on poles treated with preservatives other than creosote included a symbol denoting the preservative. These symbols were:

- X = Creosote-Petroleum Solution
- N = Copper Naphthenate Solution
- P = Pentachlorophenol Solution
- W = Water Gas Tar—Creosote Solution
- T = Tetrachlorophenol Solution
- CZC = Chromated Zinc Chloride Plus Creosote
- D = Any Approved Salt Plus Creosote

Markings on the butt remained unchanged.

3. MARKINGS ON FACE OF NEW POLES AND STUBS

3.01 One set of markings is branded on the face of the pole. These markings are located so that the bottom of the lowest mark in the brand is 10 feet (± 2 inches) from the butt on poles 16 to 75 feet in length and 15 feet* (± 2 inches) from the butt on poles 80 feet and longer in length. On 10-foot reinforcing stubs, the brand is 9-1/2 feet from the butt.

Caution: On poles purchased and set by other companies, the brand may be located at some height other than the foregoing. Therefore, the brand on such poles can not be used as a positive indication of the depth of setting unless the distance of the brand from the butt is known.

*Since 1955. From 1948 to 1955 all poles were branded at 10 feet from butt.

3.02 These markings provide information in regard to the following:

- (a) The supplier's name or trademark.
- (b) The location of the treating plant and the year in which the pole was treated.
- (c) The kind of pole timber and the preservative used.
- (d) The class and length of the pole.

3.03 The arrangement and the size of the characters used in this brand are shown in the following:

10' FROM BUTT MARKING



Supplier's code or trademark

5/8" min 0-57

Plant location and year of treatment, as Oldtown-1957

5/8" min SPA

Species and preservative, as southern pine-creosote-penta solution

5/8" min 5-35

Size, as class 5-35 foot pole

If desired, size may be shown thus:

5
35

10' (±2") from butt of 16' to 75' poles
15' (±2") from butt of 80' and longer poles

3.04 On reinforcing stubs, the size is designated by a letter indicating the class and a number indicating its length.

3.05 The significance of the codes used to designate the kind of pole timber and the preservative material used, is as follows:

TIMBER CODE AND PRESERVATIVE CODE

<u>Kind of Timber</u>	<u>Cresote</u>	<u>Penta-chloro-phenol in Petroleum</u>	<u>Creosote-Penta-chloro-phenol Solution</u>	<u>Chemonite or Greensalt</u>
Western Red Cedar	WCC	WCP	WCA	WCS
Douglas Fir	DFC	DFP	DFA	DFS
Western Larch	WLC	WLP	WLA	WLS
Jack Pine	JPC	JPP	JPA	JPS
Ponderosa (Western) Pine	WPC	WPP	WPA	WPS
Red (Norway) Pine	NPC	NPP	NPA	NPS
Southern Pine	SPC	SPP	SPA	SPS

4. MARKINGS ON BUTT SURFACE OF NEW POLES AND STUBS

4.01 In addition to the markings branded on the faces of poles, a set of markings is provided on the butt surfaces of poles and stubs. The markings may be on tags* or discs nailed or stapled to the butt surfaces or may be branded in the butt surfaces.

*Since 1955. From 1948 to 1955 information was stamped or branded in butt.

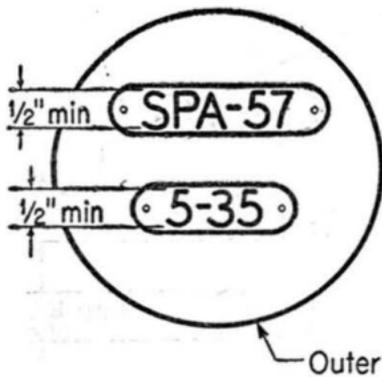
4.02 The butt markings provide information in regard to the following:

- (a) The kind of timber and the preservative used.
- (b) The year of treatment.
- (c) The class.
- (d) The length.

4.03 At the supplier's option, the butt markings may also include the supplier's name or trademark and the plant designation.

4.04 The details of a typical butt marking are shown in the following:

BUTT MARKING



Species and preservative, as southern pine-creosote-penta solution

Year of treatment, as 1957

Size, as class 5-35 foot pole

NOTE:

The butt marking should be located with respect to outer edge of butt, approximately as shown

Outer edge of butt