

WIRE STRINGING PRECAUTIONS

GENERAL

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section replaces Issue 1 and outlines the general precautions to be observed when handling and stringing open wire. It has been rewritten to expand the information on protective measures.

1.02 Precautions outlined in this section, together with Sections G31.090.2 and G31.090.3, supplement the general precautions contained in the G10 series of the practices.

1.03 Detailed information concerning the installation and employment of special protective devices, types of rigging or methods of construction is contained in other sections of the practices.

1.04 Exercise caution when handling and stringing open wire to protect both the public and workmen from any mechanical or electrical hazards involved in the work operations.

1.05 Additional precautions are necessary to protect all concerned in long span construction, joint use construction and at all locations where telephone lines cross over or under electric light or power wires.

1.06 The precautions concerning crossings over electric light or power wires should be employed at highway, railway and other vehicular crossings when traffic control is impracticable.

2. JOB PLANNING

2.01 Inspect all jobs in advance of work operations with the view of employing proper precautions at hazardous locations. Although it is a function of the supervisor to plan the job so that work may be performed in a safe manner it is the responsibility of each individual to acquaint both his supervisor and fellow employees with all unsafe and hazardous conditions.

2.02 Plan and execute all jobs in a manner to reduce accident hazards to a minimum.

2.03 Wherever practicable, work operations involving hazardous conditions should be conducted under the personal supervision of the foreman in charge.

2.04 Wherever practicable concentrate work force and equipment at hazardous locations such as power line crossings, highway crossings, railroad crossings, etc., to permit direct supervision of all work operations. Temporary construction at such locations is not advisable. Complete the work in a permanent manner before leaving the job.

2.05 The prevention of contacts between telephone wires and electric light and power wires is the first responsibility of each individual, both supervisors and employees alike, in planning and carrying out wire stringing and tensioning operations on jointly used poles and over, under, or near electric light or power wires.

3. INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION

3.01 Each workman is provided with standard tools and equipment. It is his responsibility to use them at all times to protect himself, the public and fellow employees.

3.02 Cut all wire with caution. Loose ends of wire may flip and result in serious eye injuries, body punctures or skin abrasions. Do not cut wire without taking measures to prevent the ends from springing back.

3.03 Protect or restrain all loose ends of wire. Protection may include bending the wire back on itself, driving it into the ground, or fastening to wire reel, pole, crossarm, etc.

3.04 The use of goggles when cutting line wire will aid in the protection of the eye from springy ends of wire.

3.05 All workmen handling ropes, wires, reels, wire raising tools, etc., **MUST WEAR RUBBER GLOVES** during the stringing and tensioning operations where the wire is

placed on jointly used poles or crosses over or under electric light and power circuits.

3.06 Where conditions are such that rubber gloves are required it is also important to avoid all body contacts with wires, guys, strands, etc., which could become energized by contact with the wire being handled.

4. WIRE HANDLING

4.01 Handle wire carefully to avoid nicks, kinks or abrasions. Such defects reduce the strength of wire and may cause the wire to break or hang up during the pulling operation. Sudden starts and stops may result in breaking the wire or causing the wire to flip up and contact foreign conductors.

4.02 Where necessary for safety or other reasons, there must be an adequate means of signaling between the ends of the wire stringing operation.