

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G50.669.3
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CABLE SPLICING — GENERAL

C AND D SPLICE COVERS

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the methods of using the C and D Splice Covers for the temporary protection of new uncompleted straight and branch splices, respectively, in large cables where the cable is likely to become submerged.

1.02 The section has been revised to include the D Splice Cover now provided for use at splices having a main and a branch cable at one end and a main only at the other.

1.03 It is not necessary to use a splice cover over new splices which will be completed during the working day. The covers are intended for use over splices in large cables which require more than one working day to complete and over splices completed in steps where some time elapses between visits to the splice.

1.04 Where temporary protection is required over small splices, existing splices, trouble openings, etc, use methods covered in other sections of the practices.

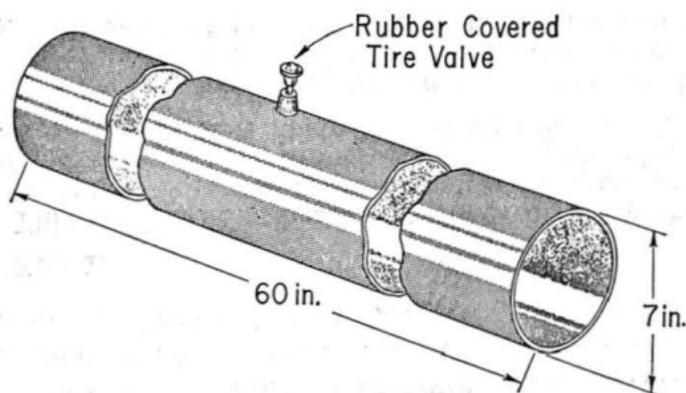
2. MATERIALS

2.01 The materials listed below are required in addition to the materials carried by splicers.

Cement, C: For making adhesive surfaces.

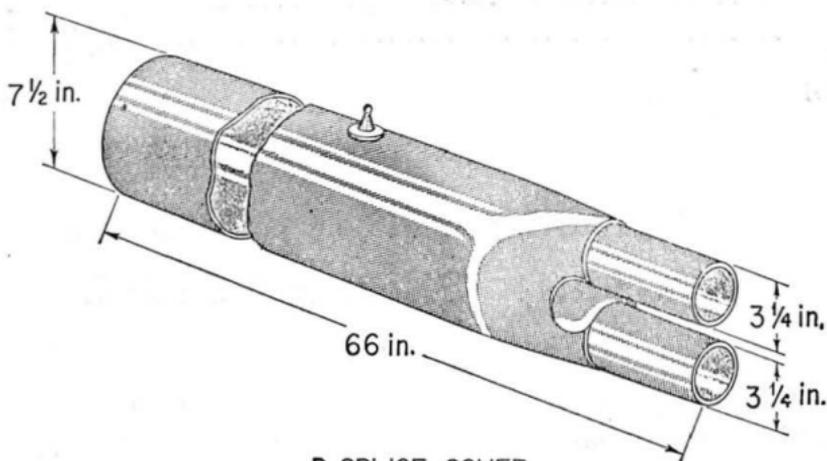
Clamp, Sealing: Two are required with a C Splice Cover and three with a D Splice Cover.

Cover, Splice, C: For use over a straight splice; it is illustrated below.



C SPLICE COVER

Cover, Splice, D: For use over a splice having a stub at one end; it is illustrated below.



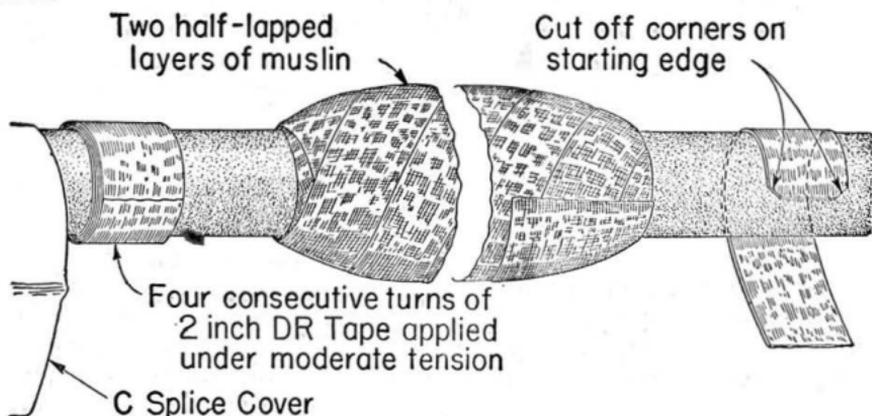
D SPLICE COVER

3. HANDLING AND PREPARATION OF SPLICE COVERS

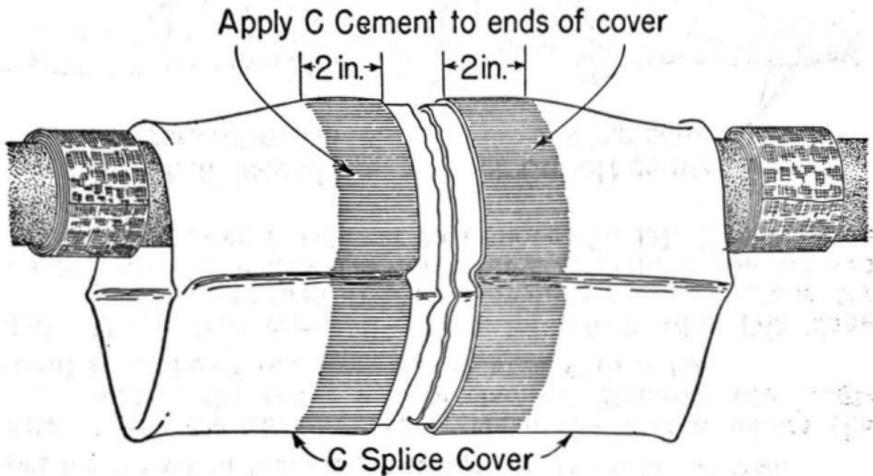
- 3.01 A splice cover should be kept in its carton until it is to be used.
- 3.02 When removed from the carton, the cover should be kept clean and dry with minimum handling.
- 3.03 Before placing a splice cover, hold it vertically and shake it to dislodge talc inside the cover. With a clean, dry cloth carefully wipe off the remaining talc for several inches on each end.

4. APPLICATION OF C SPLICE COVER

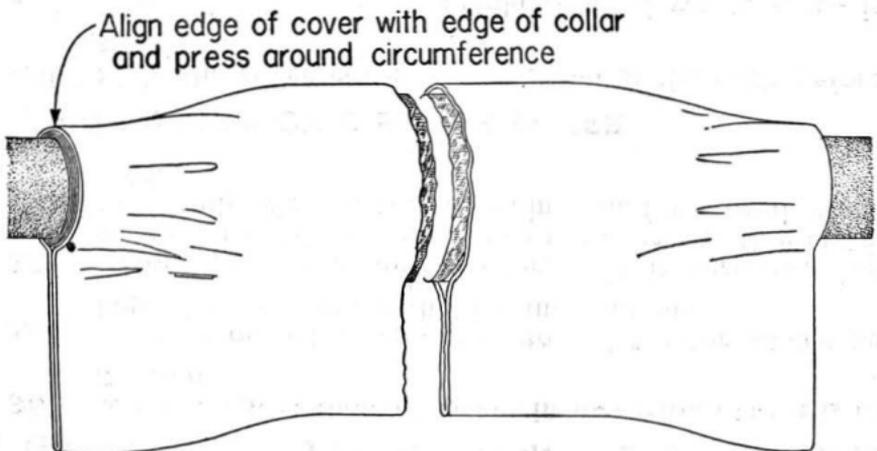
- 4.01 Slide the splice cover over one end of the cable before starting to splice.
- 4.02 The full 5-foot length should be used where space is available at the splice.
- 4.03 Where space is limited, as in small manholes, or where it is desirable to leave jute or corrosion protection on the cable sheath close to the splice, the length of the splice cover may be shortened by cutting off a portion. However, where the splice will be worked on a number of times before it is completed, the full length of the C Splice Cover is required. In this case, telescope the splice cover to a short length when fastening the ends to the cable sheath.
- 4.04 With the carding brush, clean the sheath where the end of the cover will be clamped. Remove any longitudinal scratches from the cleaned area with a file.
- 4.05 Wrap four concentric turns of 2-inch wide DR Tape over the cleaned area as shown, to form a cushion for the cover and the clamp. Do not apply C Cement to the cleaned area as this makes it difficult to remove the DR Tape collars later.



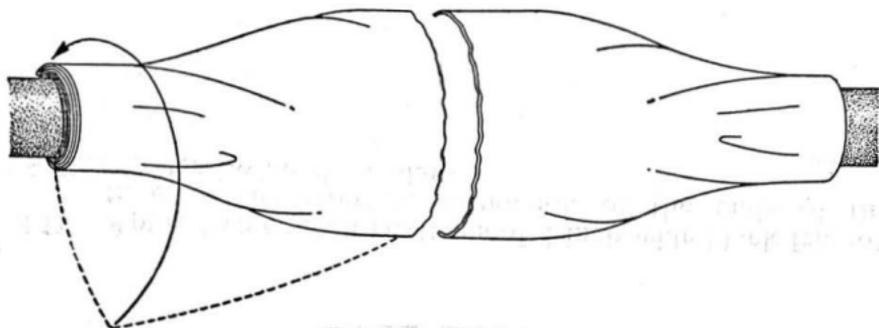
4.06 Remove the valve cap and valve core. Slide the C Splice Cover into position and turn the ends back about six inches, as shown. Then paint a 2-inch wide band of C Cement on the turned-back ends of the cover and allow the cement to dry for about five minutes.



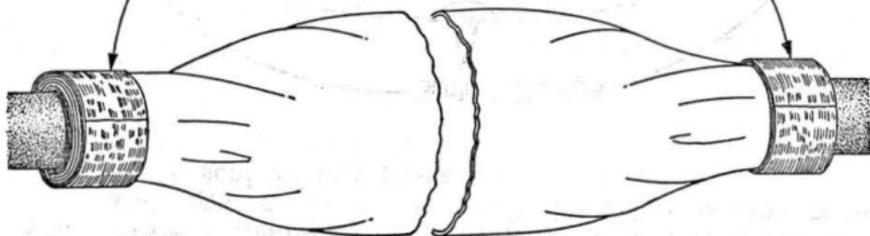
4.07 Turn each edge of the collar back so that the cemented portion is aligned over the DR Tape collars. Smoothly press the cemented portion of the cover around the circumference of the collar, avoiding wrinkles. Press the excess portion of the cover into one fold, as shown.



- 4.08 Wrap the excess portion of the cover around the part against the collar, and tape in place.



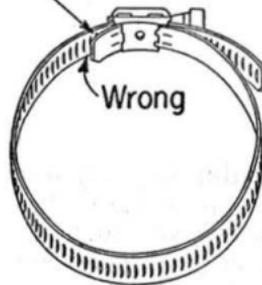
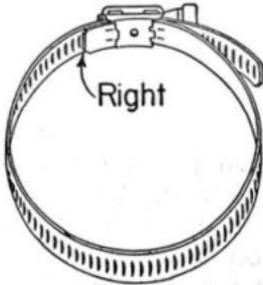
Two turns of 2 inch wide black Friction Tape centered on DR Tape Collar



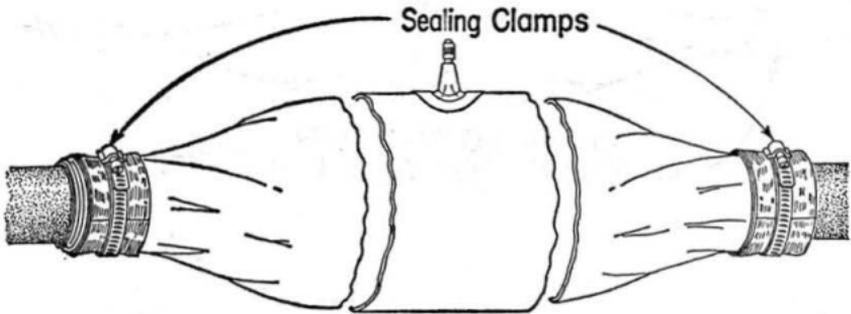
- 4.09 Examine each Sealing Clamp. The projecting lip fastened to the housing should just contact the punched portion of the strap as it enters the housing, as shown. Bend the projecting lip towards the punched portion, if necessary, so that the lip will not cut through the friction tape and the splice cover.

Set diameter equal to collars on cable

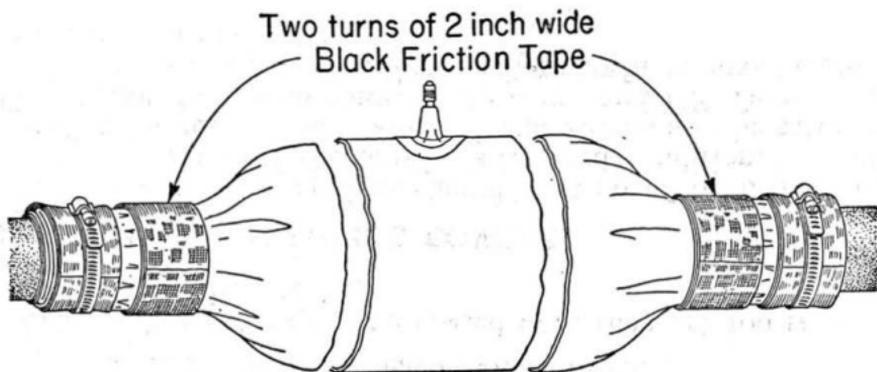
Bend projecting lip up
until it touches
punched Strap



4.10 Place a Sealing Clamp over the center of each collar and tighten the clamp until the collar is compressed sufficiently to seal off any passages.



4.11 Apply two concentric turns of 2-inch wide black friction tape to the overlapped portion of the ends of the C Splice Cover inside the collars.



5. APPLICATION OF D SPLICE COVER

5.01 The D Splice Cover is applied over a splice in essentially the same manner as a C cover, except that the Y end of the D cover must be placed over the main and stub cables before starting to splice.

6. PRESSURE TESTING SPLICE COVERS

6.01 Replace the valve core and admit gas at a pressure not exceeding one-half pound per square inch. Test the end seals with an appropriate pressure testing solution. A leak at the end seal can be stopped by further tightening the clamp.

6.02 After the splice cover is gastight, remove the valve core and allow the gas to escape.

6.03 Apply a half-lapped layer of muslin over the splice cover for mechanical protection. Then replace the valve core and cap.

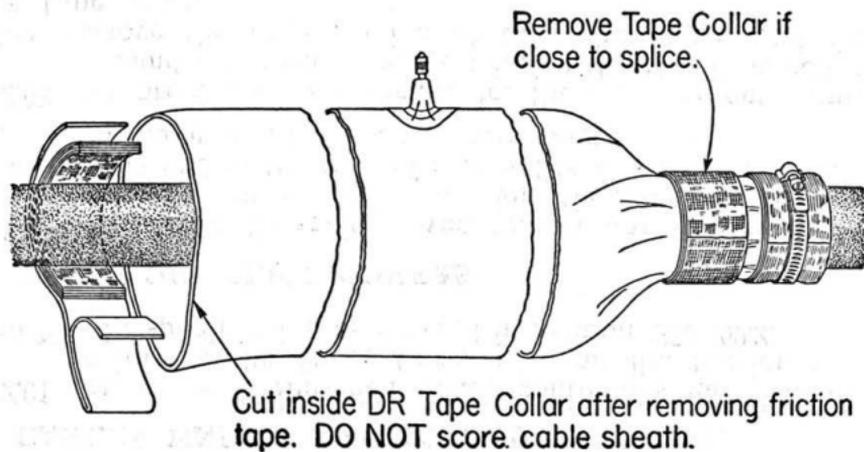
7. CABLES UNDER CONTINUOUS PRESSURE

7.01 In cables maintained under continuous gas pressure reinforce the Splice Cover with muslin, friction tape and No. 2 Asphalt Paint, as covered in Section G50.669.2.

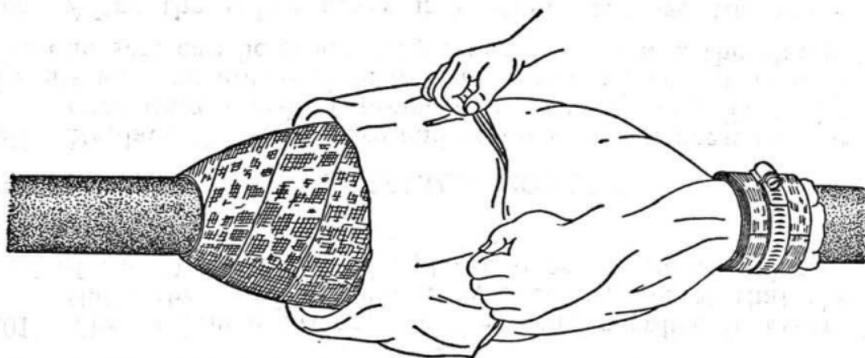
8. REUSE OF SPLICE COVERS

8.01 In reusing the splice cover, remove any wrappings applied for mechanical protection, then remove one end (the straight end in the case of a D Splice Cover) seal by taking off the clamp and friction tape wrappings.

8.02 To provide a fresh surface for the next seal cut evenly around the splice cover just inside the DR Tape collar. Then remove the used portion of the splice cover and the DR Tape collar.



- 8.03 Fold the splice cover away from the splice opening or pull it inside out to expose the uncompleted splice.



- 8.04 When reusing the splice cover, follow the method outlined in Part 4 for each new end seal.
- 8.05 Splice covers can be reused until they are too short to cover the opening.

9. REMOVAL OF SPLICE COVERS

9.01 The outer wrappings should be removed from the splice cover and if the muslin is in good condition, it should be rolled for reuse. The Sealing Clamps should also be salvaged. The friction tape wrappings, splice cover and DR Tape collars can be removed by cutting them, being careful to avoid damage to the sheath and splice.