

SUSPENSION STRAND

STRANDLINK

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1. GENERAL

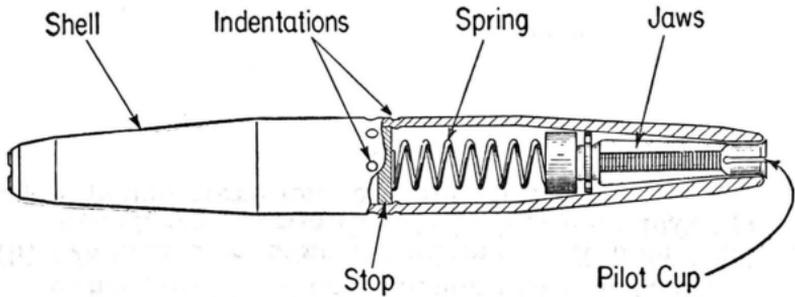
1.01 This section covers the use of the strandlink for joining suspension strand. It has been reissued to include information on the reducer strandlink and to modify the installation procedures. Section G51.122.1 is replaced by this section.

1.02 The strandlink consists of a tapered shell containing a set of three spring-loaded steel jaws at each end. The jaws open as the strand is inserted and grip the strand when tension is applied to form a secure connection. A cup is provided in each end for receiving the strand to prevent spreading of the individual wires during insertion.

1.03 The following sizes are available:

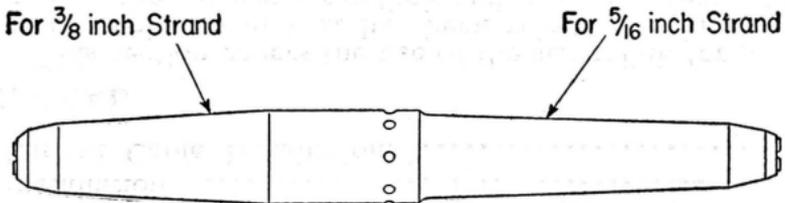
- (a) **5/16 inch Strandlink** for joining 6000 pound strand, either galvanized or corrosion resistant (CR).
- (b) **3/8 inch Strandlink** for joining 10,000 pound galvanized strand. **Do not use** the 3/8 inch size on 10,000 pound or 16,000 pound corrosion resistant strand.

(c) **7/16 inch Strandlink** for joining 16,000 pound galvanized strand. **Do not use** on corrosion resistant strand.



STRANDLINK

(d) **3/8-5/16 Reducer Strandlink** for joining 10,000 pound galvanized strand to 6000 pound galvanized or corrosion resistant strand at strand diminishing points.



REDUCER STRANDLINK

1.04 The strandlinks for use with 6000, 10,000 and 16,000 pound strands are plainly marked "5/16 Strand," "3/8 Strand" and "7/16 Strand" respectively, and each end of the reducer strandlink is similarly marked for the size of strand it will accommodate.

1.05 The strandlink is not re-usable after its initial installation. If, for any reason, the strand cannot be pushed fully into the strandlink during installation or if excessive slippage of the strand from the strandlink occurs during tensioning, cut out the strandlink and insert a new one.

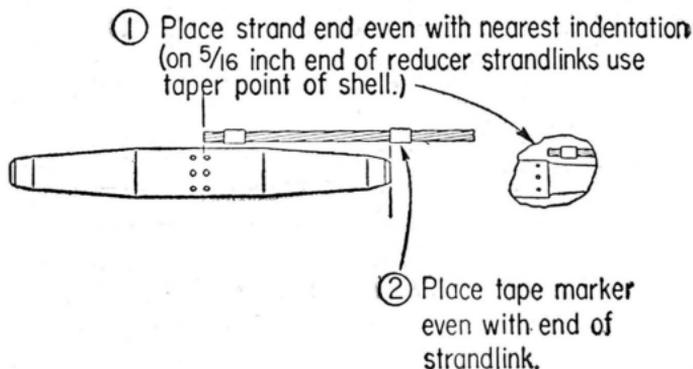
1.06 The strandlink should not be used in seacoast locations where extreme conditions of salt spray and salt fog may be encountered.

1.07 Corroded strand which has been inspected and is to remain in plant may be spliced with strandlinks. Loose rust and scale should be removed from the strand ends before splicing.

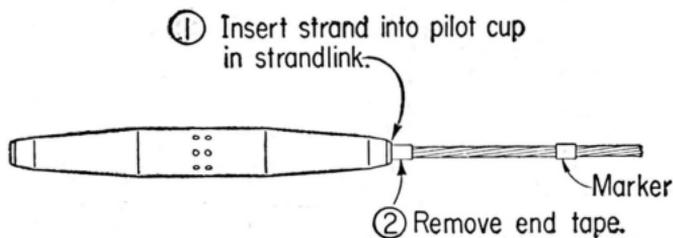
2. INSTALLATION

2.01 To install a strandlink, regardless of size, proceed as follows:

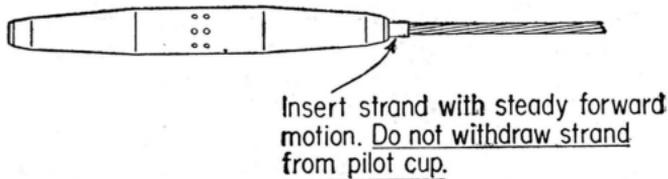
- (1) Check the strand end. If it is not straight or cut off squarely or if it is deformed or untwisted, cut off a length sufficient to insure that strand in good condition will be placed in the strandlink. Before cutting, straighten the strand to remove coil curvature and tape it about 1/2 inch from where it is to be cut to prevent unravelling.
- (2) Place a tape marker on the strand at a distance from the end equal to the distance from the indentation on the strandlink to its end. (On the 5/16 inch end of the reducer strandlink, use the distance from the taper point of the shell to the end.)



- (3) Insert the strand in the pilot cup of the strandlink and remove the tape holding the strand wires together.



- (4) Withdrawal of the strand from the cup may cause a strand wire to foul the jaws of the strandlink. Insert the strand as follows:



- (5) Check the marker on the strand. If the strand is properly inserted the marker will be even with the end of the strandlink.
- (6) Pull the strand back to lock the jaws of the strandlink firmly against the strand.

2.02 Repeat the operations to place the second strand in the other end of the strandlink. If both strands are under tension, cut the second one one-half inch shorter than is shown in Step (2).

2.03 After tensioning the strand, check the position of the tape markers. Any slip in excess of 1/2 inch, the normal movement required for the jaws to seat and grip the strand firmly, should be taken as an indication that the strand is not properly inserted and that the strandlink may need replacement.

3. LASHED CABLE INSTALLATIONS

3.01 The cable lasher, cable blocks, cable block pusher, and aerial cable guide will not ride over the strandlink; the rollers (but not the clevis) of the B and C Cable guides will ride over them.

3.02 When transferring the lasher over a strandlink splice do not cut the lashing wire. Temporarily clamp the lashing wire to the strand, remove accumulated blocks or other temporary supports and transfer the lasher. Rotate the lasher drum by hand until sufficient wire is available to provide even wraps of wire over the splice. Pull lashing wire taut before proceeding with the lashing and remove lashing wire grip.