

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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AERIAL CABLE PLACING

SETTING UP CABLE REELS

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section covers the placing, setting up of cable reels and the preparation of the cable prior to pulling.

2. LOCATING CABLE REEL

2.01 In order that reels may be located most advantageously, survey the job to determine the direction the cable should be pulled for an efficient and safe cable placing job. The more important factors governing this work are:

- (a) To minimize setting up time, select cable reel locations that will permit pulling cable in both directions.
- (b) Pulling cable around heavy corners should be avoided wherever possible, to prevent damage to the cable.
- (c) Pull ring supported cable down grade whenever practicable and cable being supported by cable blocks up grade.
- (d) Avoid placing reels at street or highway intersections, in order to minimize obstructing traffic.
- (e) When power circuit exposures are encountered, take precautions to obtain specified clearances.

2.02 Protect the work location by placing warning signs, warning flags and other warning devices at strategic points to warn vehicles and pedestrians of obstructions and men working on the street or highway.

3. SETTING UP CABLE REEL

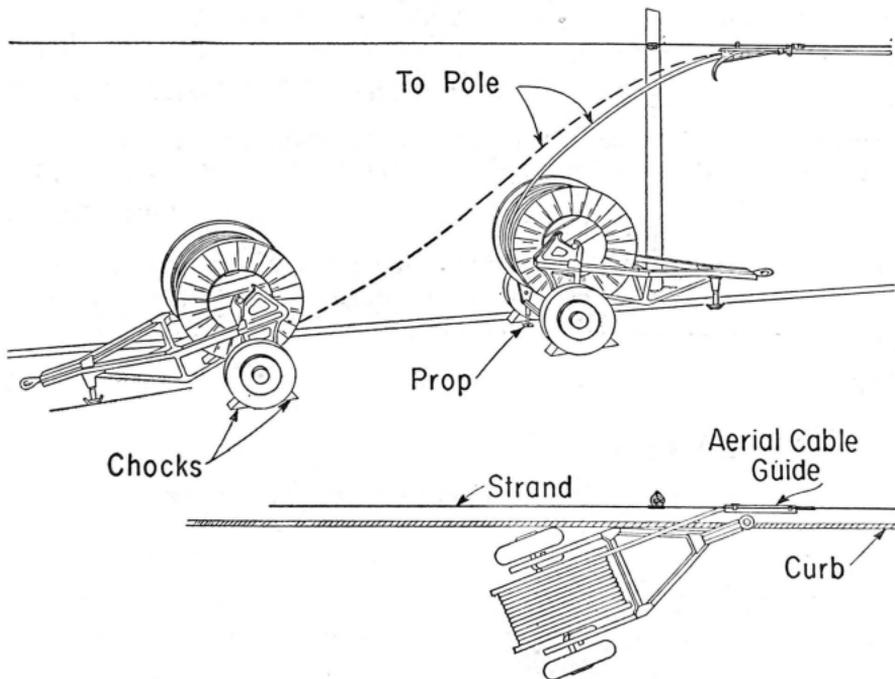
3.01 Before setting up a cable reel, check the size, gauge, type and length of cable with the information given in the detail plans.

3.02 If it is necessary to move the reel a short distance it is permissible to roll it. Be sure it is done in the direction indicated by the arrow on the reel. The movement of the reel should be carefully controlled. In handling, do not let the reel tilt. Where uneven ground is encountered, it should either be leveled or a substantial runway of heavy planks properly leveled, should be provided so that tilting of the reel will not occur. A cable reel trailer should be used for transporting the larger and heavier cable reels. If it is necessary to move heavy cable reels with a construction truck, use a cable reel sling.

3.03 In general, it is desirable to pull the cable from the top of the reel and to locate the reel about 20 feet from the aerial cable guide on the strand. Where it is necessary or advantageous to place the reel more than 20 feet from the guide, the cable should be pulled from the bottom of the reel.

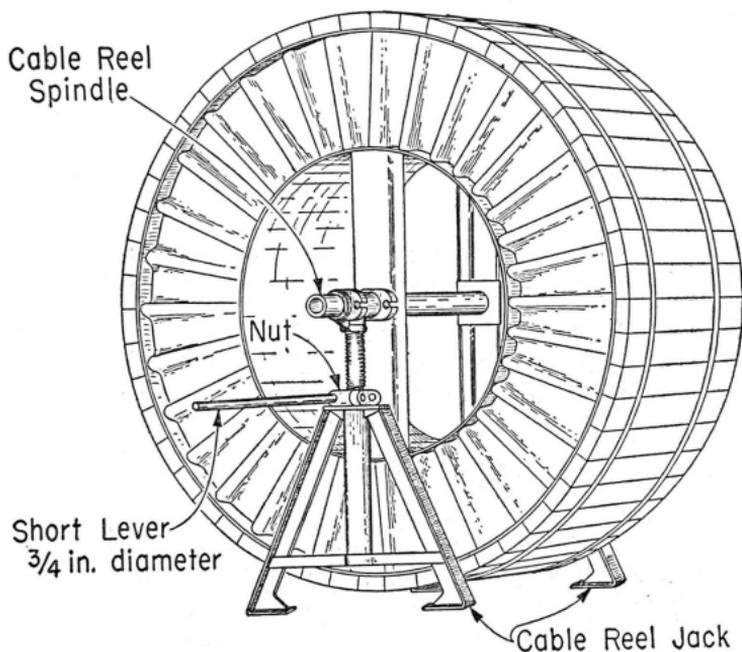
3.04 Where field conditions make it necessary to place reels out of line with the suspension strand, the bend should be gradual.

3.05 A cable reel set up on a cable reel trailer preparatory to pulling the cable is shown in the following illustration.



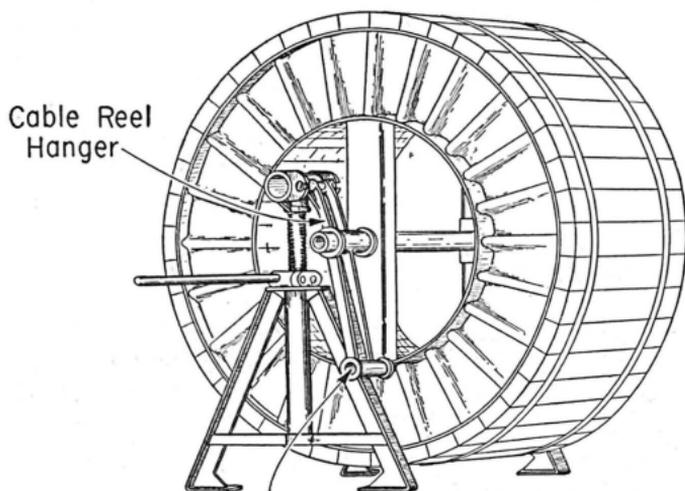
3.06 Cable reel jacks for setting up a reel may be used as illustrated in the following figure. Do not allow reel to tilt excessively. If the ground is not level or if the ground is unstable, lags or heavy planks should be placed under the jacks.

CABLE REEL JACK For setting up Cable Reels



STRAND REEL HANGER

For setting up Strand Reels and Cable Reels
less than 58 inches in diameter



Use Strand Reel Spindle in this
position for Strand Reels.

- 3.07 After the reel has been set up, remove and bundle the lags in the approved manner.