

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G52.105.5
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AERIAL CABLE PLACING

PULLING CABLE

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section covers the methods to be followed in pulling aerial cable.

2. PULLING CABLE

2.01 After the cable reel has been set up and all accessory apparatus is placed, inspect the reel carefully, particularly the inside edge of the flanges for protruding edges or other obstructions that would interfere with turning the reel or unwinding the cable properly.

2.02 To avoid sheath damage, precautions should be taken to prevent the cable dragging over the ground. Where this can not be avoided protect the cable by means of planks or logs placed on the ground directly under the cable.

2.03 Make a final check of all preparations before starting the pulling operation.

2.04 The cable reel should be attended at all times while the cable is being pulled to prevent overrunning, to signal for stopping the pull should the turns of cable on the reel stick together, and to slow the pull when nearing the end of the cable. A cable reel brake mounted on standard cable reel trailers can be used to control the turning of the reel.

2.05 Maintain at all times proper signal contact between the men at the forward end of the cable, the truck winch and the cable reel, while the cable is being pulled in, so that the operation may be stopped instantly if necessary. Visual and sound signals are covered in another section.

2.06 Pull cable at such a speed that swinging and surging of the cable and strand is minimized and no faster than will permit complete control of the cable reel.

2.07 The forward end of the cable should be followed as it is being pulled. When the cable approaches the end of the pull, the pulling speed should be reduced until the cable has reached its final position, including the overlap required for splicing. At this point the pulling should stop.

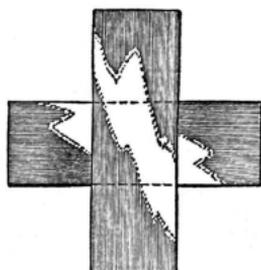
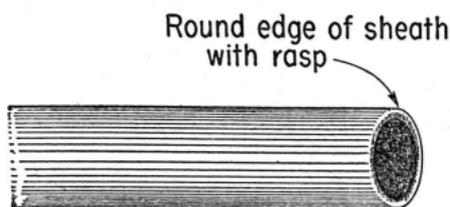
2.08 A hand line should be fastened to the cable just before the end comes off the reel in order to hold it from sliding off the supports, particularly when cable blocks are used.

2.09 Complete the placing operations by installing grade clamps, aerial cable supports, etc., in ring cable construction, or by lashing, placing lashed cable supports, spacers, etc., on lashed cable, in accordance with standard practices.

3. SEALING ENDS OF CABLES

3.01 Where the cable is cut, seal the open end as soon as possible so as to prevent moisture entering the cable. Lead sheath cable may be sealed with solder as specified in the practices relating to underground cable placing.

3.02 Cut off core hitches and seal these and other cut ends of polyethylene sheath cables as shown in the following figure. This method of sealing cut ends, may also be used on lead sheath cables.



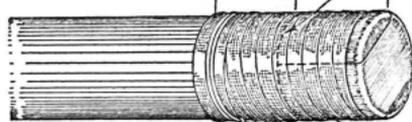
Place patch over end of cable and press tape tightly against end of cable and sheath.

Make patch of 2 in. DR Tape
For the larger sizes of cables, three or more pieces of DR Tape may be required, crossing at various angles so as to thoroughly cover end of cable.



Approx. 2 in.

Patch

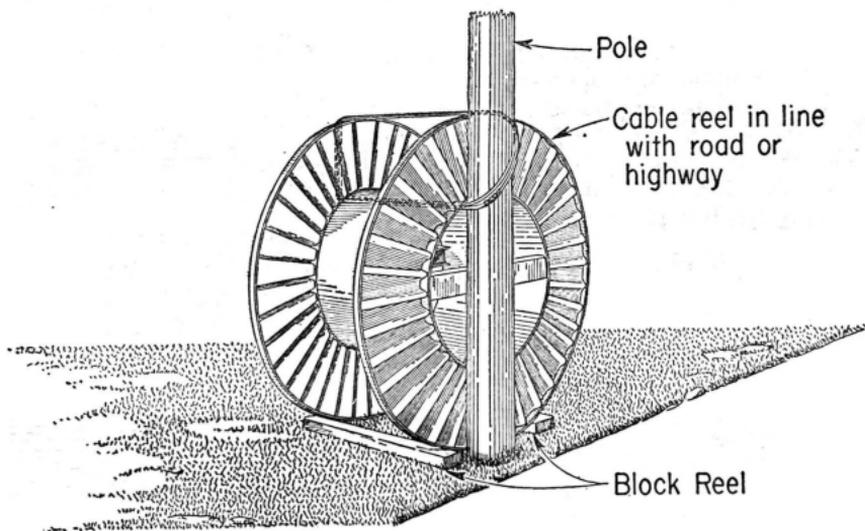
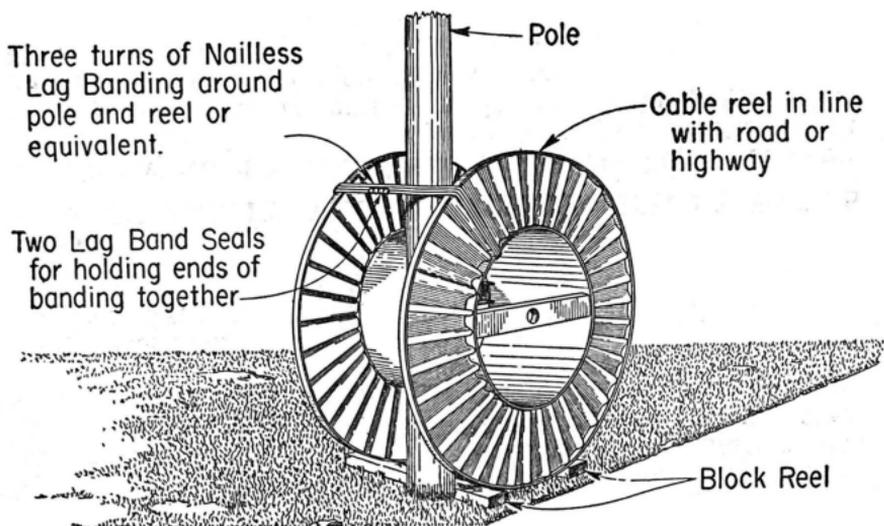


Apply two layers of $\frac{3}{4}$ in. friction tape, half lapped. Start serving tape about 2 inches from patch. Bind end of tape securely with two turns of wire.

Twist ends tight.
At least 3 twists.

4. CARE OF EMPTY AND PARTIALLY EMPTY REELS

4.01 Empty wooden cable reels or the smaller steel cable reels left along the line, may be tipped over on their sides, if practicable. If empty reels are left upright they should be blocked and fastened to a pole.



4.02 Partially empty reels should be relagged to protect the cable that remains on the reel. If the reel is to be left on the job, it should be firmly blocked and if necessary, secured to a pole.