BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction and Maintenance

SECTION G52.124.3
Issue 2, July, 1957
AT&TCo Standard

LASHED AERIAL CABLE
CABLE BLOCK METHOD

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1. GENERAL

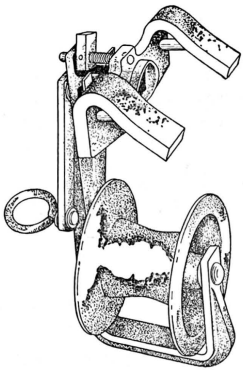
1.01 This section covers a method of lashing aerial cable using cable blocks to position the cable prior to lashing. It is issued to show the maximum spacing of blocks. Issue 1 is replaced.

1.02 When this method is employed, it is generally unnecessary to ride the strand as the blocks and the pulling-in line are placed from the ground.

1.03 **The cable block frame and sheave are made of aluminum alloy. To minimize breakage, avoid dropping, throwing or rough handling.**

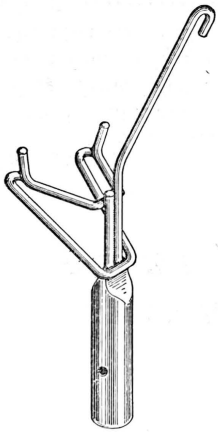
2. DESCRIPTION OF TOOLS

2.01 The cable block is essentially a one-sheave cable block with a frame formed into hooks for engaging the strand. It is equipped with a cam that locks to the strand. The cam prevents the block from moving while the cable is being pulled in, but unlocks when the block is pushed from the opposite direction. The lever that actuates the cam is provided with a swiveling eye which is utilized in positioning and locking the block on the strand.

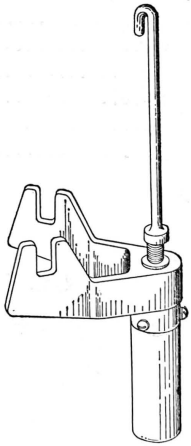


D CABLE BLOCK

2.02 The cable block lifter is used with not more than two sections of the small tree pruner handle or three sections of the large tree pruner handle (1 tapered, and 2 extension sections) to place and lock the blocks on the strand.

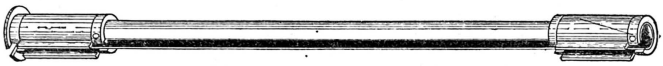


B Cable Block Lifter



C Cable Block Lifter

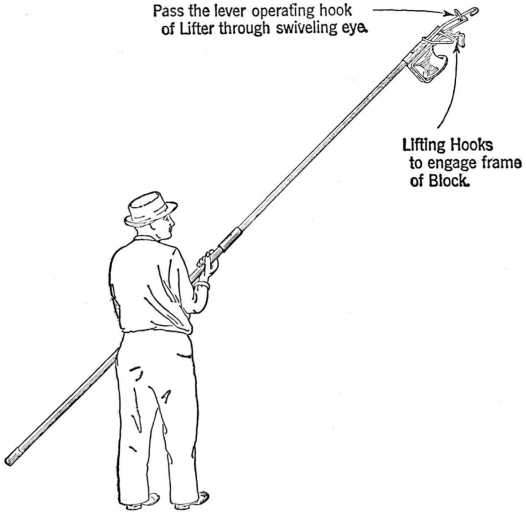
2.03 The cable block pusher consists of a 35-inch length of tubing, slotted so that it can be placed on the strand and equipped with sleeves at each end that can be turned to close the slot. The purpose of the pusher which is placed on the strand ahead of the lasher, is to release the locked cable block and to prevent the lasher from coming too close to the block which would raise the cable against the frame of the block. One end of the pusher is equipped with a circular flange for bearing against the strand hooks of cable blocks.



C-CABLE BLOCK PUSHER

3. PLACING CABLE BLOCKS

3.01 During the time of high cross winds, alternate blocks may be placed facing in opposite directions to prevent winch line or cable from dropping out. The cam lever should always be placed pointing towards the cable reel. If this is not done, the blocks will not unlock. Only a light down pull on the cam lever is required to lock the blocks on the strand.



3.02 The spacing of blocks in any span shall not be greater than 35 feet with a block placed close to the pole on the side toward the cable reel. Blocks shall be placed as follows:

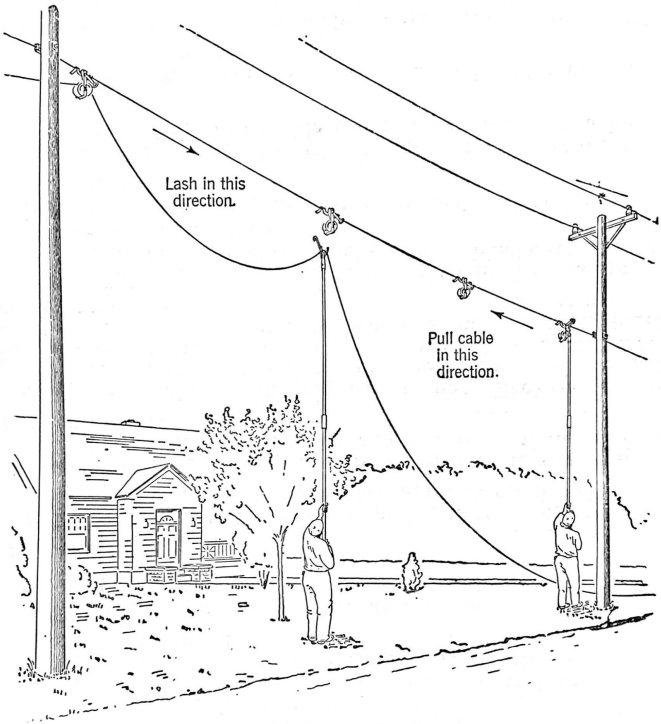
Cable Weight (Pounds per Ft.)	Maximum Block Spacing
1.0	35 Ft.
1.5	33 "
2.0	25 "
2.5	20 "
3.0	16 "
3.5	14 "
4.0	12 "
5.0	10 "
6.0	8 "
7.0	7 "
8.0	6 "
8.5	5 "

3.03 Additional blocks shall be placed as follows:

(a) One on each side of corners and terminal splices. At heavy corners where there would be a possibility of the cable riding out of the block, use One-Sheave Cable Blocks instead of the D Cable Blocks.

(b) Where definite vertical clearance must be maintained as at crossings over driveways, roads, streets, power wires, etc.

(c) In the span where the cable guide is attached, blocks should be placed at not over 20-foot intervals (cables lighter than 2.5 pounds per ft.) to minimize oscillation of the cable and strand as the cable is pulled in.



4. PLACING PULLING-IN LINE

4.01 Wire rope (1/4 inch or 3/16 inch) should be used for the pulling-in line, or if not available, 2200-lb. strand, manila rope 1/2-inch diameter or larger, or the winch line may be used. Do not use a line wire or other wire for pulling-in line if cable is being placed on a joint power lead or any power crossings are present in the section being placed.

4.02 The cable block lifter or a wire raising tool may be used to position the pulling-in line on the sheave of the cable block.

4.03 Where terminal splice sleeves are to be used they may be suspended from the strand, and the pulling-in line threaded through the sleeves.

4.04 Thread the pulling-in line through the cable guide.

5. POSITIONING CABLE

5.01 Place a corner cable guide to hold the cable away from the pole at corners where the pull is toward the pole. It is used instead of a rope mat when placing alpeth and← stalpeth sheath cables and may also be used with lead sheath cables.

5.02 Place a cable grip on the end of the cable and attach grip to the pulling-in line.

5.03 To prevent the cable from dragging on the ground during the pulling-in operation, control the cable reel to prevent overrunning.

5.04 After the cable has been pulled in and the pulling end anchored, block or brake the cable reel so that there is sufficient tension in the cable to prevent excessive sag in the unlashed portion. If there is not enough cable to leave the end on the reel, secure the cable end to a pole or other support by means of 4-inch tackle blocks.

5.05 Lashing should be done as soon as practicable after the cable is placed.

6. LASHING

6.01 The cable lasher must be pulled toward the cable reel end in order to release the cam lock on the blocks.

6.02 The cable block pusher is placed on the strand ahead of the lasher. For cable weighing more than 2-1/2 lbs. per foot, use two pushers.

6.03 Lash cable in the regular manner. Slack in the unlashed spans resulting from the progress of the lashing machine should be taken up at the reel or at the tackle blocks. Tension of about fifty pounds should be kept on the cable at all times.

6.04 After the blocks have been pushed to the pole, pass a hand-line around the blocks, remove blocks from strand, and lower blocks to ground.

6.05 Transfer pusher to next span, and pull lasher to the pole.

6.06 Secure the lashing wire to the strand, remove cable block from other side of pole, and transfer lasher to next span.

6.07 Secure the lashing wire to the strand, and continue the lashing operation.

6.08 For information on lashing cable past pole and omitting supports and spacers see Section G52.126.1. ←