

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G52.445.1
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AT&T Co Standard

CABLE SPLICING

AERIAL WRAPPED JOINTS

MAINTENANCE

1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the application of B Neoprene Coating as a maintenance coat on, and to improve the appearance of, deteriorated B Glass Tape (formerly known as No. 27 Scotch Electrical Tape) on wrapped joints on aerial alpth or stalpeth sheath cable.

1.02 The B Neoprene Coating will minimize further deterioration of the B Glass Tape for a five to ten year period. It is expected to provide protection beyond this period.

1.03 It is not necessary to apply the B Neoprene Coating to aerial B Glass Tape wrapped joints in good condition. It should not be necessary to use this coating on underground wrapped joints.

2. PRECAUTIONS

2.01 The coating contains solvents that are flammable. **It should not be used near an open flame.**

2.02 The glass tape should be dry when the coating is applied. Do not apply the coating when the tape is wet, or if rain appears imminent.

2.03 In cold weather, it will help if the neoprene coating is kept moderately warm until just before application.

2.04 If some of the coating gets on the hands, is spilled or drips on other objects, such as automobiles, wipe off as much of the coating as possible with a clean dry cloth. Remove the remainder without spreading it by wiping off with a kerosene wetted cloth, before the coating dries.

3. PREPARATION OF AERIAL WRAPPED JOINTS

3.01 Trim or cut off any loose pieces or ends of the B Glass Tape. As the B Neoprene Coating will cover the frayed edges and hold loose strands of glass together, the trimming need not include frayed edges, partial breaks in the glass tape, loose threads, etc.

3.02 If in the inspection of the wrapped joint, there is evidence of deterioration of the materials underlying the glass tape, movement of the underlying DR tape wrappings or of the cable with respect to the sleeve, or if the joint is improperly constructed, obtain instructions from your supervisor in regard to any further action to be taken.

4. APPLICATION OF COATING

4.01 The B Neoprene Coating is packaged in two components, four fluid ounces of the neoprene base in a wide mouthed bottle and 1/4 fluid ounce of the accelerator in a small container.

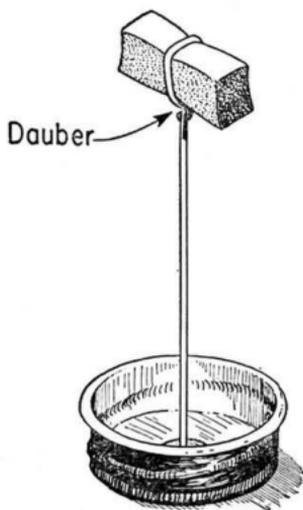
4.02 Open the accelerator container and stir with a screwdriver blade until all the powder which may have settled to the bottom is mixed in with the fluid.

4.03 Open the bottle containing the base. The top of this bottle has a dauber, for applying the coating, fastened to it. Lay the top aside, and pour the accelerator into the base, stirring with a screwdriver blade until the mixture is uniform in color with no streaks of accelerator visible.

- ① After thoroughly mixing accelerator with a screwdriver blade.



- ② Add accelerator to base.



- ③ Stir mixture until uniform in color.

4.04 The coating is now ready to use. It is usable for an 8 to 10 hour period, after which it will become too thick for use. It will cover about 3-1/2 square feet with one application; this is about the equivalent of the area of glass tape at four splices with wrapped joints on each end.

4.05 Apply the coating to the glass cloth tape wrapping with the dauber or an inexpensive brush, flowing the coating into position without brushing. The coat should be as thick as will stay on the tape without excessive running.

4.06 The coating will surface dry in a few hours but curing to its final hard rubber state requires up to a full week.