

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G55.150.3
Issue 1, June, 1950
AT&T Co Standard

SEALING DUCTS
SOLID RUBBER CONDUIT PLUGS

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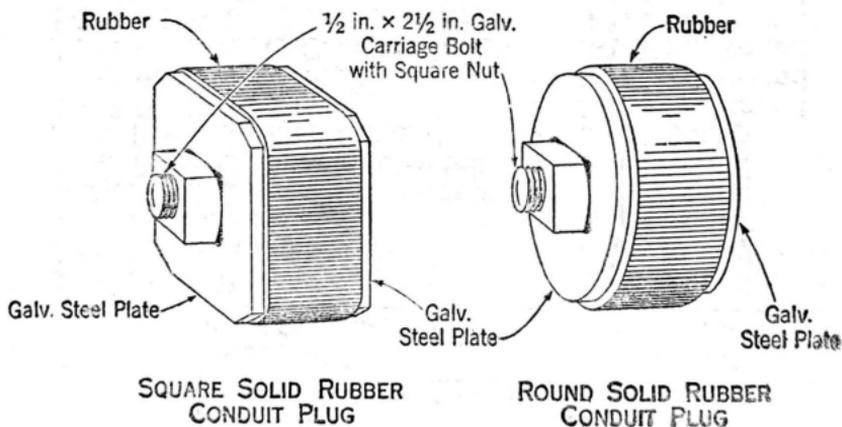
1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes a series of Solid Rubber Conduit Plugs intended for use in sealing vacant ducts of the conduit system. Other methods of sealing unoccupied ducts are described in related sections.

1.02 The information in this section is a revision of instructions originally contained in G55.150.

2. DESCRIPTION AND USE

2.01 Solid Rubber Conduit Plugs are available as illustrated. Individual parts of all plugs can be obtained for replacement purposes.



2.02 These plugs are for sealing vacant ducts as follows:

Solid Rubber Conduit Plugs

Size and Type of Conduit	Size and Type of Plug
3 in. Steel Pipe	3 in. Round
3 in. Sewer Pipe	3 in. Round
3 in. CW Conduit	3 in. Round
1-Duct Rd. Bore Clay Conduit	3 in. Round
3 in. B or C Cement Conduit	3 in. Round
3 in. B or C Fiber Conduit	3 in. Round
3-1/2 in. Steel Pipe	3-1/2 in. Round
3-1/2 in. CW Conduit	3-1/2 in. Round
3-1/2 in. B or C Cement Conduit	3-1/2 in. Round
3-1/2 in. B or C Fiber Conduit	3-1/2 in. Round
4 in. Sewer Pipe	3-1/2 in. Round
3-1/4 in. Sq. Bore Clay Conduit	3-1/4 in. Square
4-1/4 in. Sq. Bore Clay Conduit	4-1/4 in. Square

3. INSTALLATION

3.01 Remove any dirt, grease or loosely adhering material from the duct end and from the surfaces of the plug. With the bolt and washers in place, insert the plug into the duct with the nut outward and to a depth such as to afford the best bearing surfaces and permit effective use of the wrench in tightening the nut. The plug should be inserted far enough into the duct to clear the bevel and beyond any large cracks or chipped areas that may exist in the walls or webs of clay conduit.

3.02 Using the lineman's wrench or other wrench suitable for use with a 1/2-inch nut, turn the nut until the rubber is expanded firmly against the duct walls. Excessive tension should not be applied since extreme pressure (causing the rubber to bulge out around the edges of the washers) is usually unnecessary and, in the case of clay conduit, may crack the walls.

4. REMOVAL

4.01 To extract the solid plug, first back off the nut a few threads to relieve the compression in the rubber. The plug can then usually be withdrawn. If relieving the pressure does not restore the rubber to its original size or if it adheres to the walls of the duct, it will be necessary to apply force to the plug to work it loose. This can be done either by unscrewing the nut until about half the threads in the nut are exposed and screwing another bolt into the exposed threads to act as a handle or by twisting a piece of steel construction wire under the nut to which a prying lever can be attached.