

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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PREVENTION OF CABLE CREEPAGE
IN UNDERGROUND CONDUIT

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the use of standard split rubber conduit plugs to stop creepage of cable in underground conduit. When properly installed in the duct entrances at manholes the plugs described in the practices on sealing ducts will usually stop creepage of both lead and polyethylene sheath cables.

2. PREPARATION FOR PLACING PLUGS

2.01 Where cable creepage through a conduit section has progressed to the point that the cable is leaving its position on the cable hooks at one end, the cable should be restored to its original position before placing the plugs.

2.02 Pull slack at the manhole which has lost cable until the bend can be reformed and the cable seated properly against the racks. The required slack can be obtained by using the method described in the section of splicing practices covering setting up cable in pull-through manholes.

3. PLACING SPLIT RUBBER CONDUIT PLUGS

3.01 Obtain plugs of the size and type required after reference to the tables in the practices covering split rubber conduit plugs. Place the plugs around the cable at both ends of each conduit section in which creepage is taking place. Tighten the nuts uniformly around each plug until a slight bulging of the rubber is noticed around the plates.

3.02 Until it is certain that creepage has stopped it is advisable to place a reference mark on the cable to which measurements from the face of the duct can be made. Do not score the sheath, but use a length of friction tape applied securely around the cable.

3.03 If later observation shows that creepage is continuing, a further tightening of the compression bolts will usually stop the movement.