

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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CABLE REPAIRING—UNDERGROUND

ALPETH SHEATH CABLE

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section covers the method of repairing defects in alpeth sheath underground cable using B Aluminum Tape and B Tape.

2. MATERIALS

2.01 The following materials are required in repairing the sheath:

Cement, C: Supplied in 4-ounce bottle with dauber.

Tape, B: Neoprene tape with tacky surface. Supplied in rolls 2 inches wide, containing 15 linear feet.

Tape, Aluminum, B: Supplied in rolls containing 20 linear feet. The tape is .003 inch thick and 4 inches wide.

Tape, Friction, Black: Supplied in rolls 3/4 inch and 2 inches wide, containing 36 or 75 linear feet.

3. PROCEDURE

3.01 Defects or cracks, etc., through which no moisture has entered the cable, that are located between the duct entrance and the splice should be repaired as follows:

- (1) Scuff the sheath with a carding brush over the defective area and 3 inches on each side of the defect. Cover the defect and one inch on each side with B Aluminum Tape. Smooth the tape down with a hammer handle.

- (2) Paint the cleaned area and aluminum tape with C Cement.
- (3) When the cement is tacky, wrap the repair with two half-lapped layers of B Tape, applying the tape as smoothly as practicable. Then cover the B Tape and one inch of the sheath on each side of the repair with one half-lapped layer of friction tape. Complete the repair by covering it with a half-lapped layer of B Tape. If there is a tendency for the end of the B Tape to lift, wrap the end with two turns of friction tape.

3.02 If the defect is close to or in the duct, inspect the cable in the adjacent manhole to determine whether slack can be pulled and the cable repaired. If not, the supervisor should be advised.

3.03 Where moisture has entered the cable, it will be necessary to open the cable. The cable should be repaired by placing a lead sleeve over the opening in the same manner as for covering a splice in alpeth cable.