

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G73.141.1
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AT&T Co Standard

PRESSURE TESTING

TERMINALS

SUPERSEDED TYPE

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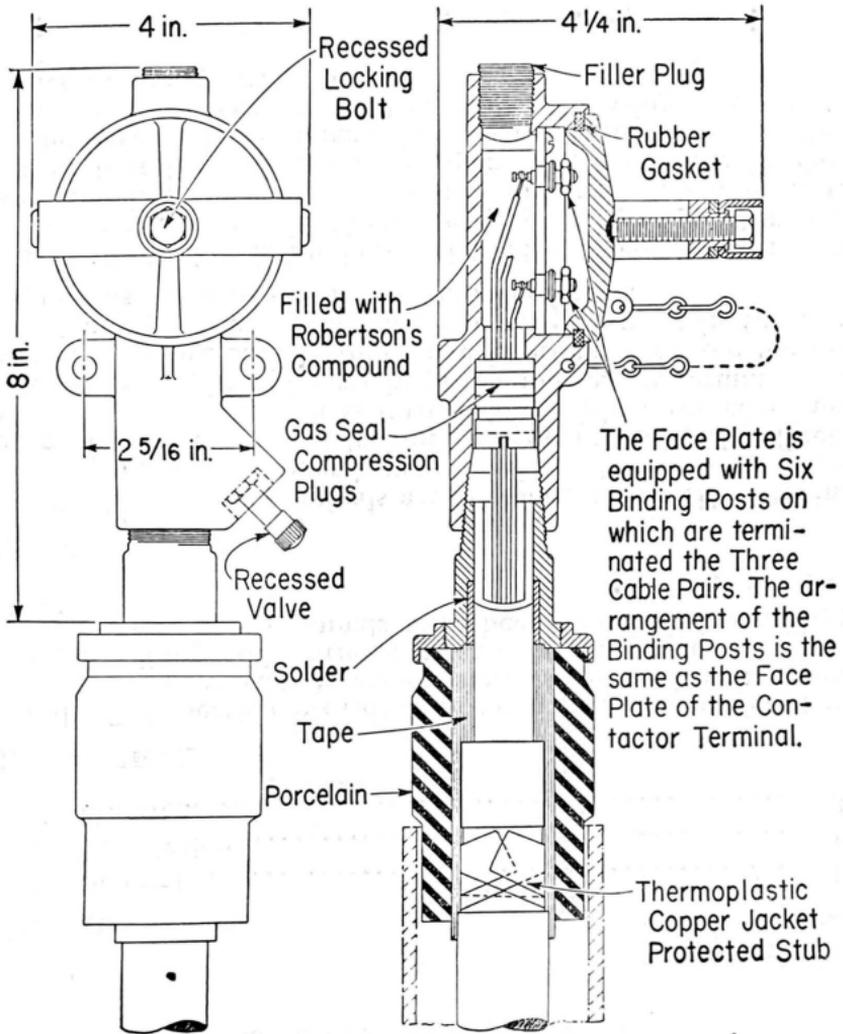
1. GENERAL

1.01 This section provides information on the maintenance of 3-pair gastight cable terminals designed for terminating the talking and alarm pairs at contactor points on buried cables. The 3-pair terminals have been superseded by 37-type terminals.

2. DESCRIPTION

2.01 The 3-pair terminals are equipped with a circular binding post chamber having a solid gasketed cover secured by a yoke and recessed locking bolt operated by a C Socket Wrench. When the bolt is turned down tightly the cover provides a watertight and gastight protection for the terminal compartment. A pressure testing valve is provided on the housing. The binding posts on the faceplate are arranged in the same manner as those in the T Contactor-Terminal.

2.02 Following is an illustration of a 3-pair terminal supplied as the Y Cable Terminal. Older type terminals were supplied under an ES drawing and were similar in design except that they were not equipped with a ceramic insulator at the base of the terminal. Also, in the earliest type of these terminals the cover was held in place by a wing screw at the center of the cover.



Y Cable Terminal

3. MAINTENANCE

3.01 The wires which connect to the faceplate of these terminals pass through a rubber compression seal which prevents the free passage of gas at cable pressure from the rear of the housing to the terminal plate. When the terminal cover is removed there may be evidence of gas pressure in the space between the terminal plate and the cover. This is due, generally, to very slow seepage of gas through the rubber used in the seal. Unless there is evidence of continued leakage as indicated by a hiss or by soap test, no attempt should be made to eliminate this source of pressure build up under the cover.

3.02 If continued leakage through the faceplate is found by soap test it is an indication of failure of the rubber compression seal in the terminal. It is not practicable to repair this type of defect in the field. If the leak is small it generally is not necessary to correct the condition. However, if the leak is large enough to affect the pressure gradient when the cover of the terminal is removed, consideration should be given to either constructing a gas pressure plug in the stub of the terminal or replacing the terminal.