

## SPLICING PLATFORMS

### UTILITY PLATFORM

#### NOTES CONCERNING THIS APPENDIX

This appendix supplements Section G85.045 with information covering a small utility platform that has been made standard for use by one workman in performing work adjacent to a pole.

The cross reference, "See Appendix" should be written in Section G85.045 at Paragraph 1.01.

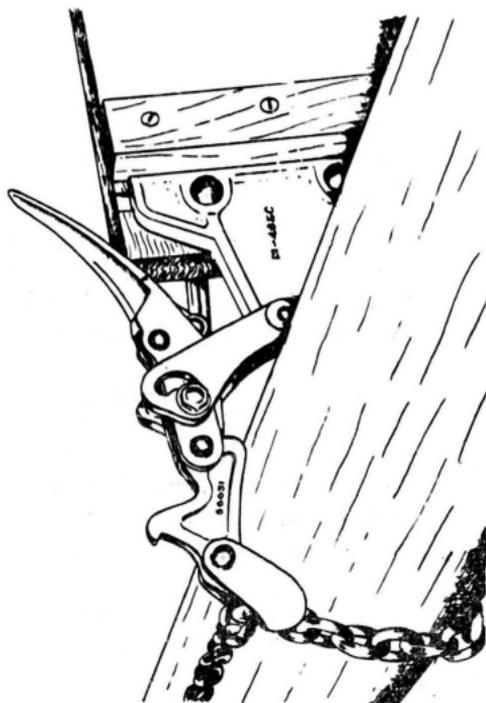
#### 1. GENERAL

- 1.01 This appendix describes the method of installing the utility platform and outlines the features essential to its use.
- 1.02 The utility platform is intended for splicing work involving such items as the T-type cable terminal and 1A splice cases, where the work is being performed by a single workman, adjacent to a pole.

#### 2. APPARATUS AND TOOLS

- 2.01 The utility platform is a small platform board surfaced with a safety tread and cleats on each end. The fittings, safety chain, and locking chain tightener are for securing the platform to a pole. The platform has a rated working load of 750 lbs.

See the following illustration of the safety locking chain tightener.



### 3. PRECAUTIONS

3.01 The weight on a utility platform shall be limited to one man, and tools and materials required for splicing T-type terminals, 1-A splice cases and similar operations.

3.02 Inspection of the platform board for cracks, loose cleats, or hardware insecurely fastened to the board and inspection of the hardware for cracks and wear, shall be made before using the platform.

3.03 The body belt and safety strap shall be used while installing, as well as while working on utility platform, as indicated in Paragraph 5. 10 of the main section.

3.04 Where vertical runs of telephone cables are on poles where the utility board is to be installed, the safety locking chain should be passed around the pole, passing between the cables and the pole. Cable straps may be temporarily removed to obtain sufficient space.

3.05 Where vertical runs of foreign plant are attached to a pole where the utility platform is to be installed and there is insufficient space between the riser and the pole to allow the safety locking chain to pass, a wooden shim should be used to prevent the chain from contacting or causing any damage to the foreign attachment.

3.06 The utility platform shall not be used when it would be necessary to place the safety locking chain over unprotected foreign riser attachments.

3.07 Care should be taken, in placing the locking chain around the pole, to see that the chain is snug, but not too tight, as this will result in difficulty in removing the platform after work operations are complete, as well as possible damage to the locking chain tightener and platform hardware.

3.08 DO NOT use upward force under the platform in attempting to disengage the platform from the pole. Such force results in cracked or broken hardware, and may produce structural damage to the hardware that would not be apparent on subsequent inspections.

3.09 Make certain that the locking chain tightener is properly engaged, before stepping onto the platform.

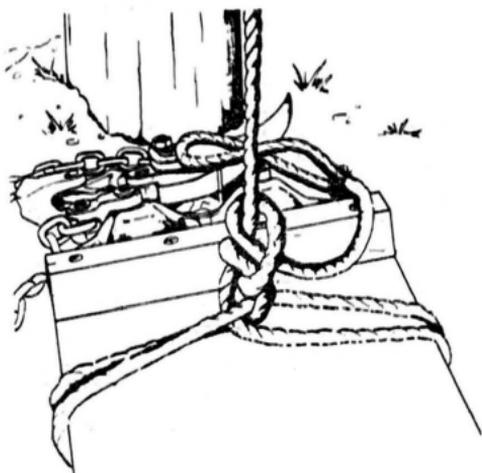
3.10 Solder and paraffin pots shall not be used while working on the one man utility platform.

3.11 Tools or material should not be placed on the utility platform. They should be kept in a canvas bucket securely attached to the strand or in some other approved container.

#### 4. INSTALLATION OF UTILITY PLATFORM

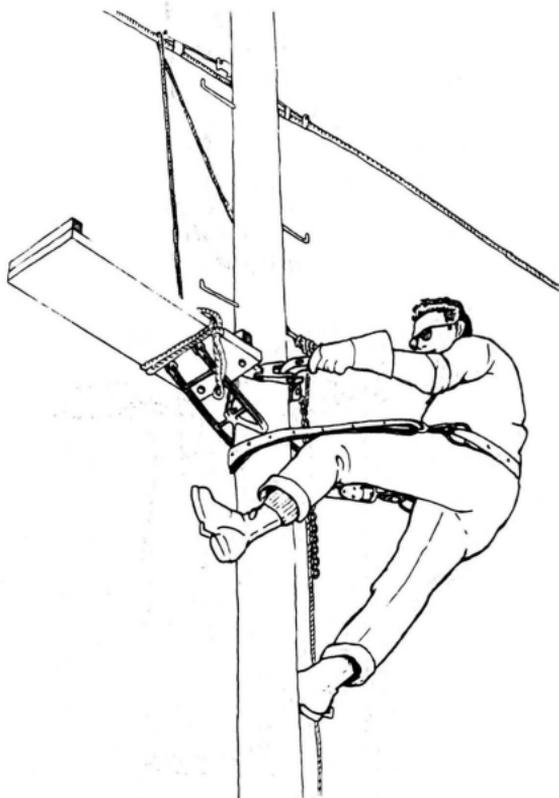
4.01 The method of installing the utility platform is described in the following paragraphs:

(a) Attach a 3/8" or 1/2" rope handline to the platform, using a clove hitch tie with two half hitches. The rope should be tied as nearly as possible at the balance point of the platform, as illustrated.



(b) After ascending the pole to the proper height, pass the free end of the handline over the strand and raise the platform. When the platform is raised to the required height, tie the free end of the handline to a pole step, preferable to a step on the side of the pole opposite from where the platform is to be

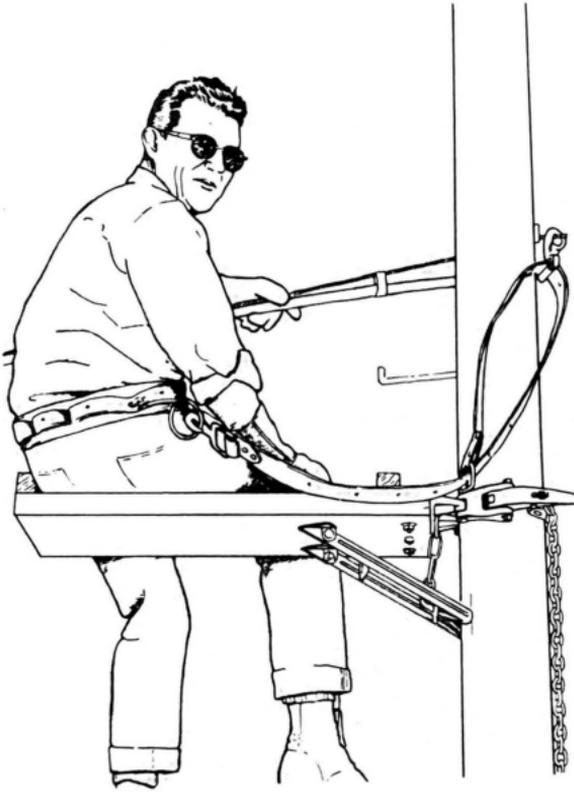
placed. This holds the platform at the work location, enabling workman to fasten the platform to the pole as illustrated.



(c) After the platform is fastened in place, remove the rope tie from the platform, coil it up, and tie it to the strand out of the way.

(d) The utility platform may be installed in either of the following positions:





4.02 To remove the platform reverse the procedure described in the foregoing.