

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

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AT&T Co Standard

B POLE PLATFORM

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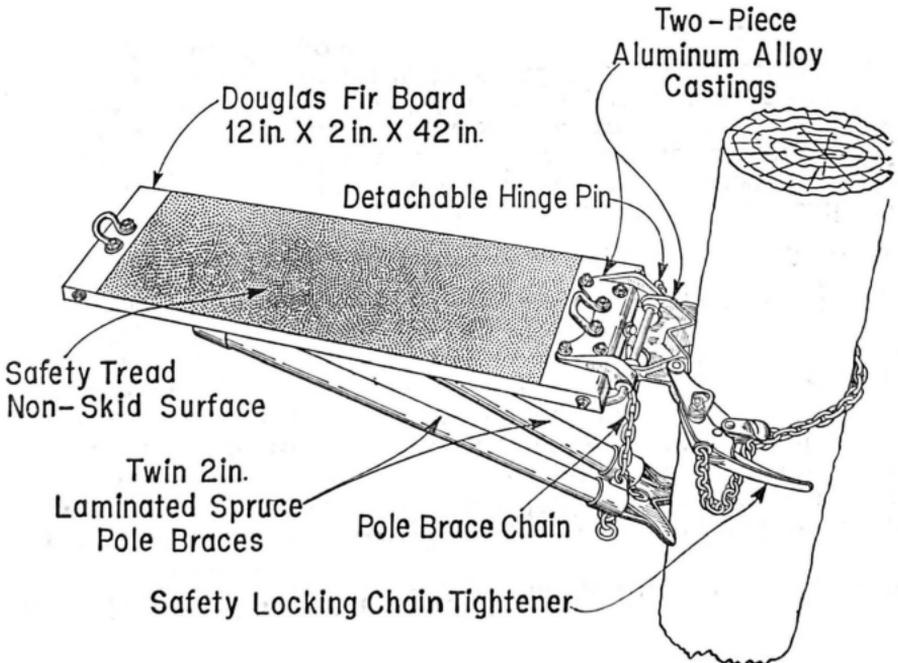
1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the B Pole Platform and its use by one workman at a pole in connection with work operations on or adjacent to the pole.

2. DESCRIPTION

2.01 The B Pole Platform is shown.

B POLE PLATFORM



2.02 The detachable hinge pin linking the two castings has two functions:

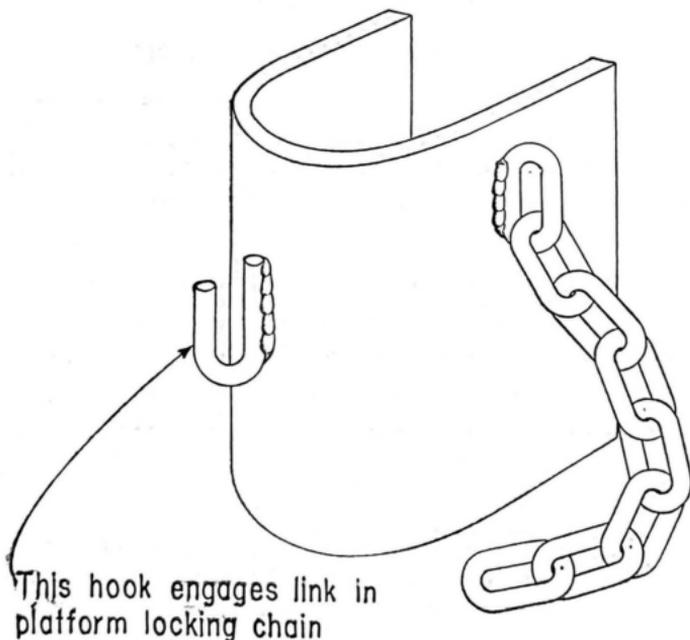
(a) It allows the chain tightener to be applied on either side of the pole. For example, if in the previous illustration the tightener was on the field side of the pole, it can be transferred to the road side by removing the hinge pin and turning the pole casting upside down.

(b) In locations where space is limited the pole casting can be removed prior to lifting the rest of the platform. Similarly in removing the platform it may be helpful to separate the board from the pole casting and locking chain.

2.03 The weight of the B Pole Platform is about 33 pounds.

2.04 The B Riser Protector is used to protect vertically run ground wires, cable, molding or conduit from the binding action of the locking chain. After securing the end of the riser protector chain to the pole with a Strap Nail or 10d Nail, place the riser protector in the desired position over the riser. Fasten it securely with three turns of 2-inch wide friction tape wrapped around the pole.

B RISER PROTECTOR



3. PRECAUTIONS

3.01 The weight placed on the B Pole Platform shall be limited to **ONE WORKMAN** and the tools and materials needed for operation by him. The weight shall **NOT EXCEED 400 pounds**.

3.02 The body belt and safety strap shall be used when placing or removing the platform and when working on the platform. When working on the platform, the free end of the safety strap should be passed through the other D ring before attaching the other snap to the suspension strand.

3.03 Do not place a ladder against the platform.

3.04 Do not guy the platform with ropes. However, if desired a slack line may be fastened between the end of the platform and the suspension strand.

3.05 Tools or materials shall not be placed on the platform. They should be supported from the suspension strand in approved containers.

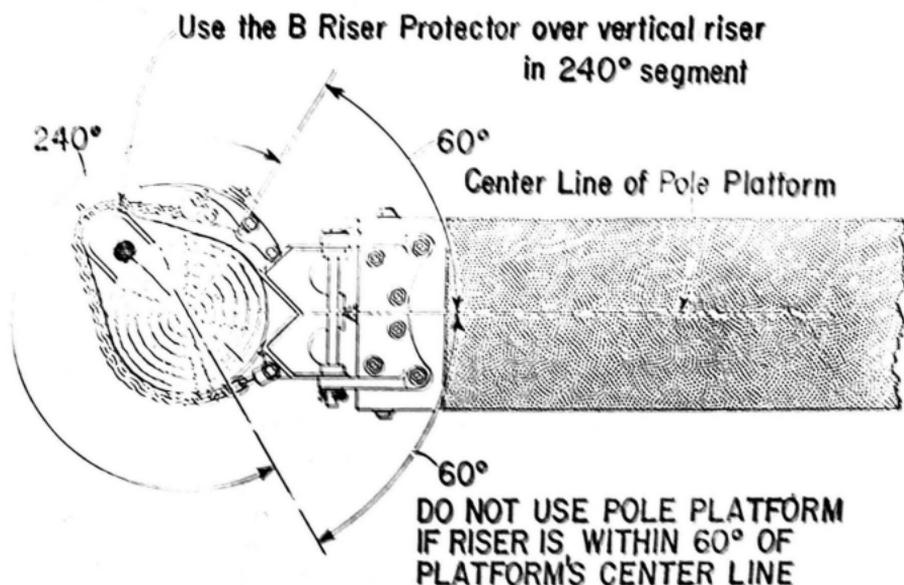
3.06 Solder pots and paraffin pots shall not be used while working on the platform.

3.07 In fastening the platform on a pole, **the locking chain shall never be tightened against telephone, power, or other foreign plant placed vertically on the pole** without the protection afforded by a B Riser Protector. It shall be fastened as follows:

(a) The B Riser Protector shall be installed over a telephone company cable, or a vertical run of foreign plant at the point of contact of the platform's locking chain, to protect against the tightening action of the chain.

(b) A single B Riser Protector may be placed over several risers if they are close enough together to be fully protected. Otherwise when there is more than one riser on the pole do **NOT** use the B Pole Platform.

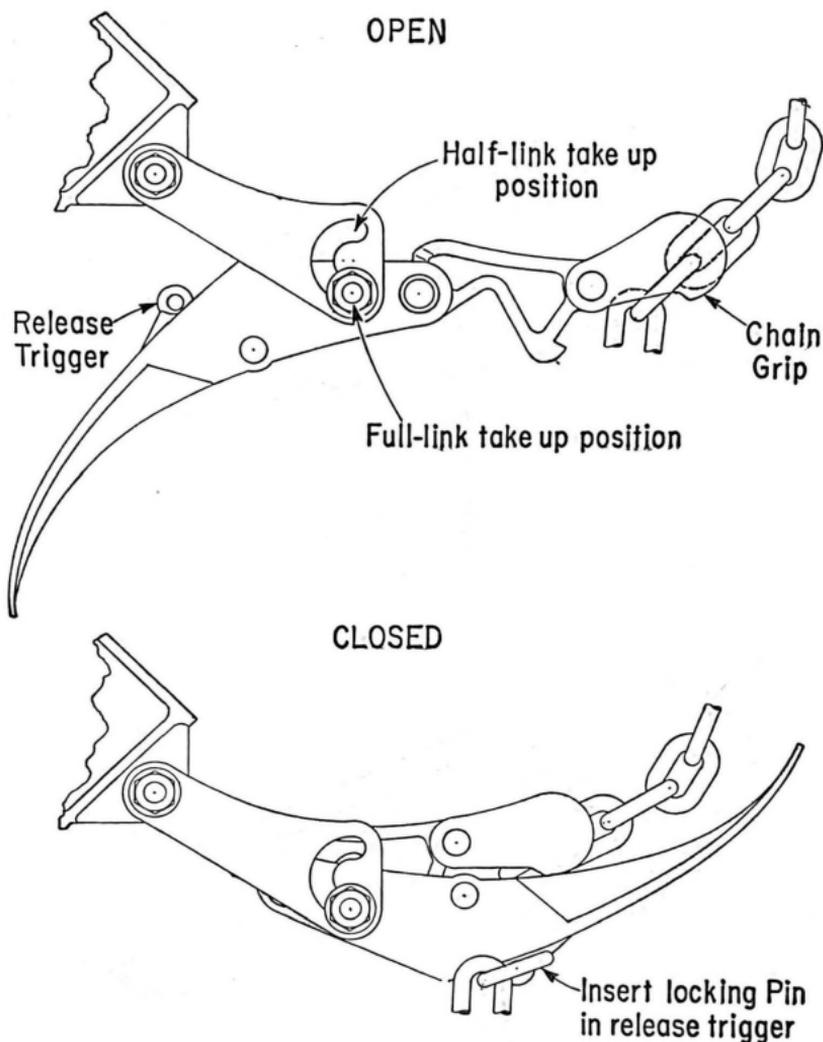
(c) The B Pole Platform shall **NOT** be used if the riser is less than 60° away on either side from the center line of the desired working position, or if the brace foot would rest against or touch the vertical run.



4. USE

4.01 Before installing the B Pole Platform the workman should familiarize himself with the following:

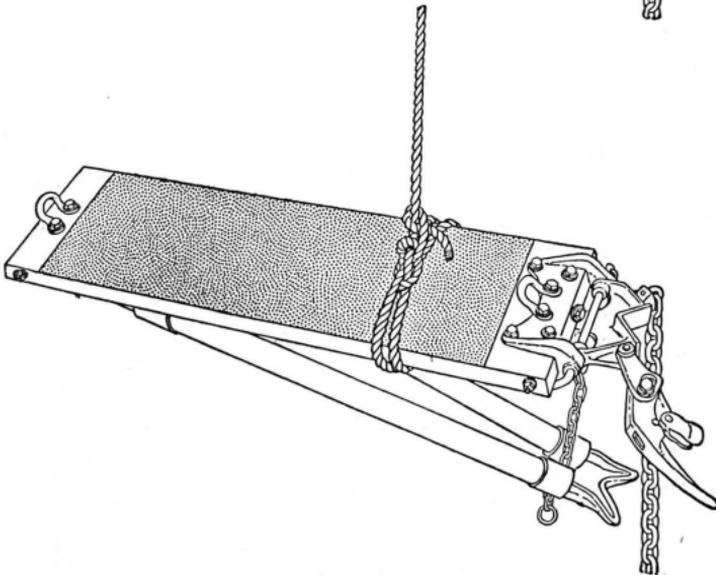
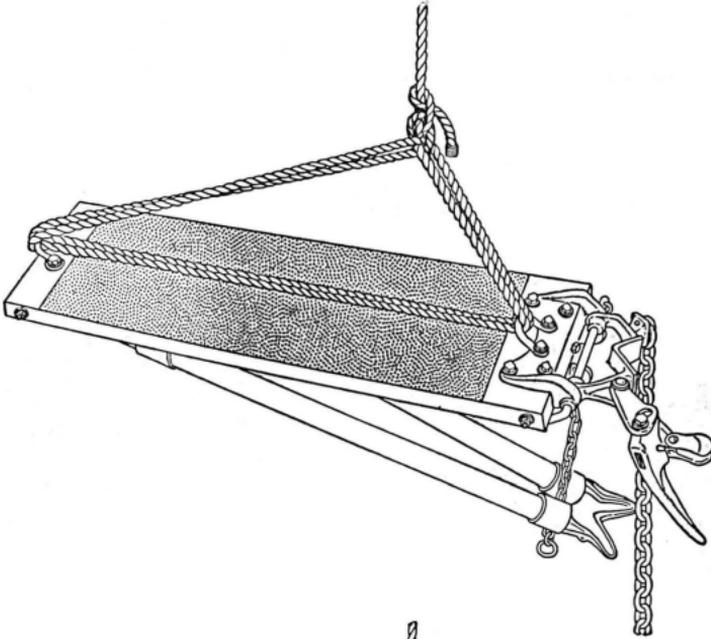
- (a) The operation of the safety locking chain tightener. The tightener is shown in open position. The action of closing the handle, when the chain is engaged, tightens the chain. As the handle moves past dead center, it tends to lock and in the closed position the safety catch engages. In addition, the locking pin on the end of the load chain should be inserted in the hole in the release trigger of the toggle lever.



(b) The tension required in the chain to hold the platform securely on the pole, is not great. **The locking lever should be operated by normal hand pressure only.** UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THE LENGTH OF THE LEVER ARM of the chain tightening handle BE INCREASED. If the pressure exerted is great, this indicates the chain is too tight, and either the half-link setting should be tried or the chain grip moved back one link. **MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE CHAIN LINK IS PROPERLY SEATED IN THE CHAIN GRIP.**

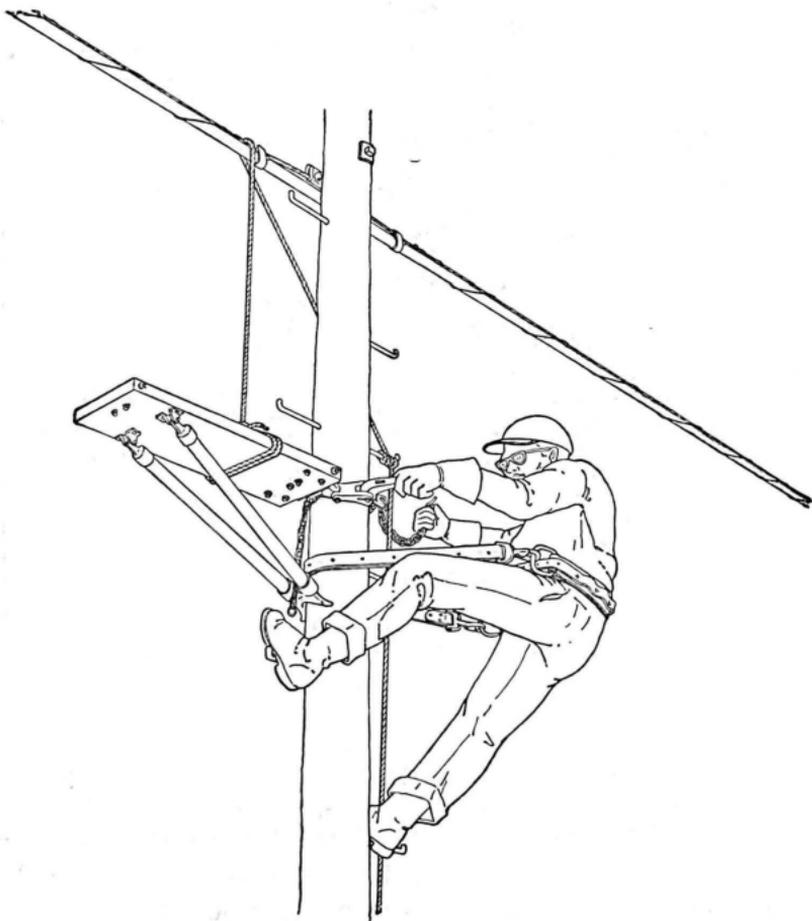
4.02 Mount the platform on the pole as follows:

- (a) Attach the splicer's aerial handline or a 3/8" or 1/2" manila rope at the balance point of the platform using a clove hitch and two half-hitches. Either of the methods shown may be used.



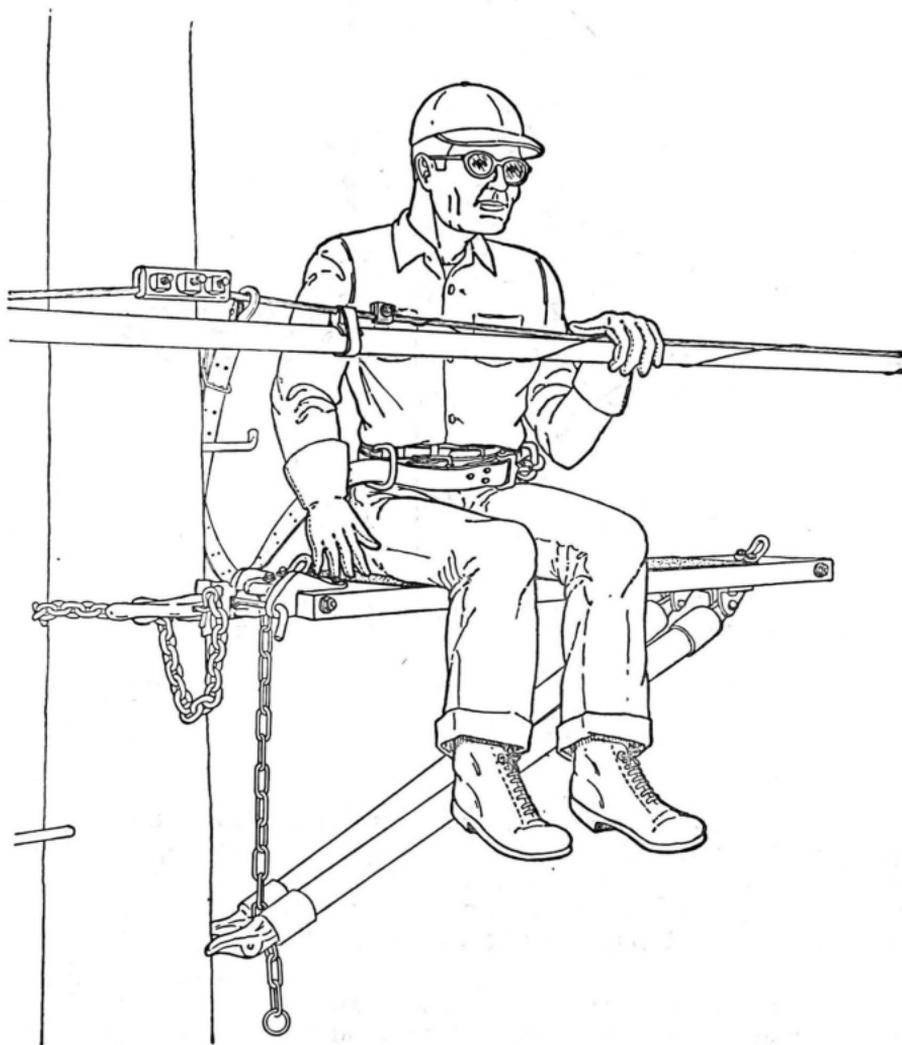
(b) Pass the free end of the rope over the strand, or fasten the handline hook to the strand and raise the platform. When the platform is at the desired height, tie the free end of the rope to the pole, or in the case of a stepped pole, tie the rope to a pole step on the opposite side of the pole from the platform.

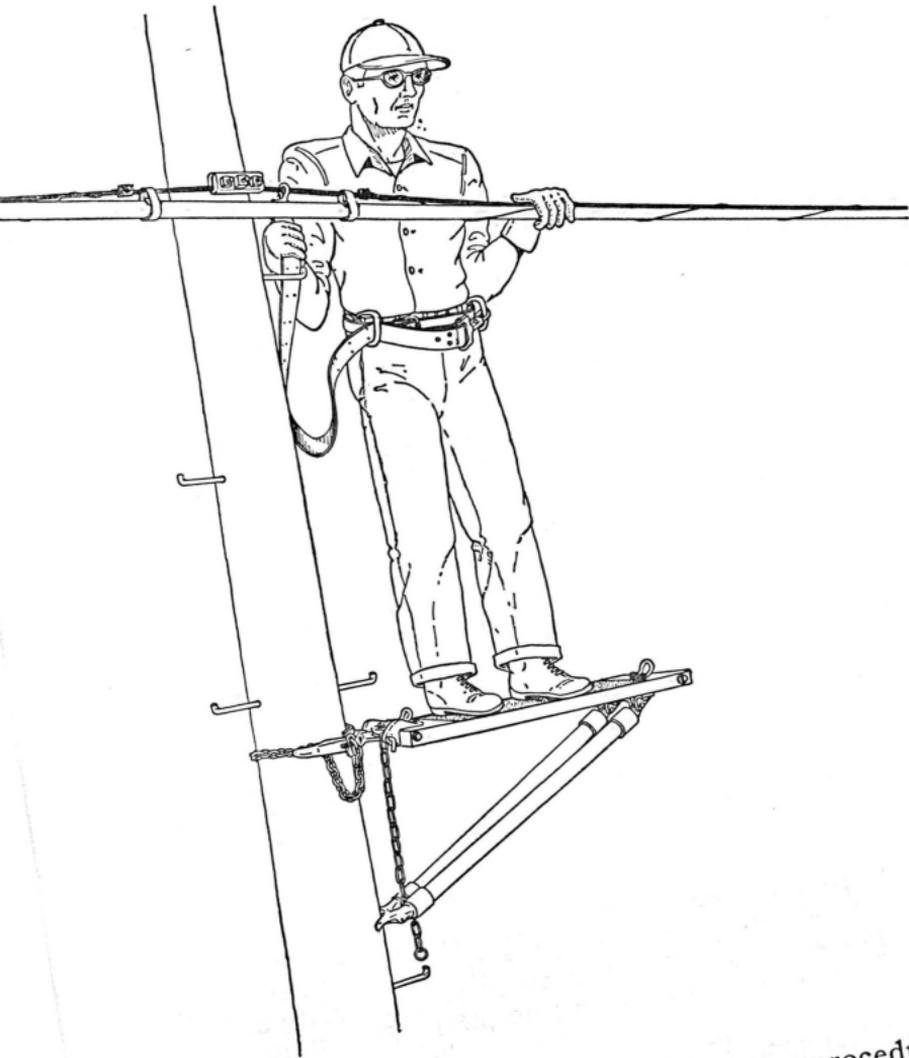
(c) Steady the platform at the desired position with one hand and pass the locking chain around the pole and over the B Riser Protector, if needed. Keeping the chain from slipping down the pole, place a link in the grip of the tightener and lock the chain in place.



- (d) Make certain that the pole brace chain is extended and that the pole brace has a good anchorage on the pole.
- (e) Remove handline from the platform.

4.03 The B Pole Platform may be positioned so that the workman can either sit or stand while performing his work.





4.04 To remove the platform, reverse the procedure previously outlined. The body belt and safety strap must be used while performing this operation.

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B POLE PLA

5. MAINTENANCE

5.01 The platform shall be visually inspected before each use, for cracks in the board, loose bolts or fittings, worn or cracked hardware. The links of the locking chain shall be inspected for cracks.

5.02 Platforms with any visible defects shall not be used. Any unsafe condition should be immediately referred to your supervisor.

5.03 The Safety Tread on the top surface of the board may be resurfaced when worn, with the Chance Safety Tread which is available for this purpose in 1 qt. or 1 gal. cans. Detailed application instructions are included with each can.