

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G85.115.1
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AT&T Co Standard

ELECTRIC SOLDER POTS

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section replaces Issue 1. It describes the two sizes of Electric Solder Pots (20- and 35-pound capacity) used primarily for heating wiping solder electrically on alternating or direct current in subscriber buildings and central offices. It has been reissued to cover the new standard three-blade (two parallel and one U-shaped) grounding attachment plug which replaces the three-blade "crowfoot" plug on the three-conductor cord.

1.02 The new attachment plug will fit only the new standard three-wire grounding receptacle designed for use with this plug. Adapters will be required to make the electrical connection between the new plug and superseded appliance type receptacles.

1.03 Refer to the section of the Practices covering grounding of portable electric tools for information pertaining to grounding and use of adapters.

1.04 It is advisable to use an electric solder pot on either Company or subscriber premises if the heating of solder on a kerosene or propane gas furnace is objectionable or hazardous.

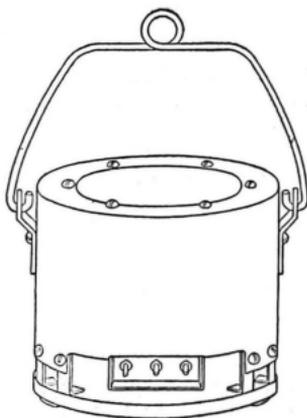
2. PRECAUTIONS

2.01 The electric solder pots shall be used only on 110-120-volt A-C or D-C circuits.

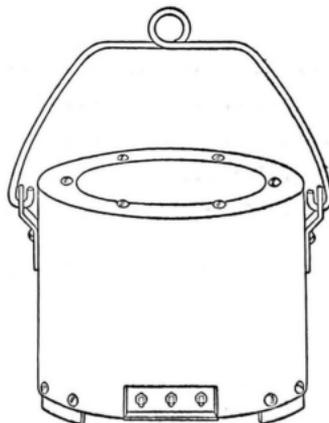
- 2.02 Connect the pot to an appliance receptacle; do not connect it to a lamp socket as the socket may be inadequately wired for the current required.
- 2.03 Never connect more than one pot to a circuit at one time.
- 2.04 If an extension cord is used, it shall be of the same or larger gauge than that of the standard solder pot cord.
- 2.05 When using the pots with portable electric generators, make certain that the generators have adequate current ratings to prevent overloading. See Paragraphs 3.02 and 3.03.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.01 The electric solder pots consist of a cast iron crucible, an electric heating element, a metal shell insulated from the crucible and heating element, a steel carrying bail to facilitate handling and suspending the pot, and a 3-prong terminal for connecting the pot to a current supply by means of a cord. The heating element is equipped with a thermostat to maintain solder temperature between 850° and 925° F. The terminal includes a prong connected directly to the metal shell so that the pot can be grounded. The 20- and 35-pound pots weigh 13 and 17 pounds, respectively.



20-Lb. Electric Solder Pot



35-Lb. Electric Solder Pot

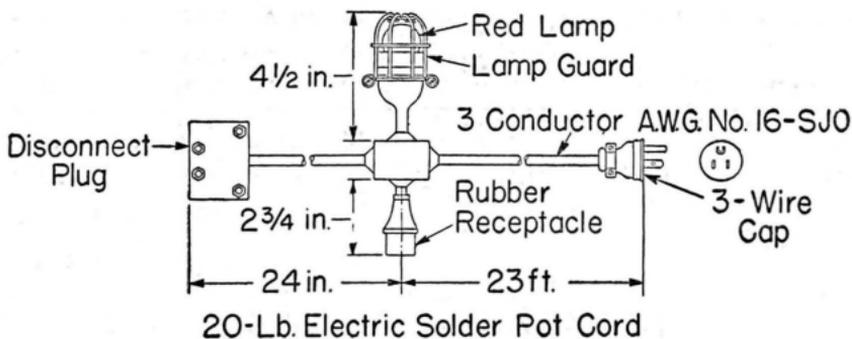
3.02 The 20-pound pot draws about 8 amperes when heating and about 3 amperes when maintaining the solder at an even temperature. This pot, which is intended primarily for use on subscribers' premises, is equipped with a heat insulated base consisting of a metal covered wooden disc with fibre feet to protect floor finishes from becoming dull and soft as the result of heat radiated from the pot.

3.03 The 35-pound pot draws about 11 amperes when heating and about 4 amperes when maintaining the solder at an even temperature. This pot is not equipped with an insulating base as it is intended principally for use in central office cable vaults and splicing pits. If it is necessary to place the 35-pound pot on a finished surface, the pot should be placed on a board about 1 inch thick or other suitable insulating material.

3.04 About 45 minutes are required to bring either pot filled with solder to wiping temperature.

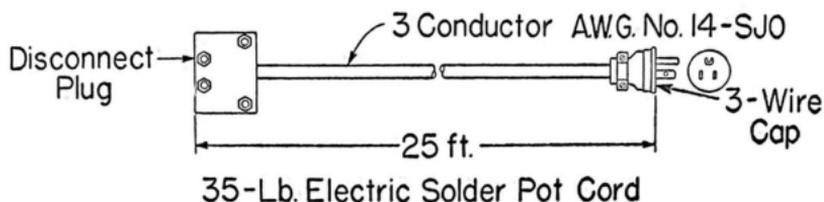
20-Pound Electric Solder Pot Cord

3.05 The cord for the 20-pound pot is illustrated below. One end of the cord terminates in a disconnect plug and the other end terminates in a 3-wire cap equipped with a metal cord grip. A red lamp and guard, and a parallel receptacle for an extension light are spliced into the cord near the disconnect plug.



35-Pound Electric Solder Pot Cord

3.06 The cord for the 35-pound pot is illustrated below.



4. USE

Central Offices

4.01 At cable vaults equipped with specially wired 3-way heater receptacles, the current flow is controlled by a switch located just outside of the cable vault. The switch must be opened before the cord is connected to the pot; also open the switch before disconnecting the cord.

4.02 The pot may be used in a cable vault not equipped with special outlets provided the connection to the circuit is made outside of the vault. It may also be used at splicing pits equipped with either 2-way or 3-way appliance receptacles.

Subscriber Buildings

4.03 Obtain the approval of the building owner, superintendent or subscriber, before making connections.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.01 The Electric Solder Pots are of rugged construction and with reasonable care should give long service. No repairs should be made in the field. If the pot does not heat the solder in a reasonable time when used on an appropriate circuit, or if it is otherwise defective attach a tag to the pot indicating that it is defective and return it in accordance with local routine.

5.02 The standard listings for the replacement parts are given below:

Guard, Lamp, for Electric Solder Pot

Lamp, 7-1/2 Watt, 110-volt, Medium Screw Base, G-11 Bulb, Outside Red