

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G86.143.1
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AT&TCo Standard

C SHEATH SLITTER

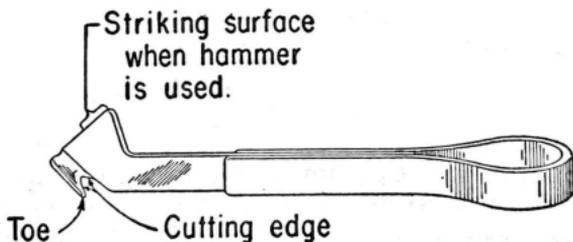
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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the C Sheath Slitter, a tool used for removing the polyethylene and for cutting tabs on plastic sheath cables.

2. DESCRIPTION

2.01 The C Sheath Slitter has a shaped cutting edge with a smooth rounded toe projecting ahead of the cutting edge. This toe limits the cutting action of the slitter to the polyethylene by separating the polyethylene from the underlying metal as it is pulled along.



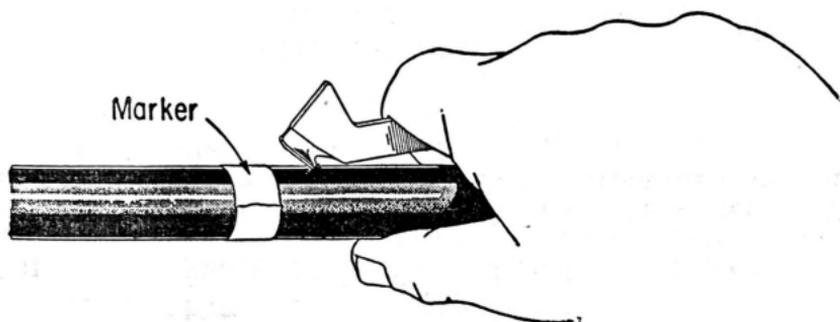
2.02 The C Sheath Slitter can **NOT** be used to ring a plastic sheath cable. This operation should be done in the usual manner.

3. USE

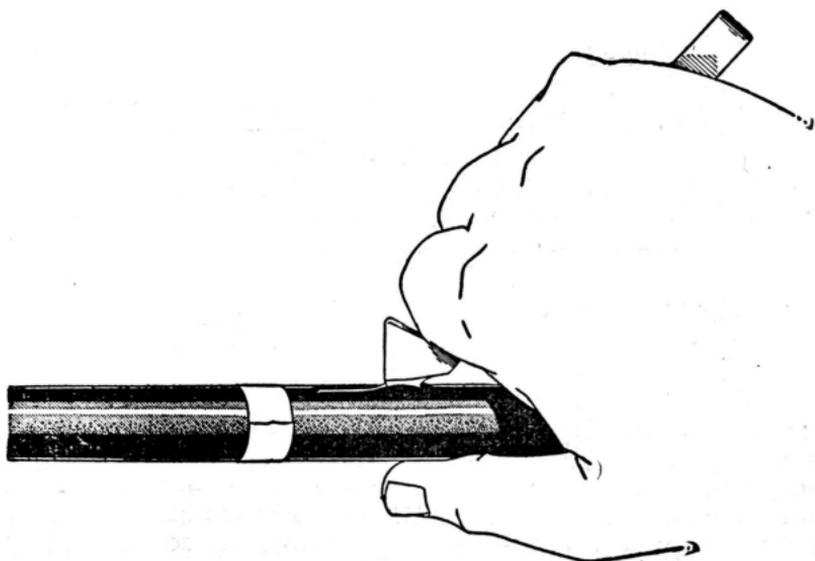
3.01 Improper use of this tool can damage the wire insulation. DO NOT ALLOW THE TOE TO PENETRATE THE CORE WRAP.

3.02 AT SHEATH OPENINGS:

(a) After marking the sheath opening, press the toe firmly into the polyethylene by hand, or tap the striking surface lightly with a hammer, until the polyethylene has been penetrated.

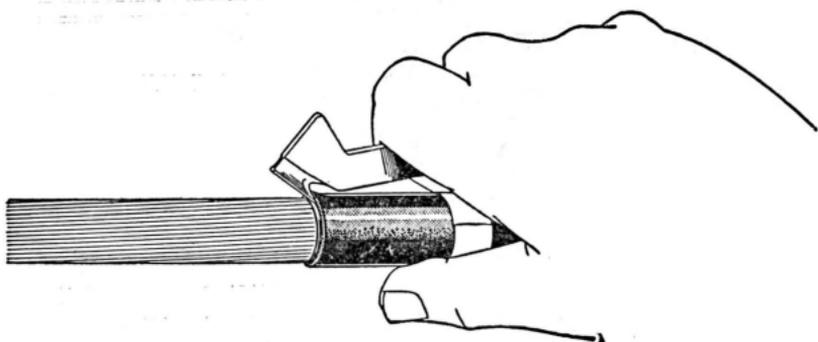


(b) When the polyethylene has been penetrated, level the toe so that it is riding between the polyethylene and the underlying metal, and lifting the polyethylene away from the metal. Then slit the sheath for the length of the opening, moving the tool along with light taps from a hammer, or pulling it by hand.

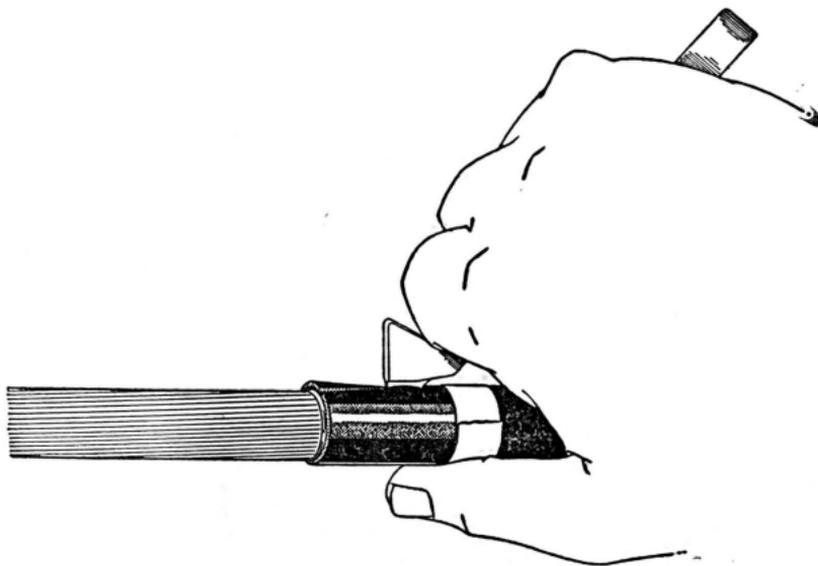


3.03 CUTTING TABS

(a) In cutting tabs in plastic sheath cable take care to insert the toe **between** the polyethylene and the underlying metal.



- (b) Cut the tabs to the desired length as indicated by the marker.



4. MAINTENANCE

4.01 Keep the C Sheath Slitter in its GUARD when not in use.

4.02 Nicks in the blade may be removed with the tapered portion of the Round H file (1/4-inch rat tail file). The cutting edge of the slitter may be sharpened and polished with a piece of abrasive cloth wrapped around a 3/16-inch rod. Both sides of the cutting edge should be sharpened an equal amount keeping the original outline. Take care to keep the toe smooth.

