

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Motor Vehicles and
Construction Apparatus

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PRECAUTIONS IN USE OF MACHINERY

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1. SUMMARY OF SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1.01 **Workmen in Trenches.** When it is necessary for a workman to enter a trench, careful consideration should be given to the possibility of caving. If there is any question take the safe course and assume that it will cave. In such cases and in cases where there is evidence of caving, arrangements shall be made to station an additional employee above the excavation during the time any one is in the trench, keeping the person in sight at all times.

1.02 **Plow Tipping.** When a plow of any type is in motion make sure that no person is in the falling radius of the plow structure in case it should tip over sidewise.

1.03 **Riding Plow.** Under no circumstances should workmen or other persons be allowed to ride the rooter or plow while the train is in motion.

1.04 **Walking Ahead of and in Path of Moving Equipment.** Under no circumstances should workmen or other persons walk immediately ahead of the train or between the units of the train when the train is in motion, or immediately in the rear of the train when it is proceeding uphill.

1.05 **Breaking Winch Lines.** When winching the train or in other winching operations make sure that workmen and other persons will not be in the path of rope if it should break and whip.

1.06 **Hands on Winch Lines.** Workmen or other persons shall not rest their hands on a moving winch line or permit the moving winch line to pass through the hands. This is especially important near a block or sheave.

1.07 **In Replacing Shear Pin** in plow tongue do not guide collar with hands as draw-bar shank enters it. Collar supporting bracket positions collar and permits shank to enter collar without need for guiding by hand. Since shear pins sometimes are ejected with considerable force when they shear, they should always be confined by the cover provided to limit the travel after shearing.

1.08 **When Handling Reels on Steep Hill** always move reels by power equipment and do not detach trailer slings before reel is effectively blocked to care for the grade involved.

1.09 **When Handling Reels on Soft or Uneven Ground** guard against the reel tipping. Use heavy planking and if practicable move with power equipment.

1.10 **Never Operate a Train Without Signal System** such as exhaust whistle or electric horn audible to all members of the gang. Foreman should ordinarily give start signals. Any gang member can give emergency stop signal.

1.11 **When Lowering a Plow Share Into a Pit** make sure that no workmen are in the path of the lowering share.

1.12 **When Loading and Unloading Reels.**

(a) Keep all persons from back of trailer so as to avoid injury if unexpected movement of the reel occurs.

(b) Keep hands off moving winch lines.

(c) In handling reel spindle locks, make sure you have a signal from tractor winch operator before latching or unlatching. Latch must be handled only when there is no movement of the spindle.

1.13 **Protect Open Trenches** or other construction activities with barricade and/or flagmen as required by local conditions.