

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G57.090
Issue 2, October, 1946
AT&T Co Standard

SUBMARINE CABLE

PRECAUTIONS

Contents	Page
1. General	1
2. Supervision	1
3. Adequacy of Equipment	2
4. Accessibility of Tools and Apparatus	2
5. Provision of Life Preservers	2
6. Weather Conditions	2
7. Life Boat	2
8. First Aid Kit	3
9. Protection of Hands and Arms	3
10. Paying Out Rope or Cable	3
11. Cleaning Deck	3
12. Navigation Regulations	3

1. GENERAL

1.01 This section outlines the precautions that should be observed in placing, splicing, and repairing submarine cable.

2. SUPERVISION

2.01 All orders during the cable laying operations should be given by the supervisor in charge of the installation.

2.02 The supervisor should assign each workman to a particular duty during the placing operations and should explain thoroughly to each man the details of his job before any operations are started.

2.03 When boats or barges are used in the placing operations, the supervisor, captain of the barge or boat and the captain of the tugboat should arrange in advance as to how the vessels should be handled, who shall be responsible for keeping the barge or boat on a true course, signals and other matters requiring the cooperation of these parties.

3. ADEQUACY OF EQUIPMENT

3.01 Care should be taken to ensure that the equipment employed for placing the cable is complete, of substantial construction and suitable for the purpose.

4. ACCESSIBILITY OF TOOLS AND APPARATUS

4.01 All tools and apparatus used on the deck of the barge or boat in connection with placing operations should be maintained in an orderly manner and so placed as to be readily accessible for use.

5. PROVISION OF LIFE PRESERVERS

5.01 Life preservers, sufficient in number to care for all the persons aboard the barge or boat, should be provided and located in approved receptacles ready for emergency use.

5.02 It is desirable that one or more ring buoys with rope, depending on the size of the vessel, be available for emergency use.

5.03 While working on the deck, the workman should wear a jacket type life preserver when in the judgment of the supervisor this is necessary from a safety standpoint.

6. WEATHER CONDITIONS

6.01 Attempting to place a cable during a fog or stormy weather, or in unusually rough water, should be avoided whenever practicable.

7. LIFE BOAT

7.01 A life boat, either a row boat or a small power boat, shall be kept at the cable boat or barge and so stationed that it can be manned immediately in case of emergency.

7.02 The supervisor, at the beginning of each job, shall instruct the workmen as to the safe method of doing the work and advise them of their respective duties in the event that a man falls overboard. The instructions shall be repeated when any new workman comes on the job and shall be reviewed whenever circumstances warrant it.

8. FIRST AID KIT

8.01 A first aid kit shall be provided.

9. PROTECTION OF HANDS AND ARMS

9.01 To minimize contact with the jute in handling jute or jute protected cable, gloves should be worn and the arms should preferably not be exposed.

10. PAYING OUT ROPE OR CABLE

10.01 When handling rope or cable that is being paid out, care should be exercised to avoid being caught in a bight.

11. CLEANING DECK

11.01 The deck shall be kept free of ice, oil and paraffin to minimize slipping, and should otherwise be kept orderly by picking up tools and material when they are no longer required.

12. NAVIGATION REGULATIONS

12.01 Government navigation regulations must always be complied with.