

SAFE JOB PRACTICE SJP-EI-10

Revised: September 2023

Stripping and Cutting Teck Cable

PURPOSE/APPLICATION

To provide guidance on the process of cutting, stripping and terminating teck cable. Particular attention should be paid to the selection of the knife used and body positioning when stripping cable. Stripping cable has been responsible for numerous serious lacerations in the electrical trade.









PPE Strike minimum requirements • Double eye and hearing protection when cutting or drilling with power tools

> Strike approved cut resistant gloves

TRAINING On the job instruction from a

Strike Supervisor

HAZARDS Sources & Personal injury (lacerations) Electrical shock (if tying into CONCERNS

existing panel)

Strain (acute or repetitive)

Fall to lower level when working at heights

Drill Holes for Connectors Where Required:

If tying into an electrical box or running cables through the wall of a building, you may need to drill holes for your connectors.

THE DOs:

- **DO** Use hearing protection when drilling.
- **DO** Use cut proof gloves when handling a bare wires or knives.
- **DO** Use goggles when drilling overhead as material may fall and get behind your safety glasses.
- DO Make sure that all system components are locked out and that you have a personal lock where required.
- **DO** Work in groups to pull cables, where required.
- **DO** Have a box to catch the filings to protect the wires.
- **DO** Verify what is on the other side of any walls or boxes and flag the area, if appropriate.
- **DO** Warn workers on the other side of the wall of what you are doing.

Stripping Cables

Stripping teck cable has been responsible for multiple severe lacerations within the electrical trade. Many of the injuries related to the task are the result of improper body position or knife selection.

THE DOs

DO Use a Strike approved knife. Strike approves fixed blade knives designed for stripping cable (such as cable splicer's or cable skinning knives). If you are unsure about your knife, ask your Foreman.



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- **DO** Select the best glove available for the task. Hy-flex style cut resistant gloves will offer less protection when stripping than a thicker roper/driver style glove. Use a leather/roper style glove whenever possible.
- **DO** Make sure you knife is sharp; a dull knife may snag or slip.
- **DO** Position your hands a distance apart and move them at a similar speed down the cable.
- **DO** Keep your support hand and body out of the potential path of travel. Think about where the knife will go if it were to slip out of the cable.
- **DO** Ask your supervisor to demonstrate the proper hand position to you if you are not clear.
- **DO** Keep your work area clear and be sure no one else is potentially in the line of fire.
- **DO** Use a hack saw to cut into the cable armor once the jacket has been removed.



- **DO** Position your hands and body out of the path of the saw.
- **DO** Use cut proof gloves when unwrapping the armour, the edges are sharp.
- **DO** Cut slowly and be careful not to cut through into the cable.
- **DO** Use a second worker to help you pull off the remaining outer jacket and armour.





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THE DON'Ts

DON'T Use a folding, retractable or break away knife (e.g. Olfo or X-acto).





DON'T Support your knife hand with your other hand or your body.





DON'T Count on a non-cut proof gloves to protect you from lacerations. Typical leather gloves are not intended to offer protection from knives. Remember that all gloves are considered a last line of defense and no glove can be protect you all the time.

Inner Jackets

Once you remove the outer jacket and the armor you will be left with an inner jacket covering the wires.

DO Position the end of the cable on a surface so you can cut away the end and expose the pull string (if available).



DO Pull the string down the cable to expose the inner cables.



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DO Check the wire to identify any damage to the insulation.

Terminating Cables

DO Verify that any potential live equipment is locked out according to Strike's Lockout Procedure COP-05. **DO** Wear gloves when handling bare cables.

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