

openreach

ISIS practice  
For Openreach People & Partners

AEI/AEC/B352

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# ***Replacement Date of Birth (Dobie) Label***

*For Wooden Poles*

## ***About this document ...***

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### **Content approval**

This is the Issue 2 of this document.

The information contained in this document was approved on 03-Apr-2023  
by Anthony Stewart, Desk Engineer Co-ordinator

## Version History

Version No.	Date	Author	Comments
Issue 2	03-Apr-2023	Wesley Grantham	Change of approver
Issue 1	14-Apr-2021	Wesley Grantham	New document

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# **1      *Introduction***

This document is purely for information only and no actions are required. It introduces a new method of identifying a faded 3 metre mark on timber poles without incurring delays in job completion.

# **2      *Status***

Information only

# **3      *Scope***

For Openreach people or any person authorised to climb or work on a BT pole.

# **4      *Detail***

A key element of the pre-climb/work assessment check is identifying the 3 metre (Dobie) mark. It confirms that the pole is set at the correct depth as well as additional information needed to complete the onsite risk assessment.

An example of a Dobie mark is shown below.

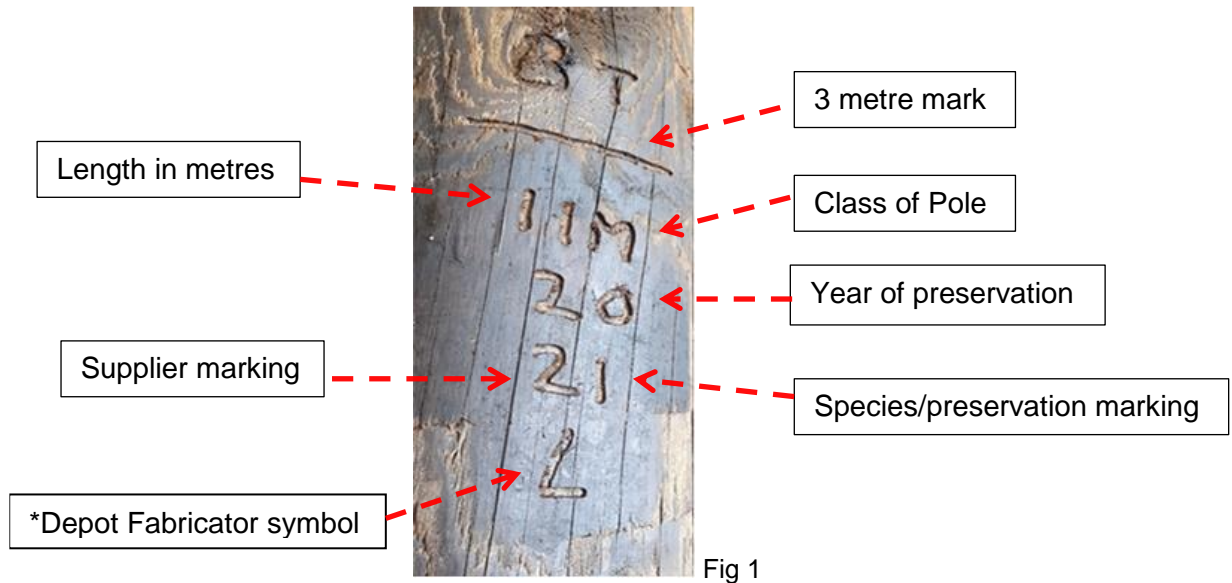


Fig 1

\*The depot fabricator symbol can be seen on some poles and these marks do not form part of the pre-climb check. For more information please see AEI/AEC/B342 .

*Note:* On earlier poles, there was no horizontal line gauged into the wood and so the top of the letters BT, PO or GPO represented the 3m mark.

## 4.1 Background to change

In some instances the existing Dobie mark is illegible due to fading or is covered by capping or other plant. Where this was the case, Pole Testers affixed an aluminium strip. The strip indicated the position of the 3m mark and whether the pole was Light or Medium gauge.

Figure 2 shows an example of the aluminium strip previously used to indicate the 3 metre mark for a 'light' class pole.



Fig 2

Unfortunately this label does not show all of the pole information and the pole climber would have to contact the Pole Test Control to gain all the relevant information in order to complete a pre-climb/work assessment check.

## 4.2 New method

Pole testers will now provide aluminium strips with the details of the pole punched out either obtained from the pole itself once identified, for example by removing the capping, or from the Artisan record in cases of fibre plant over the Dobie. It will continue to be used where existing marks are fading and provided where the depth of the pole can clearly be identified from the existing date of birth mark on the pole.

For instances where the markings are un-readable, it is key that an aluminium label is fitted either level with the top of the ownership mark or with the gouge in the pole Dobie. Please see figures below.

**Note:** All Pole Labels are ONLY to be fitted by trained Openreach Pole Testers and must never be removed by anyone other than an Openreach Pole Tester.



Fig 3- slightly faded



Fig 4 – aluminium strip fitted

A close up image of the aluminium strip is shown below.





Fig 5

The pole climber can now identify all of the pole's details in order for a pre-climb check to be carried out. The label indicates that the BT pole is 8 metre light class, it was preserved in 2003 and is a 2 IS pole.

This information will enable climbers to have accurate Dobie details immediately available to them rather than having to place additional calls into the Pole Test Control or look up Artisan.

Previously tested poles will not be re-visited to add 'punched' labels.

## **5      *Training***

Training has been considered and is not required.

## **6      *Quality Standards***

Quality Standards have been considered and changes are not required.

## **7      *Accreditation***

Accreditation has been considered and changes are not required

## **8      *Quality Checks and Independent Audit***

Considered and changes are not required

## **9      *Contract Impact***

The information in this document is issued to Contractors on the following basis:

**Mandatory**

## **10     *Reference Documentation***

### **10.1     ISIS**

EPT/OHP/C022

### **10.2     Manufacturer's Instructions**

Considered and changes are not required

### **10.3     Quality**

Considered and changes are not required

### **10.4     Accreditation Documents**

Considered and changes are not required.

### **10.5     FPQ**

Considered and changes are not required

## **10.6 Supply Chain**

Considered and changes are not required

## **10.7 Communications**

The Loop

Workplace

FEN

<b>END OF DOCUMENT</b>
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