

openreach

ISIS Directive
For Openreach and Partners

AEI/AEC/B357

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Connector bend installation process

*Safety issues caused by incorrect positioning of the
connector bend on Poles*

About this document ...

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Content approval

This is the Issue 1 of this document.

The information contained in this document was approved on 29-Jul-2021
by Glen Barford, Overhead Network Policy and Standards Specialist

Version History

Version No.	Date	Author	Comments
Issue 1	29-Jul-2021	Anthony Stewart	New doc

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1 ***Executive Summary:***

This AEC is produced to highlight the correct procedure for installing the connector bend (Elephant's foot) on the Pole.

An increasing number of new installations are failing due to the connector bend being placed below the reinstatement causing:

- Potential trip hazards to the general public.
- Cost to Openreach due to re-visits on failed reinstatements.
- Surface reinstatement will need to be broken out to facilitate any new cable installation to the pole.

Section 4 provides details on these incorrect practices, which are creating safety hazards and driving unnecessary costs into the business. It also details the correct procedures that should be followed to avoid these problems.

2 ***Status:***

- Safety
- Working Practices
- Quality

3 ***Scope:***

Target audience: All Poling and Civils teams (DL and contract).

4 ***Detail:***

With the rollout of Fibre the Connector bend has to be removed more frequently to access the duct mouth. This has flagged up the issue that during pole renewal, many have been installed under the reinstatement level which is causing damage and failed inspections. Please see examples below.



Figures 1,2,3 & 4 are examples of poor installations and the effects of removing the connector bend.

From the images above the connector bend has been removed and the reinstated tarmac has been damaged. The subsequent repair is at the cost of Openreach.

How can this be avoided?

The Connector Bend must be fitted on top of the reinstatement; this will greatly reduce the chances of the reinstatement being damaged if it is removed. See images below.

Where necessary, Duct 56 Split (I/C 095086) should be used to extend the duct to surface level.



Figures 5 & 6 Show good examples of the connector bend being installed above the reinstatement.

4.1 Action required:

With immediate effect, all Connector Bends must be installed above the surface level.

5 *Training:*

Training has been considered and is not required.

6 *Quality Standards:*

Quality Standards to be amended to reflect these revised rules.

7 *Accreditation:*

Accreditation has been considered and changes are not required.

8 *Quality Checks and Independent Audit:*

See section 6 and 10.4

9 *Contract Impact:*

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

- **Mandatory**

10 *Reference Documentation:*

10.1 *ISIS:*

[EPT/ANS/A010](#) will be updated in due course, to reflect this AEC.

10.2 *Manufacturer's Instructions:*

Considered and no changes are required.

10.3 Quality:

ISIS Docs will be reviewed and amended in due course to reflect this AEC.

10.4 Accreditation Documents:

Considered and no changes are required.

10.5 FPQ:

Considered and no changes are required.

10.6 Supply Chain:

Considered and no changes are required.

10.7 Communications:

- AEC
- Candid
- Workplace
- The Loop

END OF DOCUMENT
