

openreach

ISIS practice
For Openreach People and our Partners

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Privacy- None

Recognition and appropriate use of 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 03-Nov-2021
by Glen Barford, Overhead Network Policy and Standards Specialist

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1 ***Introduction***

This document highlights the changing poling landscape as more CP's build their own overhead networks. It also explains appropriate use of poles depending on ownership.

2 ***Status***

For information and action where required.

3 ***Scope***

All Openreach people and Partners working on the BT (Openreach) overhead network.

4 ***Detail***

As Openreach Fibre build and PIA build continues to grow, other CP's are increasingly installing their own Poles. Therefore, it's important not to assume that all poles belong to Openreach.

4.1 **CP's Poles**

Figures 1 and 2 below show an example of a CP (Communications Provider) Pole installed close to an existing BT Pole. As you can see the pole is marked **AB** (for the company Airband). Openreach do not have agreements for fixing and working on other CP's poles and as such these must not be accessed or used.



Figure 1



Figure 2

4.2 BT Pole Markings

Poles supplied by BT are marked so that they can be readily identified.

The letters BT, PO or GPO represents Openreach as the Pole Owner (please see figure 3 below). With the exception of ex-electricity poles any pole with other markings will not be owned by Openreach. Figure 4 shows how to identify an ex-electricity pole that is now owned by Openreach.

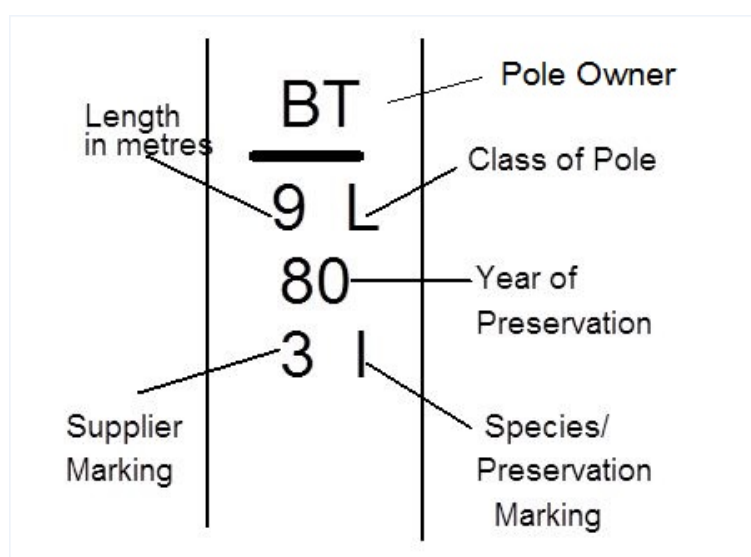


Figure 3



Figure 4

4.3 Use of BT and CP Poles

For the attention of Poling Teams

A recent issue highlighted new BT Poles installed within another CP's network, with the ownership gauge mark defaced. Please see figure 5 below.

For the avoidance of doubt, only BT poles shall be used within the Openreach network. Under no circumstances shall a BT pole be used for another CP's network. Likewise, CP marked Poles must not be used on the BT Openreach network.

The 3 metre mark engraving shall never be changed; the only exception to this is where written permission is obtained from the approver of this document.



Figure 5

4.3.1 Misuse of BT poles reporting procedure

If you come across a BT pole which has been used to build another CP's network and / or which has been defaced, as described above. Please email [POLE MISUSE REPORTING G](#) providing the exchange name, address and any supporting photographs or evidence.

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 Manufacturer's Instructions

Considered and changes are not required

10.2 Quality

Considered and changes are not required

10.3 Accreditation Documents

Considered and changes are not required.

10.4 FPQ

Considered and changes are not required

10.5 Supply Chain

Considered and changes are not required

10.6 Communications

The Loop

Workplace

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END OF DOCUMENT
