

# Wire Rope and Cable Break Testing

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## Length Requirements and General Information

It is preferred and recommended that any mechanical termination (Clevis, Swage, Crosby or wire clips, Nicro Fittings, Yale Grip, Kellum Grip, Chinese fingers, etc.) be left on and intact for break testing. This provides valuable information to evaluate termination hardware and techniques. After break testing at WHOI Rigging Shop, any reusable hardware such as Clevis, swage or end fittings will be returned to the ship. All samples should be from the current working end or as close to that working end as possible. Note if the sample is not from a working end.

**7 Meters** is needed for a break test on cable that has a termination on one end. A termination as done by an SSSG Technician or Bosun and left in place for the testing is the preferred method.

**7 Meters** is needed for a break test on cable that has no terminations. The UNOLS Wire Pool will install terminations at both ends in this case.

**7 Meters** is needed for a cable that has terminations at both ends. This is rare.

In all cases, please also include a **single 18" section** for UNOLS Wire Pool e-Kink testing. It is OK to just cut an extra meter or two. Just note this when sending back for the testing.

So to recap, **7 meters** is all that is needed to be cut and sent back for any wire break test. This is a change from the past. This goes for .322, .681, .680 cables, 9/16" Trawl Wire, 3/8" Hydro Wire and 1/4" Hydro Wire. **An additional 18" piece is also requested for an e-Kink test.**

WHOI and UNOLS vessels are allowed one test annually or every two years (biannually) at no cost to the operator. If any cable or wire is suspect due to damage or loading or other concerns, this should constitute reason for testing to evaluate regardless of any recent annual testing. Please refer to UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards (Rev. March 2009) RVSS Appendix A – Wire Rope and Cable Safe Working Loads – Section A.3 Inspection, Testing and Preventative Maintenance Requirements.

[http://www.unols.org/publications/manuals/saf\\_stand/RVSS09-Ap-A.html](http://www.unols.org/publications/manuals/saf_stand/RVSS09-Ap-A.html)