



Section 1 - PURPOSE

- 1.1 To define the procedure for pole removal from a soil foundation.

Section 2 - SCOPE

- 2.1 This procedure applies specifically to the vertical removal of a RStandard Modular Composite Pole that has been in-service and installed in a soil foundation.
- 2.2 This method requires the wires and hardware be removed from the pole during removal. Therefore, for this work instruction to be applicable, the adjacent poles must possess sufficient strength to withstand the additional load applied by the temporary longer span.

Section 3 - DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 One Call – a business entity which locates all utilities in a given location. This company is financially supported by membership utilities.

Section 4 - EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY

- 4.1. Safety Notes
 - 4.1.1 Always follow manufacturer’s instructions when operating any equipment.
 - 4.1.2 It is recommended to handle the pole using leather gloves.
- 4.2. Safety Equipment
 - 4.2.1 As required, all company safety policies must be adhered to, e.g. work area protection, hard hats, safety glasses, leather gloves, etc.
- 4.3. Tools Required
 - 4.3.1 Tools required to attach/remove pole line hardware
 - 4.3.2 Boom Truck
 - 4.3.3 Nylon Slings (recommended)
 - 4.3.4 Shovels, Spoons, etc.
 - 4.3.5 Tarps to protect lawns in populated areas

Section 5 - PROCEDURE

Note: The intention for this Work Instruction is to provide a guideline for customers regarding the recommended procedure for removing a RStandard pole from a soil foundation. As such, all due care must be taken to ensure a safe working environment.

- 5.1. **Preparing pole for removal**
 - 5.1.1 Remove the wires from the insulators/brackets that connect the wires to the damaged pole.



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- 5.1.2 Remove all communication cables Telco/CATV from pole line hardware and secure cables away from work area with handlines to prevent damage. The Telco/CATV companies may provide their own resources for this operation.
- 5.1.3 Remove all pole line hardware from the pole to prevent conductor and cable damage.

5.2. Buried Utility Locates

- 5.2.1 Prior to pole removal, all underground locates must be completed as excavation is required for pole butt removal.
- 5.2.2 Some regions have located services that cover all utilities, e.g., One Call. These types of services reduce the amount of preparation work required before excavation.
- 5.2.3 Any services that are located within the excavation zone or within 36" (0.91 M) of the excavation zone must be hand dug.

5.3. Remove pole from soil foundation

- 5.3.1 Using the boom truck, secure the pole above the balance point as excavation is required to remove the pole. This will ensure the pole will remain vertical and not become a safety concern.
- 5.3.2 Position boom truck so that mechanical excavation can proceed uninterrupted.
- 5.3.3 It is recommended that a nylon sling of the proper capabilities or a synthetic boom rope be used. No chain or steel rope should be used due to resulting pole surface damage.
- 5.3.4 In situations where the nylon sling is not gripping the pole surface adequately, drilling two holes above the sling attachment point and inserting a through bolt will aid in stopping the sling slip. These holes can be covered with hole plugs after removal.
- 5.3.5 Pole butt excavation is normally handled with a backhoe or other mechanical excavation equipment. Please use the narrowest bucket available for the machine being used. Excavation of the pole butt is accomplished most efficiently by the following method.
- 5.3.6 Excavation shall be completed in the sequence showed on Figure 1. This will ensure maximum efficiency and minimize backhoe setups. Excavate to the depth of the base plate, in some cases this depth will be considerable. Keep all technicians away from the excavation as cave-ins are possible.

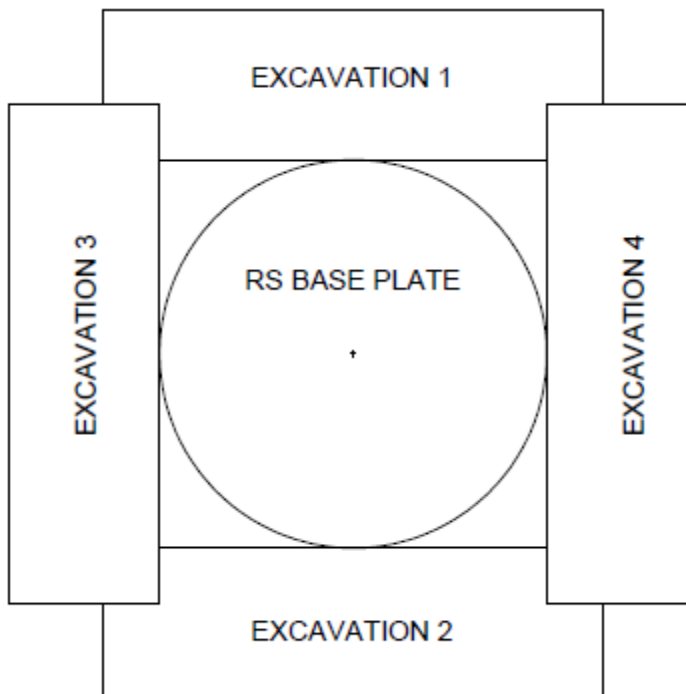


Figure 1. Excavation Sequence

- 5.3.7 Ensure excavated soil is piled away from the excavation to ease movement of technicians around the pole removal site.
- 5.3.8 Once excavation is complete and the base plate is exposed, the boom truck can proceed to lift the pole out of the excavation. Special care is required when working around live plants. Ensure all safety procedures are followed when using the lifting device.
- 5.3.9 It may be required to apply some lateral force to the boom to break the pole free of it's foundation, and to move the pole away from conductors etc. Care should be taken to not overload the lateral pull capacity of the boom as serious and permanent boom damage can occur.

5.4. After Removal

- 5.4.1 After pole removal is complete the excavation can be filled in and compacted, or if a pole replacement is being planned further excavation of the hole will be required to ensure proper depth of placement.

Section 6 - REFERENCES

- 6.1. RSAIG v2.0 RStandard Assembly & Installation Guide



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Originated By: _____ // _____
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Engineering Date

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Approved By: _____ // _____
Quality Assurance Date

Name (Printed)