Technical Bulletin

TB 219 – Screw in Pole Steps (timber poles)

Purpose

To manage the introduction of screw-in pole steps and the use of the remaining nail-in pole steps for timber poles.

Background

Pole steps are installed in timber poles to assist line workers climbing the pole. The existing pole steps require the use of a sledge hammer to drive the steps into the pole during installation. It was identified that the risk of injury (such as muscle strain) during installation can be reduced by substituting nail-in pole steps with screw-in pole steps, as they can be installed with an impact driver and do not require manual force.

Actions

The remaining stock of nail-in pole steps shall continue to be used until exhausted, in which case it will become obsolete. M16 screw-in pole steps will then become standard and shall be used for all future installations.

The stock code 001018929 will continue to be used for screw-in pole steps for timber poles.

Installation

Pole steps shall be installed in accordance with MCI0005 Section 3 Overhead distribution construction standards manual – General construction requirements and SWM 6.021 Overhead – Pole Dressing.

A 14mm pilot hole shall be drilled into the pole at the proposed pole step location.

The thread of the screw-in pole step can be coated with an appropriate lubricant, such as a petroleum jelly, to assist in the installation and provide some environmental protection.

The screw-in pole step shall be installed with an impact driver until the pole surface is level with the depth indicator shown in Figure 1.

Once the pole steps are installed, they shall not be removed from the pole unless the pole is being removed or replaced.

Impacted Standards

The contents of this technical bulletin will be included in the next update of the following standard:

- MCI0005 – Overhead distribution construction standards manual

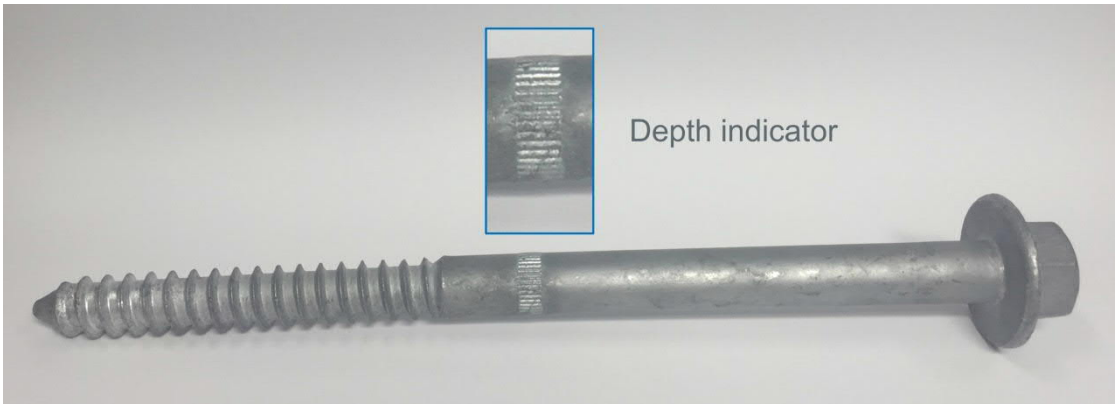

Figure 1: M16 screw-in pole step with depth indicator.

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