



The Tiiger's Eye



Utility Industry News and Views

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& Pole Pulling Equipment... Created by Linemen for Linemen
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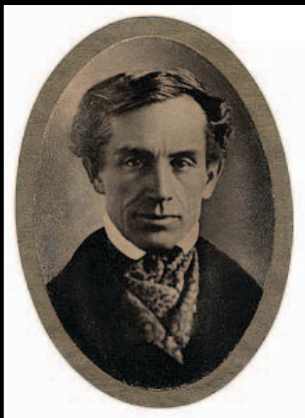
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Welcome to the first edition of The Tiiger's Eye...

A unique newsletter designed to keep Linesman and Operations Managers abreast of what's happening in the Utility field. We will cover topics ranging from safety, equipment and gear, operations, government regulations to human-interest stories. We'll also of course keep you informed about Tiiger. If you have a story to tell whether it's personal, product oriented or simply tips you want to share please call us at 615.758.6046

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A Proud Industry.

In 1844 the United States Congress granted Samuel Morse \$30,000 to build a 40-mile telegraph line between Baltimore, Maryland and Washington, D.C.. Morse began by having a lead-sheathed cable made. After laying seven miles underground, he tested it. He found so many faults with this system that he dug up his cable, stripped off its sheath, bought poles and strung his wires overhead. On February 7, 1844, Morse inserted the following advertisement in the Washington newspaper: "Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned for furnishing 700 straight and sound chestnut posts with the bark on and of the following dimensions to wit: 'Each post must not be less than eight inches in diameter at the butt and tapering to five or six inches at the top. Six hundred and eighty of said posts to be 24 feet in length, and 20 of them 30 feet in length.' One of the early Bell System lines was the Washington DC-Norfolk line which was for the most part, square sawn tapered poles of yellow pine probably treated to refusal with creosote. Some of these were still in service after 80 years.



What's New? Denton Jackson an experienced Mississippi Linesman develops a new tool to save time and improve safety in the field.

The Simple Socket is a small rubber grip designed to hold nuts and washers together allowing a linesmen to easily attach it to a bolt without removing their gloves. "The need for the Simple Socket came about because starting nuts and washers while wearing thick, heavy gloves is a time consuming nuisance. Add to the fact that your on a pole or bucket in the air, most likely in hazardous weather conditions, and tired/overworked, getting something as small and simple as nuts and washers onto bolts, becomes frustratingly slow. We all know that when something easy becomes difficult, we tend to become agitated and that is when mistakes are most commonly made".

A lineman may take many intense minutes getting washers on and nuts threaded correctly. The Simple Socket cuts that time to around 10-20 seconds. Simple Socket takes your intended nuts and washers and holds them together, so that when you need to start threading the bolt, it only requires a few turns and seconds. Additionally the Simple Socket's design helps prevent cross threading onto bolts, allowing for consistency, and near perfect starts every time.



Professor emeritus "Grizzy" from OSHA's National Training Institute has observed that a significant number of overhead power line contacts involving qualified linemen are a result of linemen removing their gloves while working within the minimum approach distances to energized lines.





Pole Pulling Update. Tiggers lightweight, portable pole pulling equipment touted by Utilities as safer and more efficient.

The practice of pulling a pole with a boom or digger derrick truck has raised concerns among major utilities. The high potential for personal injury has been clearly demonstrated over the past several years. Utilities have also discovered that in some cases well over 45% of the truck maintenance expense is related to major damage resulting from pulling poles.

The problem with using a truck booms is that they are not designed with a lifting capacity necessary to pull a pole, and second the force placed on the rotation while attempting to remove a pole exceeds well over 300,000 pound per square inch.

Findings indicate the vast majority of Utilities rely on using truck booms because even if they have poll pulling equipment much of it is extremely heavy and has several performance limitations which generally results in a great deal of lost time on the job.

The alternate is equipment which is lighter and more effective in performing the task of pulling a pole, and is operator acceptable. Major Utilities across the U.S. found the solution with Tiggers Model 4001D pole puller. The unit produces a lifting capacity in excess of 50,000 pounds, with a unit weight of only 57 pounds. Additional features include a swivel and back plate system which pretensions the chain providing maximum lift per stroke and eliminates chain roll-up. For more information go to our website.

We welcome your contributions. Send us tips or idea's, like how you protect yourself in extreme temperatures on the job, or personal stories, like an unusual hobby of yours. We'll edit and or write what you have to say and give you final approval. For more information please call us at 615.758.6046.

