

SECTION 26 05 41
UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 DESCRIPTION

- A. This section specifies the furnishing, installation, and connection of precast manholes and pullboxes with ducts to form a complete underground raceway system.
- B. "Duct" and "conduit," and "rigid metal conduit" and "rigid steel conduit" are used interchangeably in this specification.

1.2 RELATED WORK

- A. Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS: General electrical requirements and items that are common to more than one section of Division 26.
- B. Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Requirements for personnel safety and to provide a low impedance path for possible ground fault currents.
- C. Section 26 05 33, RACEWAY AND BOXES FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Conduits, fittings and boxes for raceway systems.
- D. Section 31 20 00, EARTH MOVING: Trenching, backfill and compaction.

1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Refer to Paragraph, QUALIFICATIONS, in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
- B. Coordinate layout and installation of ducts, manholes, pullboxes, and pull-boxes with final arrangement of other utilities, site grading, and surface features, as determined in the field.

1.4 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submit in accordance with Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
- B. Shop Drawings:
 - 1. Clearly present sufficient information to determine compliance with drawings and specifications.
 - 2. Include manholes, pullboxes, duct materials, and hardware. Submit plan and elevation drawings, showing openings, pulling irons, cable supports, cover, ladder, sump, and other accessories and details.
 - 3. Proposed deviations from details on the drawings shall be clearly marked on the submittals. If it is necessary to locate manholes or pullboxes at locations other than shown on the drawings, show the

proposed locations accurately on scaled site drawings, and submit four copies to the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) for approval prior to construction.

4. Provide drawings of proposed handholes and conduit runs where existing handholes and conduits cannot be used.
- C. Certifications: Two weeks prior to the final inspection, submit four copies of the following certifications to the COR:
1. Certification by the manufacturer that the materials conform to the requirements of the drawings and specifications.
 2. Certification by the contractor that the materials have been properly installed, connected, and tested.

1.5 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS

- A. Publications listed below (including amendments, addenda, revisions, supplements, and errata) form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by designation only.
- B. American Concrete Institute (ACI):
- Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete
318/318M-05.....Building Code Requirements for Structural
Concrete & Commentary
- SP-66-04.....ACI Detailing Manual
- C. American National Standards Institute (ANSI):
- 77-07.....Underground Enclosure Integrity
- D. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
- C478-09.....Standard Specification for Precast Reinforced
Concrete Manhole Sections
- C858-09.....Underground Precast Concrete Utility Structures
- C990-09.....Standard Specification for Joints for Concrete
Pipe, Manholes and Precast Box Sections Using
Preformed Flexible Joint Sealants.
- E. Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE):
- C2-07National Electrical Safety Code
- F. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA):
- TC 2-03.....Electrical Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Tubing And
Conduit
- TC 3-2004.....PVC Fittings for Use With Rigid PVC Conduit And
Tubing
- TC 6 & 8 2003.....PVC Plastic Utilities Duct For Underground
Installations

TC 9-2004.....Fittings For PVC Plastic Utilities Duct For
Underground Installation

G. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

70-08.....National Electrical Code (NEC)

H. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL):

6-07.....Electrical Rigid Metal Conduit-Steel

467-07.....Grounding and Bonding Equipment

651-05.....Schedule 40 and 80 Rigid PVC Conduit and
Fittings

651A-00.....Type EB and A Rigid PVC Conduit and HDPE
Conduit

651B-07.....Continuous Length HDPE Conduit

I. U.S. General Services Administration (GSA):

A-A-60005-1998.....Frames, Covers, Gratings, Steps, Sump and Catch
Basin, Manhole

1.6 STORAGE

Lift and support pre-cast concrete structures only at designated
lifting or supporting points.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 PULLBOXES

A. General: Size as indicated on drawings. Provide pullboxes with
weatherproof, non-skid covers with recessed hook eyes, secured with
corrosion- and tamper-resistant hardware. Cover material shall be
identical to pullbox material. Covers shall have molded lettering,
ELECTRIC or SIGNAL as applicable. Pullboxes shall comply with the
requirements of ANSI/SCTE 77 Tier 15 loading. Provide pulling irons,
0.875 in [22 mm] diameter galvanized steel bar with exposed triangular-
shaped opening.

B. Fiberglass Pullboxes: Shall be sheet-molded, fiberglass-reinforced,
polyester resin enclosure joined to polymer concrete top ring or frame.

2.2. DUCTS

A. Number and sizes shall be as shown on drawings.

B. Ducts (direct-burial):

1. Plastic duct:

a. NEMA TC2 and TC3

b. UL 651, 651A, and 651B, Schedule 40 PVC or HDPE.

c. Duct shall be suitable for use with 167° F [75° C] rated
conductors.

2. Rigid metal conduit: UL6 and NEMA RN1 galvanized rigid steel, threaded type, half-lapped with 10 mil PVC tape.

2.3 GROUNDING

- A. Rods: Per Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS.
- B. Ground Wire: Stranded bare copper 6 AWG [16 mm²] minimum.

2.4 WARNING TAPE

Standard 4-mil polyethylene 3 in [76 mm] wide detectable tape, red with black letters, imprinted with "CAUTION - BURIED ELECTRIC CABLE BELOW" or similar.

2.5 PULL ROPE FOR SPARE DUCTS

Plastic with 200 lb [890 N] minimum tensile strength.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 PULLBOX INSTALLATION

- A. Assembly and installation shall follow the printed instructions and recommendations of the manufacturer. Install pullboxes level and plumb.
 1. Units shall be installed on a 12 in [300 mm] level bed of 90% compacted granular fill, well-graded from the 1 in [25 mm] sieve to the No. 4 sieve. Granular fill shall be compacted with a minimum of four passes with a plate compactor.
 2. Seal duct terminations so they are watertight.
- B. Access: Ensure the top of frames and covers are flush with finished grade.

3.2 TRENCHING

- A. Refer to Section 31 20 00, EARTH MOVING for trenching, backfilling, and compaction.
- B. Before performing trenching work at existing facilities, the Ground Penetrating Radar Survey shall be carefully performed by certified technician to reveal all existing underground ducts, conduits, cables, and other utility systems.
- C. Work with extreme care near existing ducts, conduits, cables, and other utilities to avoid damaging them.
- D. Cut the trenches neatly and uniformly.
- E. Conduits to be installed under existing paved areas and roads that cannot be disturbed shall be jacked into place. Conduits shall be heavy wall rigid steel.

3.3 DUCT INSTALLATION

A. General Requirements:

1. Ducts shall be in accordance with the NEC and IEEE C2, as shown on the drawings, and as specified.
2. Slope ducts to drain towards pullboxes, and away from building and equipment entrances. Pitch not less than 4 in [100 mm] in 100 ft [30 M].
3. Underground conduit stub-ups and sweeps to equipment inside of buildings shall be taped galvanized rigid steel, and shall extend a minimum of 5 ft [1.5 M] outside the building foundation. Tops of conduits below building slab shall be minimum 24 in [610 mm] below bottom of slab.
4. Stub-ups, sweeps, and risers to equipment mounted on outdoor concrete slabs shall be taped galvanized rigid steel, and shall extend a minimum of 5 ft [1.5 M] away from the edge of slab.
5. Install insulated grounding bushings on the terminations.
6. Radius for turns of direction shall be sufficient to accomplish pulls without damage. Minimum radius shall be six times conduit diameter. Use manufactured long sweep bends.
7. Additional burial depth shall be required in order to accomplish NEC-required minimum bend radius of ducts.
8. All multiple conduit runs shall have conduit spacers. Spacers shall securely support and maintain uniform spacing of the duct assembly a minimum of 3 in [75 mm] above the bottom of the trench during the concrete pour. Spacer spacing shall not exceed 5 ft [1.5 M]. Secure spacers to ducts and earth to prevent floating during concrete pour. Provide nonferrous tie wires to prevent displacement of the ducts during pouring of concrete. Tie wires shall not act as substitute for spacers.
9. Duct lines shall be installed no less than 12 in [300 mm] from other utility systems, such as water, sewer, and chilled water.
10. Clearances between individual ducts:
 - a. For like services, not less than 3 in [75 mm].
 - b. For power and signal services, not less than 6 in [150 mm].
11. All ducts shall be fitted with end bells.
12. Couple the ducts with proper couplings. Stagger couplings in rows and layers to ensure maximum strength and rigidity of the duct bank.

13. Keep ducts clean of earth, sand, or gravel, and seal with tapered plugs upon completion of each portion of the work.
 14. Seal conduits, including spare conduits, at building entrances and at outdoor equipment terminations with a suitable compound to prevent entrance of moisture and gases.
- C. Direct-Burial Duct and Conduits:
1. Install direct-burial ducts and conduits only where shown on the drawings. Provide direct-burial ducts only for low-voltage systems.
 2. Join and terminate ducts and conduits with fittings recommended by the conduit manufacturer.
 3. Tops of ducts and conduits shall be:
 - a. Not less than 24 in [600 mm] and not less than shown on the drawings, below finished grade.
 - b. Not less than 30 in [750 mm] and not less than shown on the drawings, below roads and other paved surfaces.
 4. Do not kink the ducts or conduits. Compaction shall not deform the ducts.
- D. Direct-Burial Duct and Conduit Identification: Place continuous strip of warning tape approximately 12 in [300 mm] above ducts or conduits before backfilling trenches. Warning tape shall be preprinted with proper identification.
- E. Spare Ducts and Conduits: Where spare ducts are shown, they shall have a nylon pull rope installed. They shall be capped at each end and labeled as to location of the other end.
- F. Duct and Conduit Cleaning:
1. Upon completion of the duct installation, a standard flexible mandrel shall be pulled through each duct to loosen particles of earth, sand, or foreign material left in the duct. The mandrel shall be not less than 12 in [3600 mm] long, and shall have a diameter not less than 0.5 in [13 mm] less than the inside diameter of the duct. A brush with stiff bristles shall then be pulled through each duct to remove the loosened particles. The diameter of the brush shall be the same as, or slightly larger than, the diameter of the duct.
 2. Mandrel pulls shall be witnessed by the COR.
- G. Duct and Conduit Sealing: Seal the ducts and conduits at building entrances, and at outdoor terminations for equipment, with a suitable non-hardening compound to prevent the entrance of moisture and gases.

- H. Connections to Existing Ducts: Where connections to existing duct banks are indicated, excavate around the duct banks as necessary. Cut off the ducts and remove loose concrete from inside before installing new ducts. Provide a reinforced-concrete collar, poured monolithically with the new ducts, to take the shear at the joint of the duct banks.
- I. Partially-Completed Duct Banks: During construction, wherever a construction joint is necessary in a duct bank, prevent debris such as mud and dirt from entering ducts by providing suitable conduit plugs. Fit concrete envelope of a partially completed duct bank with reinforcing steel extending a minimum of 2 ft [0.6 M] back into the envelope and a minimum of 2 ft [0.6 M] beyond the end of the envelope. Provide one No. 4 bar in each corner, 3 in [75 mm] from the edge of the envelope. Secure corner bars with two No. 3 ties, spaced approximately 12 in [300 mm] apart. Restrain reinforcing assembly from moving during pouring of concrete.

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