

PLUGS

CLEANING AND POLISHING USING COTTON SLEEVING

1. GENERAL

1.01 This section covers procedures for cleaning and polishing plugs in offices not having the No. 384A tool (portable plug cleaner).

1.02 This section is reissued to add precautions applying to the cleaning of silver-tipped plugs and gold-plated coaxial-type plugs, and to revise the list of tools. Since this reissue covers a general revision, the arrows ordinarily used to indicate changes have been omitted.

1.03 In general, satisfactory cleaning results are obtained by using a mild abrasive applied under moderate pressure at relatively low speed. These conditions are obtained with the hand methods covered in this section. Exceptions are made to these procedures in the case of silver-tipped plugs as outlined in 1.05, and apply to gold-plated coaxial-type plugs as outlined in 1.06.

1.04 If multiple finger plugs of the 289-, 312-, and similar types become worn, the fingers can be rotated 90 degrees to present a new contact surface to the jack springs. If wear is evident, determine the need for rotating the plug finger by testing it in accordance with the BSP section covering tests and inspections of the particular type plug.

1.05 **Silver-Tipped Plugs:** Some plugs commonly used with J and K carrier equipment have brass sleeves and silver tips. Procedures for cleaning these plugs are covered in 4.06.

1.06 **Gold-Plated Coaxial-Type Plugs:** These plugs should not be cleaned with metal polish or other abrasives, or with manual or motor driven plug cleaners. Procedures for cleaning these plugs are covered in 4.07.

2. LIST OF MATERIALS

CODE OR SPEC NO.	DESCRIPTION
MATERIALS	
KS-2423	Cotton Twill Cloth
KS-7860	Petroleum Spirits
P-103020	No. 4 Sleeving (100 foot length)
—	Bell System Metal Paste Polish

3. PREPARATION OF MATERIALS

3.01 Cut a 3-foot length of No. 4 sleeving. If working at a switchboard, tie a large knot at the midpoint of the sleeving. Raise the keyshelf sufficiently to place the knot of the sleeving over the lockrail and lower the keyshelf. If working elsewhere, secure the midpoint of the sleeving in a convenient manner. With the sleeving thus secured, two segments are free for cleaning purposes.

3.02 Evenly distribute a small amount of Bell System metal paste polish on each side of the midpoint of one of the sleeving segments for approximately half the length of the segment. Avoid applying excess polish to prevent accumulation of polish on the plug during cleaning. The other segment of the sleeving is used to remove the small amount of polish remaining on the plug after cleaning.

4. CLEANING PROCEDURES

All Plugs Except Silver-Tipped Plugs and Gold-Plated Coaxial-Type Plugs

4.01 Hold the end of the sleeving segment to which the paste polish was applied and place the inner end of the sleeve of the plug to be cleaned against the sleeving near the end being held. Make a complete turn of the sleeving around the plug sleeve.

4.02 Draw the sleeving taut to apply pressure to the plug and hold the plug with the tip pointing upward at an angle of approximately 30 degrees. Keeping the sleeving taut, move the plug toward the fixed point of the sleeving so that the sleeving wipes across the sleeve and ring portions of the plug. Several such movements should clean these portions of the plug.

4.03 Place the plug tip against the sleeving and make a complete turn of the sleeving around the tip of the plug. Using short strokes, move the plug back and forth along the sleeving, turning the plug so that the entire tip will be cleaned.

4.04 After the plug has been cleaned, place the plug against the other sleeving segment. Repeat the procedures covered in 4.01 through 4.03 to remove all paste polish from the plug. An alternate method is to thoroughly wipe the plug with a clean KS-2423 cloth.

Note: Refer to 1.04 for checking plugs after cleaning.

4.05 After the cleaning and polishing procedures have been completed, remove the

sleeving from the keyshelf. Discard the sleeving when it becomes worn or frayed.

Silver-Tipped Plugs

4.06 Using a fresh 3-foot length of sleeving with a very small amount of metal polish, clean these plugs as covered in 4.01 through 4.05 but take care to exert very light pressure during the cleaning operation.

Gold-Plated Coaxial-Type Plugs

4.07 The following limitations apply to the cleaning of these plugs.

- (1) Plug cleaners, metal polish, or abrasives shall not be used.
- (2) The inner surfaces of these plugs shall not be cleaned.
- (3) Clean the exterior surfaces of the plug using a clean KS-2423 cloth moistened with KS-7860 petroleum spirits. Take care that no dirt is deposited on the inner surfaces while cleaning the exterior surfaces. After cleaning, wipe the exterior surfaces of the plug with a dry KS-2423 cloth.