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# TSB 2013.08.004

Utility Grounding Reel Installation, Maintenance & Use

Affected Reels: SGCR, GCR

Date Issued: October-2013

All grounding shall be in accordance with OSHA 1926.954, 1910.269, and your company's policies and procedures regarding the grounding of vehicles and equipment. Reels are rated to 43 KA for 30 cycles per (ASTM 855-90).

#### INSTALLATION

The grounding reel should be mounted in a convenient location providing protection from damage and contamination which would degrade the current carrying capabilities of the reel, while allowing access for testing and maintenance. A bonding cable must be attached to the frame of the vehicle using suitable means.

### MAINTENANCE

Daily Inspection:

Prior to use each day, the reel, cable, and clamps should be inspected for:

- Damaged cables
- Broken or defective reel parts
- Condition of all component parts to ensure they are clean, tight, and mechanically sound

#### **Bi-annually (or more frequently if the reel is heavily used):**

- Remove cable and bonding jumper from the reel and clean all connections, checking for damage (See ISO-95 for Parts Drawing).
- Grease Roto-Ground via zerk fitting on the side of one of the reel discs using a conductive grease.
- Check resistance from Roto-Ground connection point to the bonding cable connection. Do not use reel unless resistance is  $2m\Omega$  or less.
- Next the current carrying capacity of the cable and bonding jumper should be verified. This can be accomplished by using a portable tester for personal grounding assemblies.
- Reconnect cable and bonding jumper to reel. A brass or bronze bolt must always be used to attach bonding jumper to reel shaft.

## **WARNING!!!** If there are any issues with the reel or cable make repairs prior to use.

#### USE

Prior to use perform daily inspection of reel as described above. Payout all cable from the reel, leaving no coils on the reel or on the ground between the reel and the ground attachment point (see warning below). Connect free end of cable to a suitable ground; if serrated jaw grounding clamps are not used, the clamp jaws and the conductor should be cleaned with a wire brush before attachment. When connecting the ground end to or disconnecting from a system neutral, an insulated clampstick or properly rated rubber gloves should be used. Personnel should avoid contact with the vehicle or equipment when installing or removing the ground end of the cable.



**WARNING!!!** Any cable remaining on the reel drum, could cause the reel to become an inductance coil, which may increase the touch potential danger for ground personnel. Additionally, it could increase the overall impedance of the truck grounding reel assembly under fault conditions causing damage to the reel. Failure to follow this warning could result in personal injury or death.

