

Maintenance Advisory

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Reducing Possibility of Cable Grip Slippage during Cable Barrier Repairs

Cable grips are devices typically used for pulling cables, such as the three-strand cables used in high tension cable barrier systems. Cable grips designed for servicing high tension cable barrier systems are capable of withstanding very large forces (e.g.: minimum service loads of 10,000 pounds or greater). However, when using these devices, there exists a possibility of the cable grip slipping along the cable and/or slipping completely off the cable. Should a cable grip slip along the cable and/or slip off the cable while servicing/repairing a cable barrier system, damage to nearby equipment and/or injury to nearby workers can occur. To reduce the possibility of a cable grip slipping along a cable and/or the cable grip slipping completely off the cable, the following recommendations should be followed:

- Use cable grips, of the correct size and type, equipped with safety latches.
 - Example: Klein Model 1672-10 or similar product.



- Always follow the cable grip manufacturer's recommended care and maintenance guidelines before and after each use. For example;
 - Use a wire brush or emery cloth to clean the surfaces of grip jaws.
 - Spray degreaser on the grip jaws, all joints and moving parts.
 - Use a wire brush to remove dirt and debris from the grip jaws. Completely remove any foreign material in the jaws that may cause slippage.
 - Clean and wipe grips dry with a soft cloth.
 - Lubricate all joints and moving parts according to manufacturer's specifications, but **DO NOT LUBRICATE GRIPPING SURFACES OF GRIP JAWS.**
 - Carefully inspect jaw condition and check all parts for distortion or misalignment. Check mechanical condition of entire cable grip.
 - **NEVER ATTEMPT TO REPAIR ANY GRIPS.** Grips that are bent, misaligned, or otherwise distorted should be discarded and replaced.

- C-clamps to help keep the cable grip's safety latch in place.



- U-bolt cable clamp attached to the cable directly behind the cable grip.
 - Example: Drop Forged Wire Rope Clamp for $\frac{3}{4}$ " diameter cable or similar product.



Safety latches on cable grips help keep the cable grip from slipping off the cable. As an additional precaution, securing a c-clamp to the safety latch will help keep the safety latch in place and reduce the chances of the safety latch failing if subjected to a large lateral force. Also, attaching a u-bolt cable clamp to the cable, directly behind the cable grip, will help keep the cable grip from slipping along the cable.

