



SNEA for you by S B Nagavi, CS Karnataka <nagavisb@gmail.com>

Sub: Explaining the requirement of RIDGID route and depth locator for copper cables in BSNL context.

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To: cgm_ktk <cgm_ktk@bsnl.co.in>, Narain Nanda Kumar <mail2narain@gmail.com>

To,**The CGMT****Karnataka Circle****Bangalore.****Respected Sir,****Sub: Explaining the requirement of RIDGID route and depth locator for copper cables in BSNL context.**

While working in out door field, the requirement of RIDGID Route and Depth Locator is very useful, saves time and helps us to retain the customers of CFA. The detailed usefulness is explained below.

1. Whenever copper cables are cut by external agencies, normally we use APLAB or ANDIG and we get some reading near to accurate depending on the gauge of cable. And we inform the cable jointer or phone mechanic to trace near the suspected place depending on the route shown in diagram or as per our knowledge.
2. Due to changing width and widening of roads, the scenario hitherto prevailing on the road has changed and some time cables tend to be near center of road though not at center.
3. The cross trench or actual trench starts without actually knowing the depth at which cable may be accessed. The thickness of roads has increased over the time due to repeated asphaltting in roads of cities like Bangalore.

4. The laborers who are tracing are not knowing the actual depth of cable and are tracing by digging may be 3-5 feet, after which they come to a conclusion that cables are not there in the absence of actual information as to the depth of cable. They may tend to come to conclusion that it is not possible to trace the fault due to heavy traffic and also due to the limited length/time permission from local authorities like BBMP OR BDA OR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS.

5. And managing the laborers at this point of time when they are exhausted and are concluding that cable is not there, this locator comes handy, which will show what is the actual depth of the cable and location of cut or route of cables by using it at that time we can say with confidence to dig few more inches or feet to locate as shown by the locator.

6. This equipment is like proprietary and is being used in most of the countries for locating the underground pipes for plumbing faults, electric cables or for copper cables faults. In today's heavy traffic scenario, we cannot blindly search for cables in busy streets without knowing the route and depth of cables.

7. Our main competitor in land line and copper segment M/s Airtel has been using this equipment exhaustively across Bangalore and has increased the landlines more than us. Presently we are hiring from the workers of Airtel without the information of their employers, so only either early morning or late in evening or night the workers of AIRTEL are helping us to locate the cables which are rendered faulty by many operators and agencies like GAS,ACT,Airtel,Bescom or Hathway etc.

8. In many areas of Bangalore, the copper cables were also laid using HDD method to the depth of 5 to 12 feet in different roads which are are very busy now. It takes a lot of time to manually trench 5 to 12 feet, then to find that, fault is lying about few feet or meters away and then proceeding to make one more pit of that depth by breaking open layers of tar or asphalt or cement, is time consuming and fault tracing will go on for days in the absence of proper diagnosis, which can be achieve by having this equipment.

9. This is already being used by Railways in India, for tracing under groundutilities[B1] .

10. By using this technically advanced route and depth tracer, we can minimize the time taken to attend the cable fault and also retrieve a lot of pairs hidden in the ground. In many places, many o/g cables have been laid from pillars ambitiously and the not utilized later, now lack of information and diagram, we are not able to exploit and explore the utility of these unused cables., like wise in some old exchanges, some main cable LI joint and further route of the cables laid long back, are also not properly known. This equipment can solve all these issues. Further the study of these locators may be under taken by some staff to help authorities to decide, by googling the utility of RIDGID route and depth locators used worldwide, and AIRTEL has purchased them in hundreds/bulk for all areas in Bangalore and given to the different sections/areas, so only , they are able to attend the faults immediately and retain the customers.

11. In a growing city like Bangalore, without proper equipment, and gadgets it is not possible to locate and attend faults in short time. Conventional methods will take days, weeks, months and years to retrieve the pairs.

12. And to get permission from local authorities also, it will be easy when we know actual route and depth of the cable to be traced, precisely for that length only permission can be taken, and also if we are able to attend fault in a day or two, local authorities will also be easily and willingly give permissions to attend faults.

13. Presently, we are hiring at the rate of 500-1000 per use, workers of other TSPs, who have these RIDGID locators, are coming to our pillars and exchanges after or before their working hours and in their company mostly at odd hours.

Hence it is requested to purchase the RIDGID route and depth locators for copper cable faults, initially few for BGTD and then based on the utility and feed back, some more can be bought.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

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