



Extreme cold is brutal on field and telephone cable. Insulation turns stiff and brittle. It cracks and breaks open if cables are handled too roughly. Once that happens, moisture seeps into the wire conductors and causes a short.

Certain places on a cable are especially vulnerable to cracking in the cold. These include field ties and splices, and kinks and crimps in the line.

Low temperatures also shrink and stiffen wire conductors, making them more liable to break.

Not only is cold cable more likely to crack, it's also stiff and harder to handle. A reel of cable may even freeze into its coiled shape.



The remedy for cold cable is a warm shelter and careful handling. Together they protect cable from damage and make it easier to control.

Take tightly coiled cable, unwind it into bigger coils, and store it where it's warm before taking it out in the cold. That'll reduce the risk of a pinch or break.



And don't forget to handle cold cable carefully. Slow and easy is the way when you pay out, reel in or flex cable. That helps to avoid cracking the insulation.

If you have to splice or repair cable, use cold weather tape, NSN 5970-00-723-5413, which comes in a 108-ft roll. This tape holds fast in cold weather and can be used without being warmed up. Most other friction and rubber tapes don't hold as well in extreme cold.

One more reminder: Metal connectors and receptacles shrink in the cold, making cable connections stubborn. Here again, take care when you hook up or unhook cables. Rough stuff just invites damage.

Generators...



KEEP YOUR GENERATOR ON THE JOB DURING COLD WEATHER BY GIVING IT A HELPING HAND.

HERE ARE FIVE THINGS YOU CAN DO...

- 1** The generator set and the area around it should be free of ice and snow. Pay particular attention to the fuel tank cap and filler neck where snow and ice can become water in your fuel.
- 2** Keep fuel tanks full to protect against moisture, condensation and accumulation of water.
- 3** Drain and service fuel filters frequently to remove water and prevent freezing.
- 4** Keep batteries well-charged and free from corrosion. If possible, remove the batteries when not in use from the generator and store them in a heated area.
- 5** Do not bend or kink wiring that may have become brittle in the cold. Make all connections with care.