

Splicing Instructions

# Buried Lockstitch Eye Splice

Plasma<sup>®</sup> and Plasma HiCo Ropes

# Introduction



## Buried Lockstitch Eye Splice

This document describes the steps required to perform a Buried Lockstitch eye splice in Type 1 and Type 2 12-strand braided ropes. Type 1 12-strand ropes consist of ropes that are made entirely of polyester, nylon, polyolefins or some combination of these materials. Type 2 12-strand ropes contain high modulus fibers such as Plasma<sup>®</sup>, Spectra<sup>®</sup>, Technora<sup>®</sup>, Vectran<sup>®</sup>, etc.



The following tools are required to perform the splice:

- Adhesive tape (plastic or paper)
- Marking pen
- Scissors
- Splicing fid (tubular or other type)
- Large ruler
- Knife

All splicing should be performed on a clean, flat surface.

### Fid Chart

| Rope Dia. |    | Fid Length |     | Rope Size<br>(Circ.) |
|-----------|----|------------|-----|----------------------|
| in.       | mm | in.        | mm  |                      |
| 1/4"      | 6  | 5-1/4"     | 133 | 3/4"                 |
| 5/16"     | 8  | 7"         | 178 | 1"                   |
| 3/8"      | 9  | 8"         | 203 | 1-1/8"               |
| 7/16"     | 11 | 8-3/4"     | 222 | 1-1/4"               |
| 1/2"      | 12 | 10-1/2"    | 267 | 1-1/2"               |
| 9/16"     | 14 | 12-1/4"    | 311 | 1-3/4"               |
| 5/8"      | 16 | 14"        | 356 | 2"                   |
| 3/4"      | 18 | 16"        | 406 | 2-1/4"               |
| 7/8"      | 22 | 19"        | 483 | 2-3/4"               |
| 1"        | 24 | 21"        | 533 | 3"                   |
| 1-1/16"   | 26 | 22-1/2"    | 572 | 3-1/4"               |
| 1-1/8"    | 28 | 24"        | 610 | 3-1/2"               |
| 1-1/4"    | 30 | 26"        | 660 | 3-3/4"               |
| 1-5/16"   | 32 | 28"        | 711 | 4"                   |

| Rope Dia. |     | Fid Length |      | Rope Size<br>(Circ.) |
|-----------|-----|------------|------|----------------------|
| in.       | mm  | in.        | mm   |                      |
| 1-1/2"    | 36  | 32"        | 813  | 4-1/2"               |
| 1-5/8"    | 40  | 35"        | 889  | 5"                   |
| 1-3/4"    | 44  | 38"        | 965  | 5-1/2"               |
| 2"        | 48  | 42"        | 1067 | 6"                   |
| 2-1/8"    | 52  | 46"        | 1168 | 6-1/2"               |
| 2-1/4"    | 56  | 50"        | 1270 | 7"                   |
| 2-1/2"    | 60  | 52"        | 1321 | 7-1/2"               |
| 2-5/8"    | 64  | 56"        | 1422 | 8"                   |
| 2-3/4"    | 68  | 60"        | 1524 | 8-1/2"               |
| 3"        | 72  | 63"        | 1600 | 9"                   |
| 3-1/4"    | 80  | 70"        | 1778 | 10"                  |
| 3-5/8"    | 84  | 77"        | 1956 | 11"                  |
| 4"        | 88  | 84"        | 2137 | 12"                  |
| 4-1/4"    | 104 | 91"        | 2311 | 13"                  |

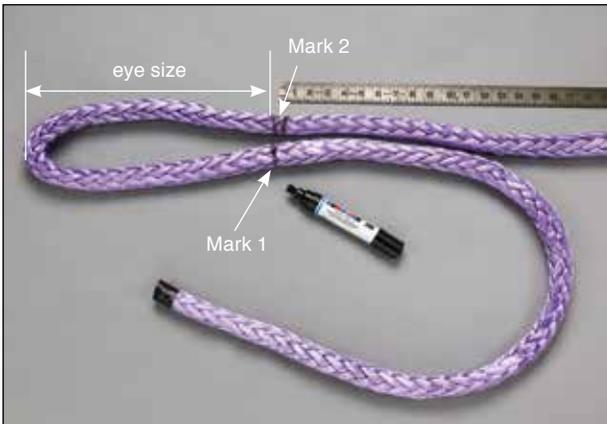
# Step 1 Rope Set-up



**1.1** Lay the end of the rope out straight on the work surface. Starting at the bitter end of the rope, measure a distance down from the end equal to two fid lengths for Type 1 ropes and three fid lengths for Type 2 ropes. The fid length for the specific rope size can be found in the table on the preceding page.

At the appropriate measurement point make a mark completely around the circumference of the rope. This is Mark 1.

## Step 2 Set Desired Eye Size



**2.1** Using Mark 1 as a reference point, form an eye in the bitter end of the rope. When the proper size of eye has been determined make a mark on the rope directly opposite Mark 1. This is Mark 2.

## Step 3 Performing the Splice



**3.1** Remove any tape from the bitter end of the rope and then cut the end of the rope at an angle.

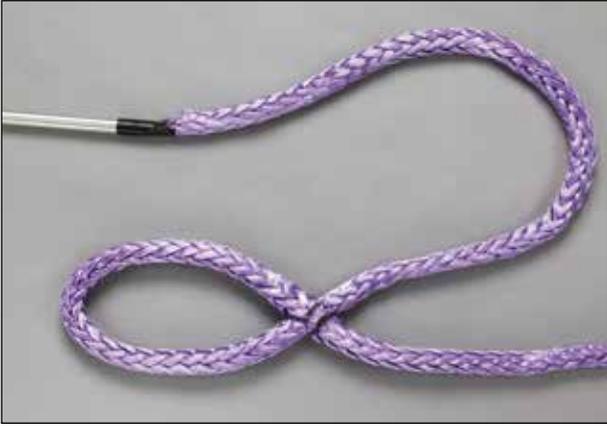


**3.2** Tape the splicing fid to the bitter end.



**3.3** Insert the fid directly through the body of the rope at Mark 2. The fid should be inserted between strands.

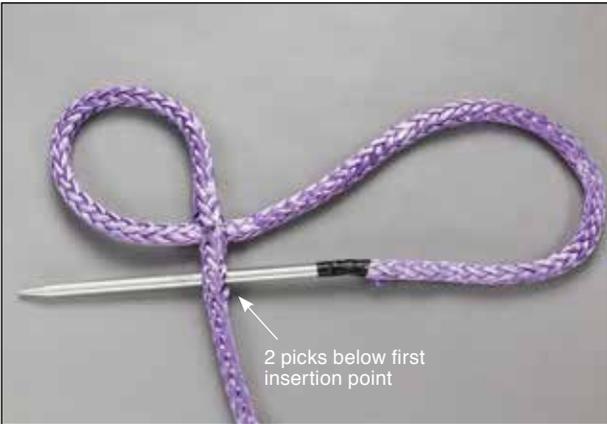
**Quality Check** There should be 6 strands in the body of the rope on either side of the fid at the point where it enters and then leaves the rope. The 6 strands should have three "S" and three "Z" strands on each side of the fid. Make sure the section of rope forming the eye is not twisted.



**3.4** Pull the fid and bitter end through until Mark 1 is buried inside the rope.



**NOTE:** A pick is a point on the braid in which one strand in the left or “s” direction crosses over or under a strand in the right or “z” direction. This is illustrated in the image to the left.

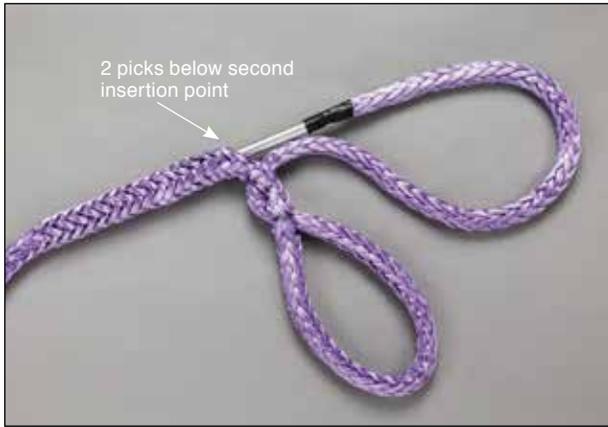


**3.5** Insert the fid through the rope at a point that is 2 picks below the first insertion point.

**Quality Check** Make sure there are six strands on each side of the tubular fid at both the insertion and extraction points.



**3.6** Pull the fid and bitter end all the way through so that the resulting loop or “stitch” is pulled tight.



**3.7** At a point 2 picks below the last extraction point, insert the fid into the center of the rope and push it down the rope for a distance of 2-1/2 fids for Type 1 rope and 3-1/2 fids for Type 2 rope. Bring the tip of the fid out of the body of the rope at this point.



**3.8** Pull the remaining length of bitter end through the body of the rope. This will cause the rope to bunch up back towards the base of the eye and the brummel. Remove the fid from the bitter end.

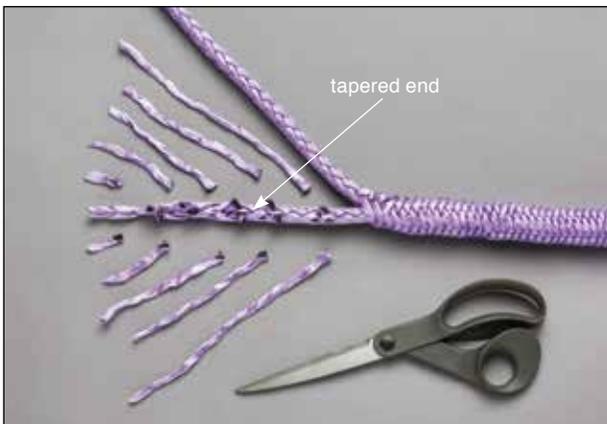
## Step 4 Tapering the Bitter End and Finishing the Splice



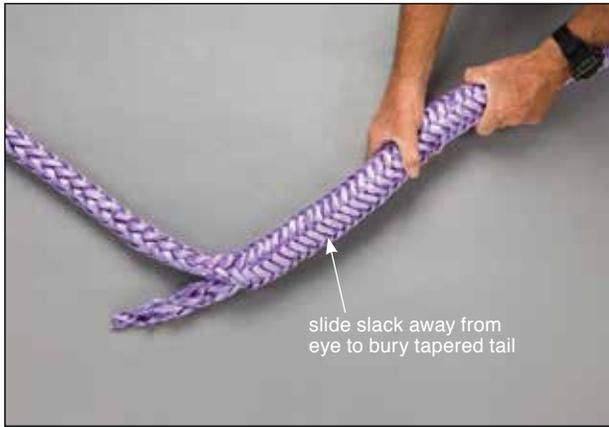
**4.1** Working from the bitter end, count 3 picks (strand pairs) away from the end and mark the 3rd pair to form a V shaped mark on the rope. Then count 2 more picks up the rope and mark the 2nd pair. Alternate counting and marking the 3rd and then 2nd picks for a total of five marked pairs, about 1 fid away from the bitter end (this forms a pattern of unmarked picks of 2-1-2-1-2 between marks).



**4.2** Pull each of the marked strands out of the braid at the point where it has been marked.



**4.3** Cut off the end of these strands at their respective marks to form a tapered end.



**4.4** Working from the base of the eye smooth out the bunched up rope away from the eye to bury the tapered bitter end back inside the body of the rope.



**4.5** The completed Buried Lockstitch Splice. Cross stitching is recommended, to prevent the splice from becoming loose or pulling out when the rope is not under load or when it might be mishandled. Please reference Cortland's Cross Stitching Instructions, document CT\_TL\_060\_0715.

# Glossary

**Bitter End** – End of the rope closest to the working area.

**Core** – Inner braid of a double braid rope. The core is contained within the cover braid.

**Core Dependent Rope** – A double-braid rope in which the core carries the entire load and the cover is primarily for protection from abrasion and external damage.

**Cover/Sleeve/Jacket** – Outer braid of a double braid rope that covers the core braid.

**Cross Stitching** – A series of sewing stitches using twine that locks a splice into place to prevent it from slipping or being pulled apart. Reference Cortland's Cross Stitching Instructions, CT\_TL\_060 document.

**Crossover** – The point in a splice where the core enters the cover and the cover enters the core.

**Eye Allowance** – Length of the rope that determines the final eye size.

**Eye Splice** – The splice that is necessary to form an eye at the end of a rope.

**Fid** – A metal, wood or plastic tool used as an aid in splicing. Fids typically are tapered at one end and have a method to allow attaching the cover or core of the rope being spliced at the other end. Some fids are also intended to be used as a measuring tool when laying out the splicing marks on the rope.

**Fid Length** – A fid length is a unit of measurement originally based on the design of tubular fids used for splicing double braids. A fid length is now generally defined as 7 x the rope circumference or 21 x the rope diameter.

**Grommet** – (or Endless Grommet or Endless Loop) – A line that is spliced into a loop rather than having eyes.

**Milk** – The act of removing slack in the cover or core by sliding the loose braid back over the rope element that has been buried inside the loose section.

**Pick** – A point on either the core or cover braid in which one strand in the left or "S" direction crosses over or under a strand in the right or "Z" direction.

**Splice** – The process used to make an eye or join two ends of rope together.

**Standing End** – The end of the rope not in use.

**Standing Part** – The central section of rope away from the end being used or spliced.

**Strands** – A twisted (S twist or Z twist) bundle of yarn comprising one of the discrete components used to make a braided rope.

**S-Twist** – A strand in which the fibers are twisted in a left-hand direction.

**Taper** – Trimming or cutting a strand or braid so that it gradually becomes thinner toward one end.

**Thimble** – A ring or tear-drop shaped form, often of metal or plastic, that fits on the rope on the inside of an eye splice. It is used to prevent sharp bending of the rope at the top of the eye & to protect the inside of the eye from chafing or cutting.

**Unlay (Unbraid)** – To take apart and separate the strands of a rope into individual components.

**Whipping** – Securing rope ends or sections of a rope or splice by wrapping twine tightly around the object to be whipped.

**Z-Twist** – A strand in which the fibers are twisted in a right-hand direction.



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