

Rip Cord Puller for Outdoor Cable

1. General

1.1 This procedure describes how to use a Corning Cable Systems Rip Cord Puller for Outdoor Cable (p/n RPOC-001).

1.2 The RPOC-001 tool, when used with a suitable cordless screwdriver, can easily pull rip cords through the sheath and/or steel tape armor found in most outdoor fiber optic cables.

1.3 This issue includes updated corporate information.

2. Precautions

2.1 In addition to the precautions below, read and follow the precautions found in the stripping procedure for the cable you are installing and those provided in the user manual provided with the cordless screwdriver you are using. *Failure to so may result in personal injury and/or damage to the cable or your installation equipment.*

Safety Precautions

 **DANGER:** *Never operate a cordless screwdriver in a potentially explosive atmosphere unless it is rated for use in such environments. Manholes and other work areas may contain explosive gases which could be ignited by common, consumer-grade electrical tools.*

Safety Glasses

 **WARNING:** *The wearing of **safety glasses** to protect the eyes from accidental injury is strongly recommended when using the RPOC-01 tool, handling cables, and when cutting central members and other cable components.*

Safety Gloves

 **WARNING:** *The wearing of **safety gloves** to protect your hands from accidental injury when using sharp-bladed tools and working with exposed cable armor is strongly recommended. Use extreme care when tools are open and blades are exposed. Properly dispose of used blades.*

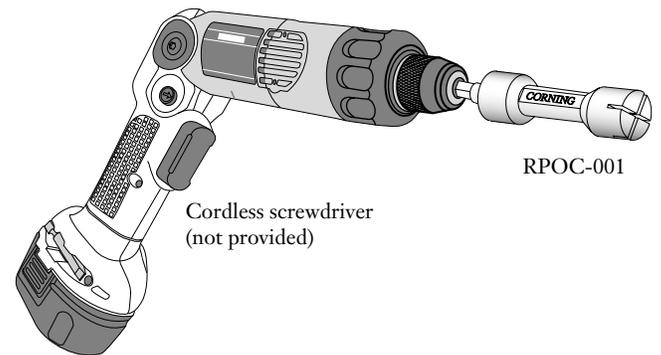


Figure 1

-  **Tool Precautions**
-  **WARNING:** *Never operate a cordless screwdriver, drill, or other power tool while your hands are on the RPOC-001 tool. Always make sure that hands are clear of the tool and rip cord before activating the power tool.*
-  **WARNING:** *Do not ever wrap a rip cord around your fingers or hands. Serious injury could occur.*
-  **CAUTION:** *Never use corded power tools with the RPOC-001 tool- use cordless tools only.*
-  **CAUTION:** *This tool is not designed to remove strength members such as, but not limited to, GRP or steel rods. Do not use this tool with indoor tight-buffered cables.*

3. Tools and Materials

3.1 In addition to safety glasses, gloves, and the RPOC-001 tool, this procedure requires the following tools and materials:

- Cordless screwdriver with an adjustable clutch and 7.2 VDC minimum battery.
- Utility knife with hook blade
- Tape measure
- Electrical tape
- Appropriate cable stripping procedure and any tools and materials specified in that procedure.

4. Using the RPOC-001 Tool

4.1 Access a 15-20 cm (6-8 in.) length of the rip cord(s) lying beneath the cable's armor layer and/or cable sheath according to the cable manufacturer's procedure.

4.2 To complete the cable preparation (Figure 2):

- Measure and mark the cable sheath at the desired strip length on the cable with a tape wrap or ring cut.
- Use a hook blade knife to make a starting notch in the cable sheath and/or armor. Place the rip cord in the notch.

Note: Rip cord materials may vary, dependent on their manufacturer and design - some cables may not need a starting notch.

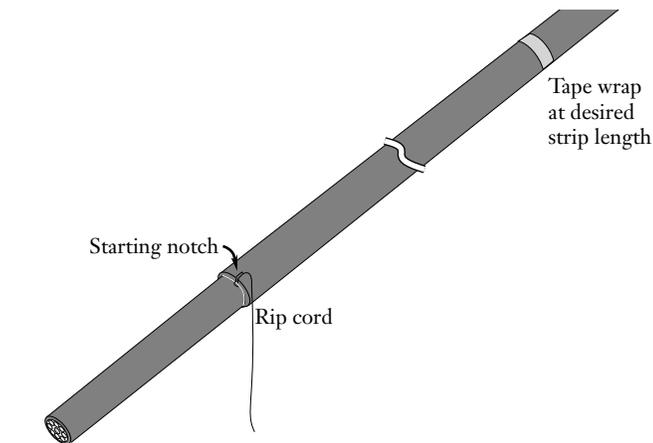


Figure 2

CAUTION: For maximum safety, always load the rip cord into tool prior to placing the tool into your cordless screwdriver.

4.3 Hold the end of the rip cord near the rear of the RPOC-001 tool. (Figure 3). A piece of tape may be used to secure the rip cord if desired.

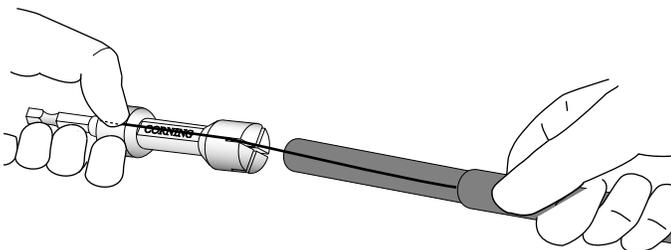
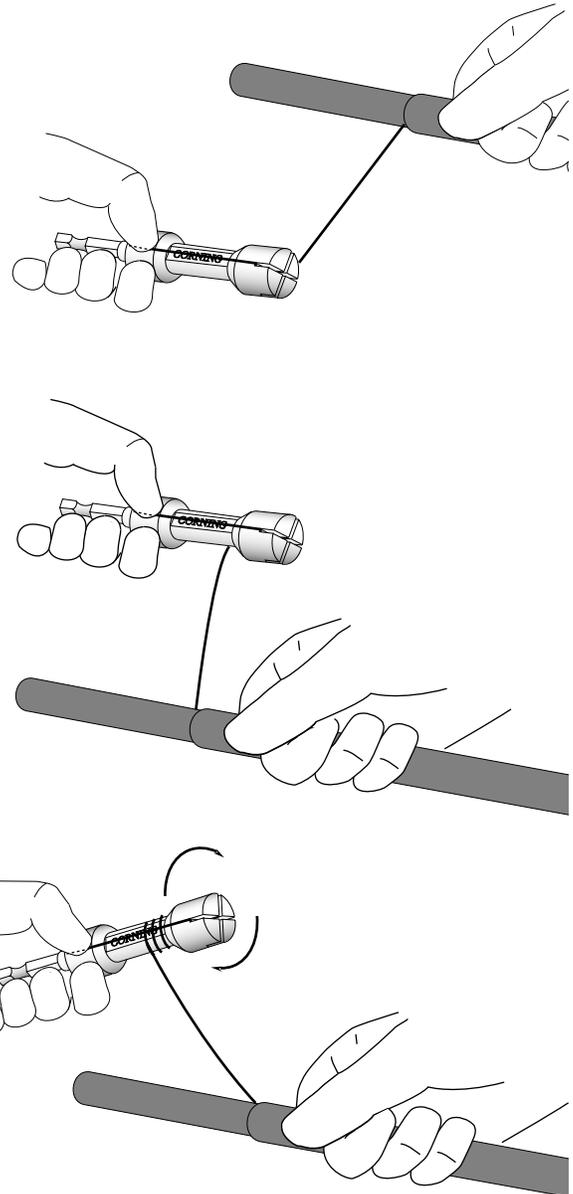


Figure 3

4.4 Place the rip cord through one of the slots on the end of the tool.

While maintaining gentle tension on the cord, wrap the rip cord around the center section of the tool several times, crossing over the length of rip cord running from the back to the front of the tool (Figures 4-6).

WARNING: Do not allow the rip cord to wind around your fingers or hand during this step.



Figures 4-6

4.5 Test the cordless screwdriver to make sure that it is rotating in the same direction as the tool was during the loading steps. Change the direction of the screwdriver if necessary.

IMPORTANT: If necessary, set the clutch on the screwdriver to its highest setting. These settings are usually numerical and run from 1 upwards. Check the manual provided with your cordless screwdriver to verify if this is the case.

4.6 Lock the bit-end of the tool into the screwdriver, being careful not to turn on the screwdriver (Figure 7).

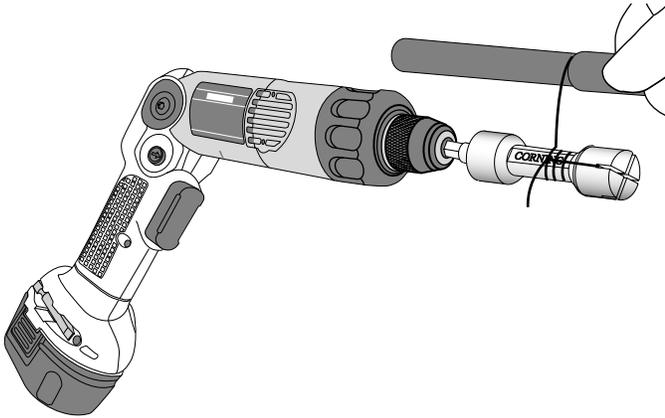


Figure 7

4.6 Position the screwdriver so that it will be able to move from the end of the outer sheath to the tape mark.

Secure the end of the cable by holding the exposed section of cable.

4.7 Making sure that your hands and fingers are clear of the rip cord, the RPOC-001 tool, and the chuck of the screwdriver, slowly bring the screwdriver up to an easily controlled speed as shown in Figure 8 below.

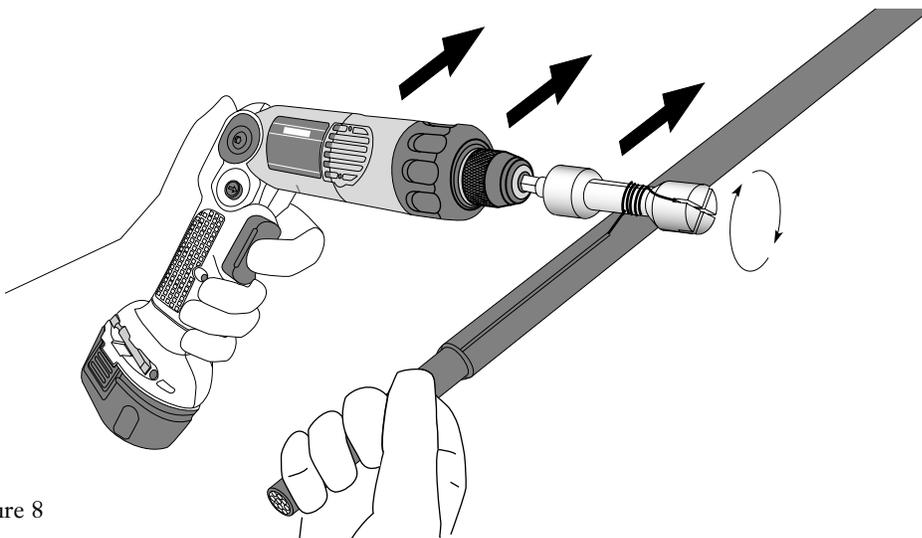


Figure 8

The rip cord should now begin to rip through the armor and/or cable sheath. Continue powering the screwdriver until the rip cord opens the sheath to the desired strip length marked in Step 4.2 (Figure 9).

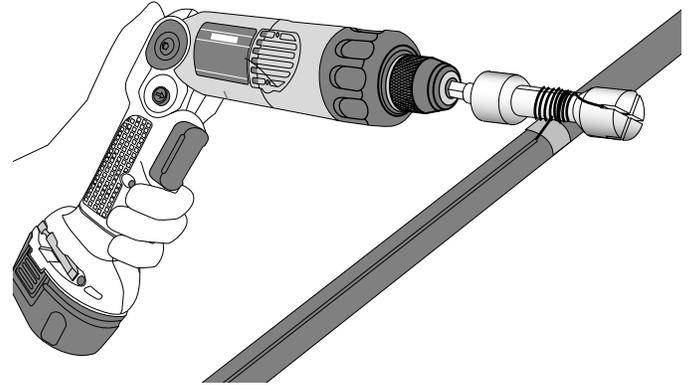


Figure 9

4.8 With the drill turned off, remove the tool from the chuck.

4.9 To unwind the rip cord, point the front of the tool along the axis of the slit in the cable sheath and gently pull back on the tool (Figure 10).

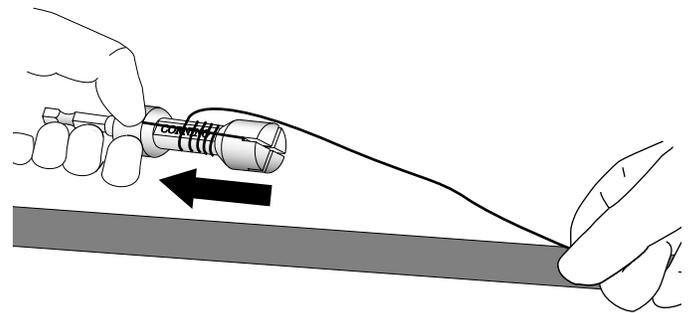


Figure 10

4.10 Continue following the cable manufacturer's recommended procedures for the remainder of the cable preparation process.

*Special Note:
Fiber Optic
Training
Programs*



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