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Communication grounding hardware and conductors to meterbase enclosures

Concerns have arisen from Local Distribution Companies in regards to the attachment of communication grounding hardware and conductors to meterbase enclosures. Utility workers regularly work on meterbases with the electrical power energized. Grounding devices for communication equipment attached to removable covers on meterbases could pose a hazard to these employees. The devices could dislodge the cover from its catch or the conductor in the device could interfere with the cover removal. There is also concern that the conductor could free itself from the grounding device and contact the exposed meter connections.

Bonding and Grounding hardware must be approved devices, as per Rule 2-024 of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code and installed as per the manufacturer's instructions (see Figure F1). Also, these devices must not be installed directly to removable covers on meterbases. These devices must not distort or damage the meterbase enclosure.

Note:

- Utility workers need to be aware of these devices when working on meterbase enclosures.
- Communication companies need to ensure their installation practices meet these requirements.

Figure F1 - Examples of approved devices

Meter Box Ground Clamp (Patented)

