

Anderson PowerPoles®

The 30 amp Anderson Powerpole® has become the standard power connector of preference within emergency communications organizations around the country.

First becoming popular in the Pacific Northwest, the Powerpole® allows for quick field installation and interchange of power supplies and radio equipment without having to resort to adapter cables, clip leads and other temporary or improvised arrangements. Powerpoles® are both polarized and genderless, so you never have to worry about male vs. female or positive vs. negative. Connections can be quickly made and remade in the dark without any hassles and the 30-amp connector can easily handle 100-watt radios. Housings should be mated according to the diagram above, viewing from the contact side (opposite the wire side), tongue down, hood up, RED on the LEFT, BLACK on the RIGHT. Use a 3/32-inch-diameter roll pin, 1/4 inch long, to keep the housings from sliding apart.

Highly conductive silver-plated copper contacts allow minimal contact resistance at high currents. Self-wiping action on make and break keeps conducting surfaces clean. Contact dents keep connectors mated in high-vibration applications and provide quick-break, snap action upon disconnect.

Non-corrosive stainless-steel leaf springs maintain constant contact pressure—ideal for frequent connections/disconnections and intermittent overloading. Durable, high impact-resistant, polycarbonate housing with UL94V-2 flammability ratings comes in many colors for circuit trace ability and coding.

Identical connector halves are genderless—making assembly quick and easy and reducing the number of parts stocked. Molded-in dovetails allow for customized harness in a variety of configurations.

The 15-ampere contacts are designed for 16-20 AWG wire and the 30-ampere contacts are designed for 12-16 AWG wire. The contacts can be soldered or crimped to wires. A very inexpensive crimping tool is available from Gardner-Bender (crimp tool #GS-88). After a contact has been attached to a wire, it should be installed into the housing so that the housing spring mates with the underside of the contact. To remove a contact from the housing, you may use a very small blade (jeweler's screwdriver or "X-acto" knife) to depress the spring, allowing the contact to be removed.