

Tracer Wire vs THHN

What is Tracer Wire for?

Tracer Wire, also called locating wire, is for underground installations to aid in the detection and tracing of underground utility lines for gas, electric, water, sewer, and telecommunication systems.

How is Tracer Wire Constructed?

Priority Wire & Cable's Tracer Wire is made of flexible copper clad steel core, or copper core, coated with 30mils of a high density high molecular weight polyethylene (HDHMWPE), available in various sizes. For extra heavy duty applications, 45mils HDHMWPE are offered upon request.

Why Not THHN?

THHN wire is a general purposed building wire covered with Nylon over PVC, commonly installed in raceways or conduits. PVC/Nylon is susceptible to water and moisture and is not rated for direct burial since typical underground harsh conditions with concentrated acidic or alkaline chemicals or solvents would dramatically reduce THHN's lifespan. Because of this, it could only be used temporarily as locating wire, or it would need to be replaced at some point during the lifespan of the underground utility lines.

Priority Wire & Cable has the Solution!

Priority Wire's tracer wire with HDHMWPE covering is a long-term solution for underground utility line locating applications.

HDHMWPE structured with long chain molecules and high density, has excellent mechanical strength to resist abrasion, crush and cut through. It is highly resistant to chemical concentrated acids and alkalis, as well as numerous organic solvents. It is also resistant to water and moisture due to high density polyethylene's extremely low moisture absorption rate. With the superior mechanical and environmental properties, HDHMWPE offers a very long life in underground conditions, and would perform as designed in detecting and tracing underground utility lines.

