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PRESS RELEASE

GREENLEE'S EK425 BATTERY-POWERED CRIMPING TOOL FIRST TO CRIMP ALL OF THE SAME CONNECTORS

No other company currently offers a battery-powered tool similar to the EK425

ROCKFORD, Ill., January 26, 2004 — Greenlee has launched the latest in its line of Fairmont products, the EK425, the first and only battery-powered MD6 style crimping tool that has the capability to crimp all of the same connectors as MD6 and O-66 style tools. With five tons of crimping force, the EK425 can be used by overhead crews for use with taps and small sleeves, underground crews for use in narrow trenches, and by crews installing service entrance connectors.

“We developed the EK425 to help end-users help reduce muscle strain and repetitive motion injuries,” said Jim Eisele, product manager. “Unlike a manual tool, the battery power of the EK425 assures that the crimp is complete before the crimping jaws open and it also helps to reduce these type of injuries.”

The EK425 is about two pounds lighter and seven inches shorter than MD6 style tools so it is much easier to carry up ladders and to use in aerial buckets, and, since there are no handles to open, it requires much less space in underground situations.

The EK425 is operated with one hand leaving the other hand free to position the cable and connector. The crimping jaws open wide to fit easily over connectors. To help prepare for a crimp, the jaws can be jogged closed until they just grip the connector allowing the operator to position the cable in the connector before finishing the crimp.

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EK425/2-2-2-2

The EK425 will complete about 90 crimps per battery charge on 4/0 splices. When a crimp is fully completed, the EK425 signals the operator by automatically opening the jaws. It is then ready to make the next crimp. When the crimping jaws need to be opened before a crimp is complete, the operator can simply push a button on the back side of the tool.

The EK425 comes equipped either with crimping jaws that have the D₃ profile that have the Kearney O profile. All W style dies sold by Greenlee and several competitors can be installed in the CJD3 jaws. All O style dies sold by Kearney can be installed in the CJK jaws. Available accessories include O die crimping jaws and KD6-27 cutter dies that will cut up to 4/0 ACSR.

For more information on the EK425, or other crimping tools in the Fairmont line, contact Greenlee, a Textron company, 4455 Boeing Drive, Rockford, Illinois 61109-2988. Phone (815) 397-7070. Fax (815) 397-1865 or visit the website at www.greenlee.com.

Textron Inc. (NYSE: TXT) is an \$11 billion multi-industry company with 49,000 employees in 40 countries. The company leverages its global network of businesses to provide customers with innovative solutions and services in industries such as aircraft, fastening systems, industrial products and components and finance. Textron is known around the world for its powerful brands such as Bell Helicopter, Cessna Aircraft, Kautex, Lycoming, E-Z-GO and Greenlee, among others. More information is available at www.textron.com.

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