

Anderson Powerpole® Connectors

Lake County ARES strongly encourages members to equip their radios and accessories with Anderson Powerpoles®, in the standard ARES configuration. When done, this will allow interchange and connection between virtually all power sources and equipment, greatly improving our ability to rapidly deploy and become operational.

Anderson Powerpoles® are genderless modular connectors that can handle up to 600 V. AC or DC. The housings are red or black (to indicate polarity) and the same housing accommodates contacts of 15, 30, or 45 amp capacity. When properly installed, it is impossible to reverse polarity when making a connection. What's even more important is that all connectors interchange! Thus your 15 amp Powerpole® connector from your radio will connect to a 15, a 30 or a 45 amp Powerpole® connector. The different amperage contacts accommodate different wire gauges.

15-amp contact - AWG 20 to 16

30-amp contact - AWG 16 to 12

45-amp contact - AWG 14 to 10

Installation and Assembly

The standard ARES configuration is easy to remember: “Red to the Right, from the Rear.” Here are a couple of pictures to help.



For more information and detailed instructions go to http://www.westmountainradio.com/content.php?page=supporttr#pp_gen_inst
Be sure to scroll down!

Sources of Supply

There are many, many vendors supplying Anderson Powerpole® Connectors. They are available as packages of Red & Black housings, with contacts, in sets of 10, 25 and up. In addition, one can buy packages of contacts only. This is handy for having contacts available for different wire gauges and loads. They are available at virtually all Hamfests and online. Good prices (as of 2011) are less than \$1.00 per pair (housings and contacts) and could be found as low as \$.67 per pair in sets of 25 at the 2011 Orlando HamCation.

A good crimper is essential for proper installation. However, most Hams do not need the expensive ratchet type crimper. The inexpensive stake type crimper, such as the one offered by PowerWerx <http://www.powerwerx.com/tools-meters/powerpole-crimping-tool-15-30-amp.html> is entirely adequate.

Questions and assistance

For any questions or assistance, contact any of the Lake County ARES staff. They will be glad to answer any questions and assist you in getting Powerpole® ready!