Yolo County ARES has designated the Anderson Powerpole as the standard DC power connector for use by all ARES districts to standardize connectors. The ARRL has also recommended this connector. Some of the advantages of this connector over the previously used Molex (Radio Shack) connector are its color coding as well as the variety of power sizes the connector can be used for - up to 45 amps. Using this standard, highly reliable connector allows quick and easy installation and substitution of radios, power supplies, batteries, and other equipment.

Either the 15-ampere or 30-ampere sizes may be used, and both sizes mate with each other. The plastic parts are the same for both sizes. The barrel area (which holds the wire) of the 15-ampere silver-plated contact is smaller than that of the 30-ampere contact, but the contact area is the same. The connectors dovetail together into a compact unit.

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.

Noncorrosive 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 traceability and coding.

Identical connector halves are genderless—making assembly quick and easy and reducing the number of parts stocked. Molded-in dovetails allow for a customized harness in a variety of configurations. When the connectors are disconnected, no metal parts are exposed.

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 crimping tool is available from Anderson. It is also recommended that the connectors be soldered to further insure conductivity and strength. 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, use Anderson insertion/extraction tool #111038G2. You may also substitute a very small blade (jeweler's screwdriver or X-acto knife) to depress the spring, allowing the contact to be removed.

The connectors can be panel mounted with clamp receptacles, consisting of two aluminum plates (Anderson part #1462G1), notched to hold the plastic housings when they are dovetailed together.

The plastic housings come in other colors also. Red and black are suggested for standard dc connectors (red as positive and black as negative).


Sources of Anderson Powerpoles:

Ham Radio Outlet 8400 E. Iliff Ave #9 Denver CO 80231  800-444-9476  303-745-7373  24 HOUR FAX 303-745-7394
http://www.hamradio.com  denver@hamradio.com

PowerWerx.com 401 S. Harbor Blvd., F-320, La Habra, CA 90631 Tel: (714) 570-3303 Fax: (714) 990-5532  http://www.powerwerx.com/  info@powerwerx.com

West Mountain Radio 34 Smith Street  Norwalk, CT 06851  Phone 203-853-8080  Fax 203-299-0232  Email: sales@westmountainradio.com  http://www.westmountainradio.com/