ARTSS DIAGRAM for Lay-Out of Church DROP–LINE SYSTEMS

1. WEIGHT-BEARING Screw Eyes:
   (screw-eye sizes: # 4, 6, 8, or # 204, 206)
   * Large / Heavy Duty Eyes for Weight Bearing Loads
     (smaller number = larger eye hole & heavier the gauge of wire)
   * File-Off rough barbs & edges in & around circle, use small round file.
   * Sink HORIZONTALLY, ie Parallel to Floor.

2. GUIDE-LINE Screw Eyes:
   * Med or Light-Duty Eyes, for NON-Weight Bearing Loads:
     (sizes: # 10, 12, or # 208)
   * For EACH Heavy Duty Weight-Bearing Screw Eye aim to use between 5 and 15
     Guide-Line Screw Eyes. They are placed every 2" to 30".
   These smaller eyes serve to:
     1. Keep 2 parallel lines from tangling. AND keep cords visually out of sight.
     2. Guide the lines around corners, through softs.
     3. Keep lines from snagging on fixtures like sprinklers, conduit, lighting. AND keeps cords away from hot light fixtures.
   * File-Off rough barbs & edges in & around circle, use small round file.
   * Sink PERPENDICULAR to wood beam.

3. Measure Cord BEFORE Cutting, & Finishing Wall-End
   * Once ALL screw-eyes for a single Drop-Line are installed along its determined “path” AND the Line/Cord is threaded through all Weight–Bearing eye/s, AND all Guide-Line eyes.
   THEN string cord through each screw-eye, starting with the TOP Weight–Bearing eye, and working your way DOWN through every eye, IN ORDER.
   * Once cord is through every eye on its path, then DROP BOTH ENDS to the floor. Give an extra 2 feet at each end, THEN your support-person on ground CUTS the cord. Then begin threading the next Line.
   * Finish wall-end of cord with 1” split-ring : slide on to cord 2–3” from end of cord. Use 2 or 3 over-hand knots (keeps from fraying) to secure.
   * For ceiling end finishing, see above right column.

4. Finishing Ceiling-End:
   Snap-Hooks & WEIGHTS
   Snap-Hooks: 1" carabiner type clips work best, with spring gate.
   WEIGHTS: Ceramic, Iron or Tungsten FISHING are best NON-Load options. In ALL cases WASH HANDS WELL after handling.
   With ceiling-end of each Drop-Line still laying on floor, place Snap-Hook 4" from end of cord. Wrap 3x around small end of Snap-Hook. Then use 4 half-hitch knots + wood glue to secure. Use combinations of 2oz – 6oz weight/s (actual amt of weight depends on thickness of cord, length of drop-line & # of angles along its path). 2” above snap-hook, secure weight/s using Lark’s Head knot (see tying directions below). Test weight amt by gently pulling down on wall-end to verify line drops smoothly from ceiling position.

ATTENTION:
Images in this Diagram are NOT to Scale. They are shown larger for diagramatic purposes.
This Lay-Out Diagram is only a basic outline of a few issues to consider as your Drop-Line Installation Team begins to address questions specific to your church’s drop-line plan. Your sanctuary will pose its own unique set of challenges and these must be thought-through before undertaking this engineering feat.
In practice Drop-Line Systems should be OVER-Built, using heavy duty materials, rather than trying to save money on small or light-weight supplies. UNDER-built Drop-Line Systems poses serious stretching & breaking hazards.
BUT the other critical consideration is to make them as INVISIBLE as possible, so when IN USE AND when DORMANT, the hardware and cordage do NOT distract from the art work or architecture. Your job as designer is to find that perfect balance between sturdy/durable and refined/transparent.
Always allot more time than you think you need to complete this project.

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