



Campus & Data Centers – Why Ribbon Technology Works for You

Characteristics and Benefits of Ribbon Fiber &
Ribbon Cables

By

Kurt Templeman, RCDD



1. Fiber Optic Specifications
2. Advantages of Standard Fiber Optic Ribbon Based Cables
3. Advantages of Splicing Fiber Optic Ribbon
4. Connectivity Options for Splicing Fiber Optic Ribbon
5. 2nd Generation Fiber Optic Ribbon
6. Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Overview & Advantages
7. Conclusion – Review of Benefits



Long History of Successful Deployment

Over 35 years of successful deployment provides assurance that the technology is solid, reliable ...

History of 30 years

1980

Ribbon Slotted Core Cable

Primarily 4, 8, 12 fiber ribbons

Smaller diameter High fiber count

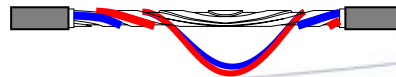
1990

Mass Ribbon Fusion Splicer

1000-Fiber Ribbon "Multi" Slotted Core Cable

1000-Fiber Ribbon "Single" Slotted Core Cable

ROL stranded core



2000

Small diameter and Light weight 1000-Fiber Ribbon Slotted Core Cable

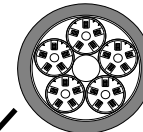
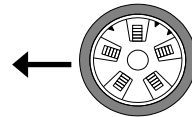
Enhanced Peelable Ribbon

2010

Easy Accessibility Cable



Progress in Workability



40mm

28mm



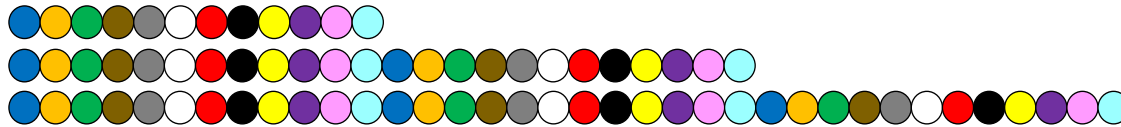
23mm



Ribbon Fiber & Identification

Easy Identification

Standard color codes and print string on ribbon make identification easy. Many more fibers installed in less time, terminated faster and proven reliability show why ribbon growth has been explosive.



12 Strand SM Fiber



24 Strand SM Fiber



36 Strand SM Fiber



Optical Fiber Specifications & Guidelines

FIBER TYPE	ITU	TIA DETAIL	ISO/IEC
50um Multimode Fiber	G.651	492AAAB	11801
		492AAAC-A	
62.5um Multimode Fiber	G.651	492AAAA	11801
Non-Dispersion Shifted Single Mode Fiber	G.652B	492CAAA	60793-2-50 B1.1
Non-Dispersion Shifted Single Mode Fiber with "Zero Water Peak"	G.652D	492CAAB	60793-2-50 B1.3
Dispersion Shifted Single Mode Fiber	G.653B	492DAAA	60793-2-50 B2
Cut-Off Shifted Fiber	G.654C	see ITU	see ITU
Non-Zero Dispersion Shifted Single Mode Fiber (NZDSF)	G.655C	492EAAA	60793-2-50 B4
	G.655D	492EAAA	60793-2-50 B4
	G.655E	492EAAA	60793-2-50 B4
Non-Zero Dispersion Shifted Wideband Transport Fiber (NZWTF)	G.656	see ITU	60793-2-50 B5
Bend-Insensitive Single Mode Fiber	G.657A1	see ITU	60793-2-50 B6A
	G.657A2	see ITU	60793-2-50 B6A
	G.657B2	see ITU	60793-2-50 B6B
	G.657B3	see ITU	60793-2-50 B6B

ITU – T G.652D



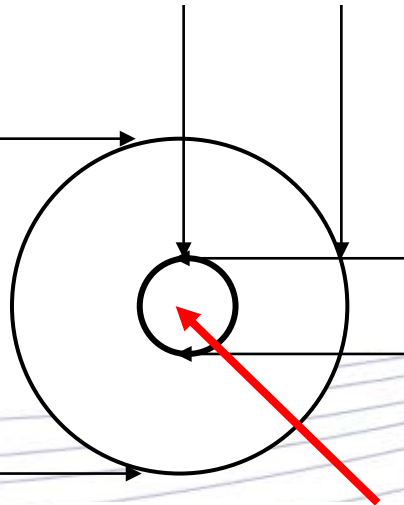
Uniformity of Fiber
in Ribbon

Ribbons manufactured with fiber which adhere to the standards provide compatibility...
The core concentricity offset allows ribbon to be spliced uniformly

STANDARD SINGLE MODE FIBER

Core concentricity offset
0.8 microns (SEL = 0.4)

Cladding diameter
125 microns, +/- 0.5



Mode field diameter
8.6-9.2 microns, +/- 0.6
microns

**Bend Insensitive Fibers are typically at
the low end of the mode field
measurement, 8.6 microns, or better.**



Optical Fiber Standards

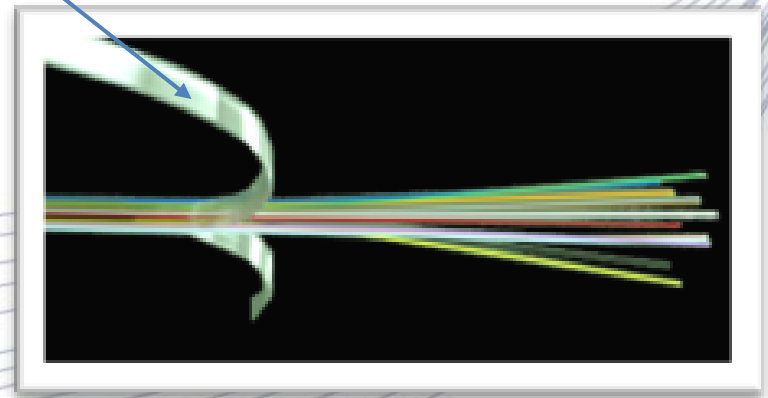
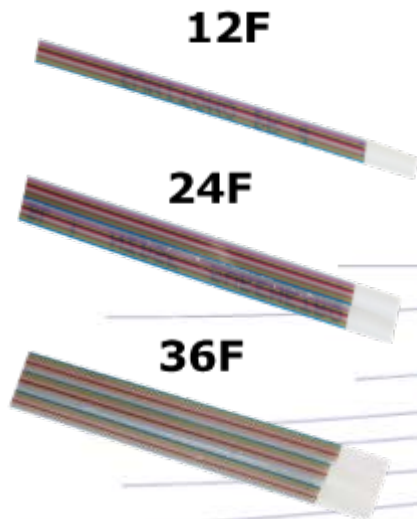
	ITU-T G.652.D Max. / Typical	ITU-T G.657.A1 Max. / Typical	ITU-T G.657.A2 Max. / Typical
General			
Type	Single Mode	Single-Mode	Single-Mode
Refractive Index Profile	Matched Clad	Matched Clad	Matched Clad
Manufacturing Process	VAD	VAD	VAD
Dimensional			
Cladding Diameter	125.0 ± 0.5 um	125.0 ± 1.0 um	125.0 ± 1.0 um
Cladding Non-circularity	< 0.5 %	< 1.0 %	< 1.0 %
Core to Cladding Concentricity	≤ 0.4 um	≤ 0.4 um	≤ 0.4 um
Coating Diameter	245 ± 5 um	245 ± 10 um	245 ± 10 um
Transmission			
Typical Uncabled Attenuation (1310/1550 nm)	≤ 0.31 / 0.19 dB/km	0.40dB/km @ 1310 0.22 dB/km @ 1550 nm 0.25 dB/km @ 1625 nm	0.40 dB/km @ 1310nm 0.37 dB/km @ 1380 nm 0.22 dB/km @ 1550 nm 0.25 dB/km @ 1625 nm
Attenuation Point Discontinuities	≤ 0.10 dB	≤ 0.10 dB @ 1550 nm	≤ 0.10 dB @ 1550 nm
Cabled Cutoff Wavelength	≤ 1260 nm	≤ 1450 nm	≤ 1300 nm
Mode Field Diameter	9.2 ± 0.4 um @ 1310nm Typ. 10.4 ± 1.0 um @ 1550 nm	9.2 ± 0.50 um	8.3 ± 0.50 um
Zero Dispersion Wavelength	1302 - 1322 nm	≤ 1450 nm	≤ 1450 nm
Zero Dispersion Slope	≤ 0.090 ps/(nm ² km)	< 0.060 ps/(nm ² km)	< 0.05 ps/(nm ² km)
Polarization Mode Dispersion	< 0.2 ps/ km ^{1/2}	< 0.2 ps/ km ^{1/2}	< 0.2 ps/ km ^{1/2}
Mechanical			
Proof Test	120 kpsi	100 kpsi	125 kpsi
Environmental (as fiber)			
Temperature (-60 to 85°C)	≤ 0.05 dB/km @ 1310/1550 nm	≤ 0.05 dB/km @ 1550 nm	≤ 0.05 dB/km @ 1550 nm
Temp-Humidity	≤ 0.05 dB/km @ 1310/1550 nm (-10 ~ 85°C / 30 ~ 98% RH)	≤ 0.05 dB/km @ 1550 nm (-40 ~ 85°C / 30 ~ 98% RH)	≤ 0.05 dB/km @ 1550 nm (-40 ~ 85°C / 30 ~ 98% RH)



Easy Peel Technology

The most user friendly ribbon is craft friendly.... Strips faster and easier for speed of termination

- Fibers separate easily, cleanly - improves productivity, no additional cleaning of fibers necessary
- Provides for access to individual fibers easily
- Various fiber counts available – Flexibility
- Supports 1G/10G/100G/400G with 12F based ribbons, 40G with 8F based ribbons





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6. Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Overview & Advantages
7. Conclusion – Review of Benefits

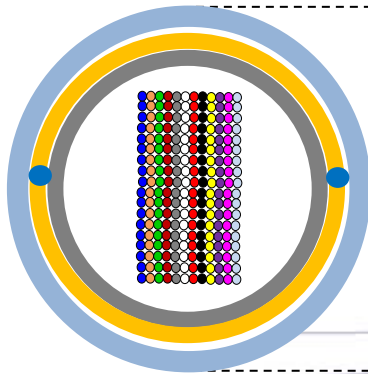


Advantages of Fiber Optic Ribbon Cable

Greater Fiber Packing Density

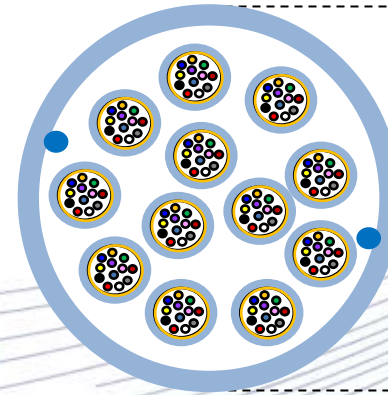
For indoor rated cables with fiber counts of 144 or greater the fiber packing density with fiber optic ribbon based central tube cables exceeds that of typical loose tube construction...

216ct Ribbon Central Tube Cable



~0.61in
(15.6mm)

144ct 250um Loose Tube Cable



~0.625in.
(15.9mm)

At these counts and higher the smaller OD ribbon based cable allows for better utilization of cable trays and cable management

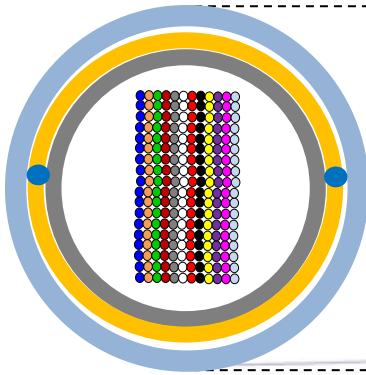


Advantages of Fiber Optic Ribbon Cable

Greater Fiber Packing Density Cable OD

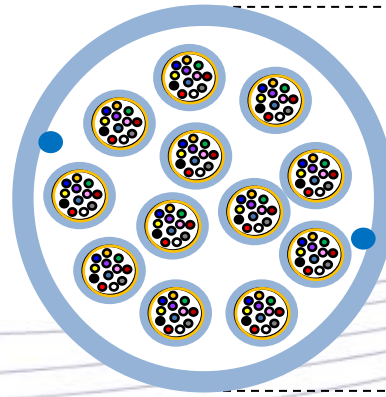
Comparing ribbon cables to loose tube or tight buffer cable constructions the fiber count per cable OD is significantly greater for the ribbon based central tube cable construction...

216ct Ribbon Central Tube Cable



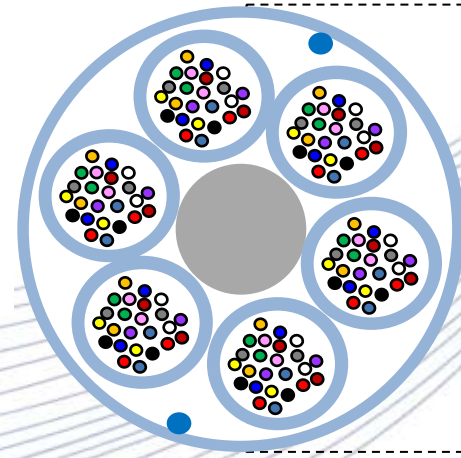
~0.61in.
(15.6m)

144ct 250um Loose Tube Cable



~0.625 in.
(15.9m)

144ct 900um Tight Buffer Cable



~0.93in.
(23.6m)

At these counts and higher the smaller OD ribbon based cable allows for better utilization of cable trays and cable management



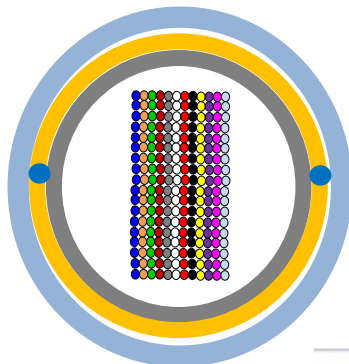
Advantages of Fiber Optic Ribbon Cable

Greater Fiber Packing Density
Bend Radius

In this example, due to the greater fiber packing density the 216ct ribbon central tube cable has the smallest bend radius compared to the 144ct loose tube and tight buffer constructions.

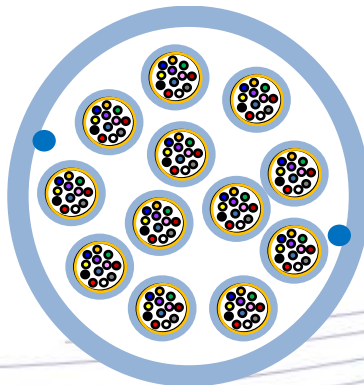
216ct Ribbon Central Tube Cable

MBR-I = 9.0in. (234mm)
MBR-O = 6.1in. (156mm)



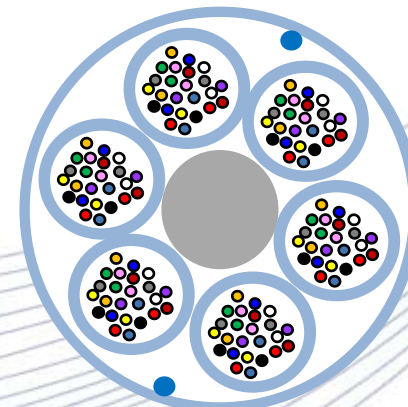
144ct 250um Loose Tube Cable

MBR-I = 9.4in. (239mm)
MBR-O = 6.3in. (159mm)



144ct 900um Tight Buffer Cable

MBR-I = 13.9in. (354mm)
MBR-O = 9.3in. (236mm)



MBR-I = Minimum Bend Radius during Installation / MBR-O = Operational/After Installation

At these and higher fiber counts, the ribbon central tube construction installation and operation in terms of handling and routing is the same or better than that of the loose tube and tight buffer constructions



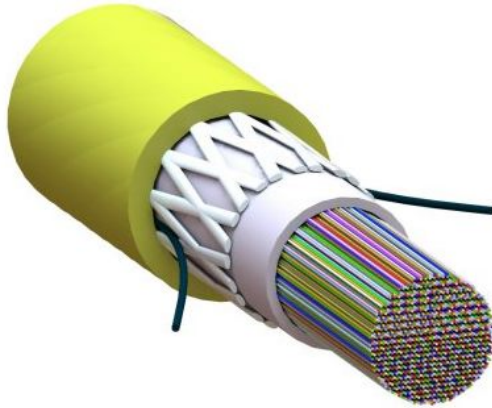
	Riser Ribbon	Plenum Ribbon	Interlock Armor Riser Ribbon	Interlock Armor Plenum Ribbon
Fiber Count	48 - 864	48 - 432	48 - 432	48 - 432
SMF (652 / 657)	✓	✓	✓	✓
MM (OM2/3/4)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tensile Load - I	600	600	600	600
Tensile Load - O	200	200	200	200
Operating Temperature Range	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)
Outside Diameter	48 to 96-0.52" 108 to 216 -0.62" 288 to 432 -0.81" 576 to 864- 1.01"	48 to 96-0.55" 108 to 216 -0.65" 288 to 432 -0.85"	48 to 96 - 0.81" 108 to 216 - 0.91" 288 to 432 - 1.16"	48 to 96 - 0.83" 108 to 216 - 0.87" 288 to 432 - 1.15"



New UHFC INDOOR CABLES

Greater Fiber
Packing Density

With the Market demanding more fiber in smaller packages...



New Cables include:

LSHF – Low Smoke Halogen Free
UHFC - 1728

PLIABLE RIBBON / INDOOR RISER CABLE

1728 FIBER COUNT
25.6mm / 1 .01" O.D.



	Indoor/Outdoor Ribbon	Indoor/Outdoor Ribbon	Indoor/Outdoor Interlock Armor Ribbon	Hostile Environment Cable
Fiber Count	48 - 144	576 - 864	48 - 864	48 - 216
SMF (652 / 657)	✓	✓	✓	✓
MM (OM2/3/4)	✓		✓	
Tensile Load - I	600	600	600	600
Tensile Load - O	200	200	200	200
Outside Diameter	48 - 0.61" 60 to 144 - 0.67"	576 to 864 - 1.03"	48 to 96 - 0.89" 108 to 144 - 1.02" 576 to 864 - 1.51"	48 to 96 - 0.67" 108 to 216 - 0.77"
Operating Temperature Range	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 130°C (-40 to 266°F)



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5. New Pliable Fiber Optic Ribbon...Advantages & Benefits
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Advantages of Splicing Ribbon

Equipment for
Single versus
Mass Splicing

The difference in splicing ribbon fiber versus single fiber is the thermal jacket remover versus using the jacket stripping tool... AND you are doing 12 fibers at a time....



Single Fiber Core Alignment

Jacket
Stripper



Multi-Fiber Mass Fusion
Can also splice single fibers

Thermal
Jacket
Remover

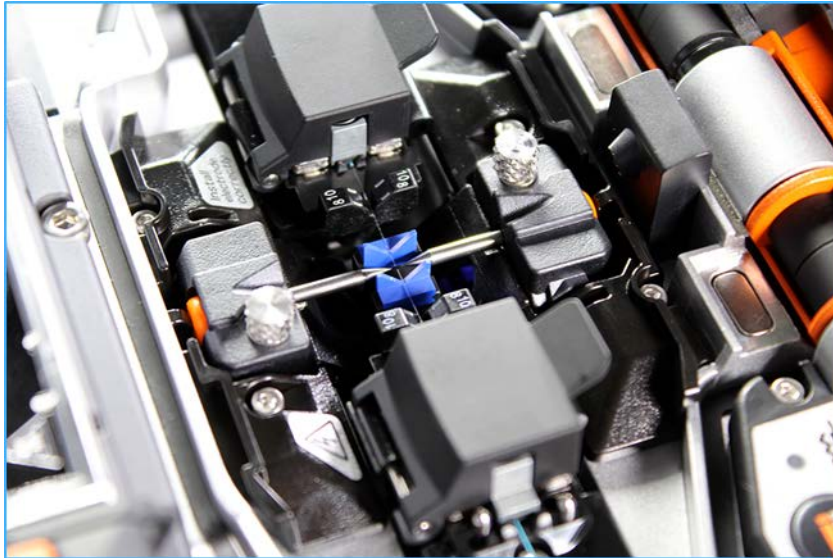


Advantages of Splicing Ribbon

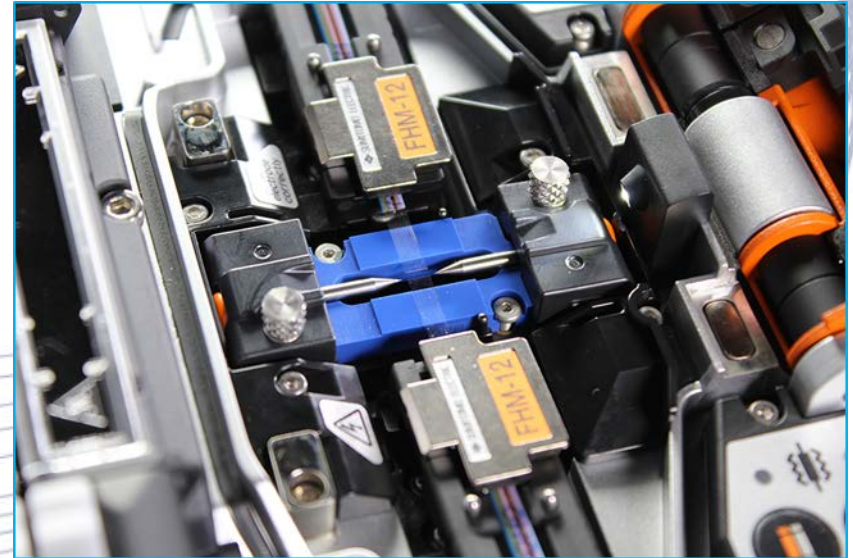
Termination Advantages

Ribbon based cable constructions offer multiple advantages over loose tube and tight buffer cable constructions in the area of terminations. Advantages exist in both time and costs...

Single Fiber Fusion Splice



12ct Ribbon Fusion Splice





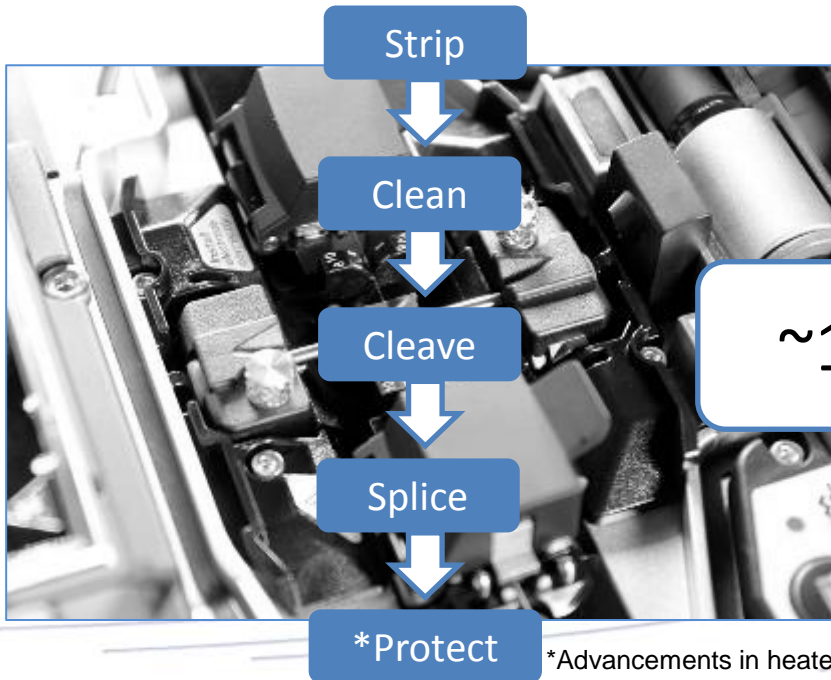
Advantages of Splicing Ribbon

Termination Advantages

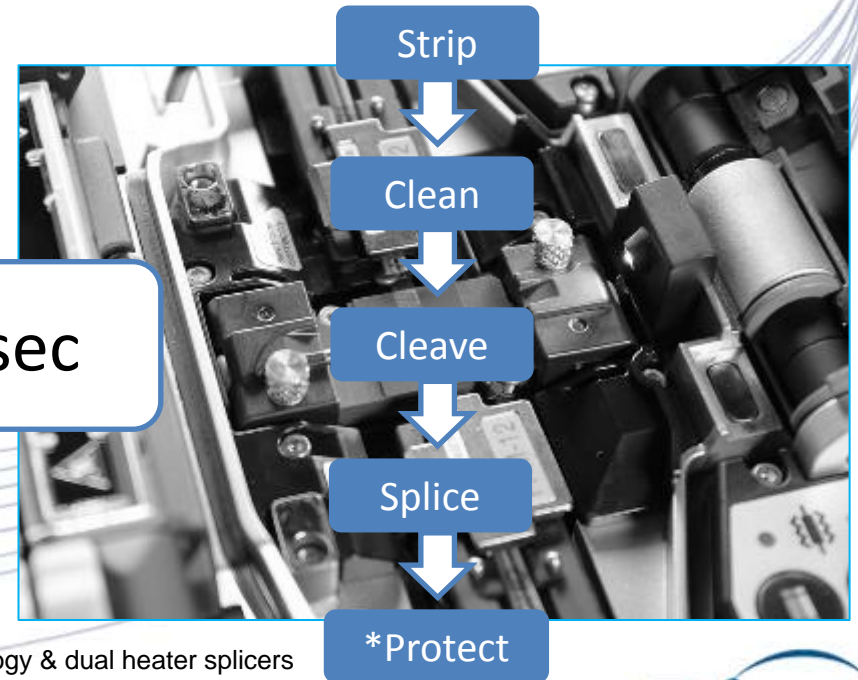
Typical splicing time for inline fusion splicing either two single 250um coated fibers or two 12ct ribbons is about the same, ~120sec

(This is an average time which may be less or more depending on technician experience and/or technicians per fusion splicing unit)

Single Fiber Fusion Splicing Process



12ct Ribbon Fusion Splicing Process



~120sec

*Advancements in heater technology & dual heater splicers equalize protection time for single and ribbon splicing



Advantages of Splicing Ribbon

Termination Advantages

How about quality of splice between core alignment and ribbon splicing?

Core Alignment Fiber Fusion Splicer



12ct Ribbon Fusion Splicer (and/or V-Groove alignment fusion splicers)



While the core alignment fusion splicer yields lower loss splices, the ribbon based splicer yields splice losses well inside the typical allowable loss per splice point. ***Splice loss performance dependent on specific splicer manufacturers and models**



Advantages of Splicing Ribbon

Termination Advantages

...so, at ~120sec per splice for either a single fiber or 12ct ribbon splice the following comparison is true for in-line splicing a 144ct loose tube and 144ct ribbon based cable...

Single Fiber Fusion Splice



144 single splices
@ 120 sec per splice
=17,280 sec
Or
288 minutes
Or
4.8 hours

12ct Ribbon Fusion Splice



144 fibers = 12 ribbons
@ 120 sec per splice
=1,440 sec
Or
24 minutes
Or
Half an Hour!

Splicing 12ct ribbon in this scenario is 92% more efficient than splicing single fiber



Advantages of Splicing Ribbon

Termination Advantages

Not only is splicing 12ct ribbon significantly more efficient in regards to time, but the time savings is a DIRECT correlation to cost savings...

Single Fiber Fusion Splice



12ct Ribbon Fusion Splice



- Advantage of Ribbon Cable
 - More advantageous for network owner to deploy ribbon based cable and specify ribbon splicing, as ribbon splicing requires fewer splices
- Labor Saving Advantage of Ribbon
 - More advantageous for contractor to have ribbon based cable installed and utilize ribbon splicing to reduce the amount of time/labor to complete the splicing



Advantages of Splicing Ribbon Cable

Termination Advantages

A few additional termination advantages when deploying ribbon based cable compared to loose tube or tight buffer cable constructions...

Single Fiber Fusion Splice Sleeve



12ct Ribbon Fusion Splice Sleeve



Splice Tray



90% Savings using Ribbon Based Cables!
*Not to even mention the space savings as well which correlates to a dollar savings too!!

Single Fiber	10/ea.
Splice Sleeve	10
12 Splice Sleeve	ea.
144 Splice Sleeve	Tray
	Tray
Total	Trays

*144ct fiber splicing scenario Loose Tube or Tight Buffer



*144ct fiber splicing scenario Ribbon Based Cable

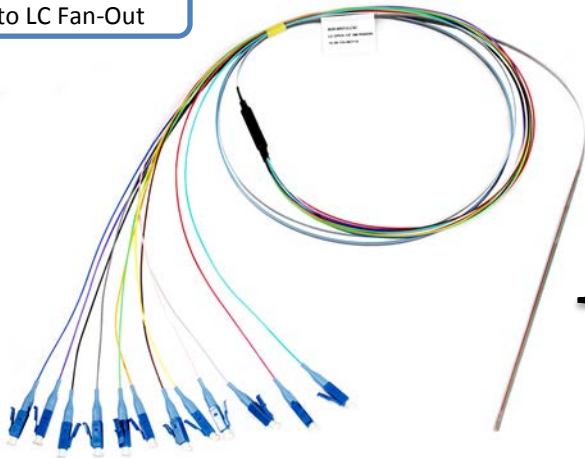


Advantages of Standard Ribbon Cable

Termination Advantages

What if the application requires termination to single fiber based connectors, such as LC connectors? Isn't it better then to have loose tube or tight buffer cable construction?

12ct Ribbon to LC Fan-Out

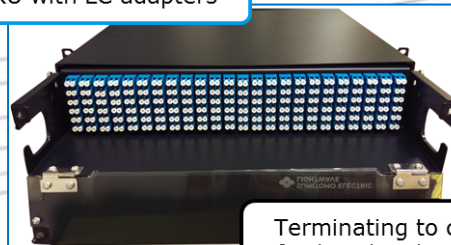


12ct Ribbon



Fusion splice ribbon based cable to 12ct ribbon to LC fan-out

RU with LC adapters



Terminating to connector for further distribution/patching



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Yesterdays Connectivity Options

Connectivity of Yesterday

First there was the labor intensive Puck & Polish, then Pigtails which required splice trays and then Mechanical Connectors which had index matching gel issues...

Puck & Polish Connector



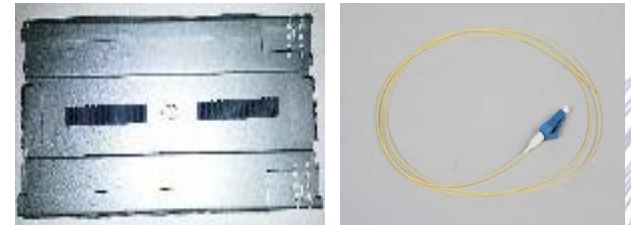
- Labor Intensive
- Blind Results
- Totally Technician Dependent
- Yield??

Mechanical Connectors



- Expensive
- Blind Results
- Index Matching Gel

Pigtails (w/Splice trays)



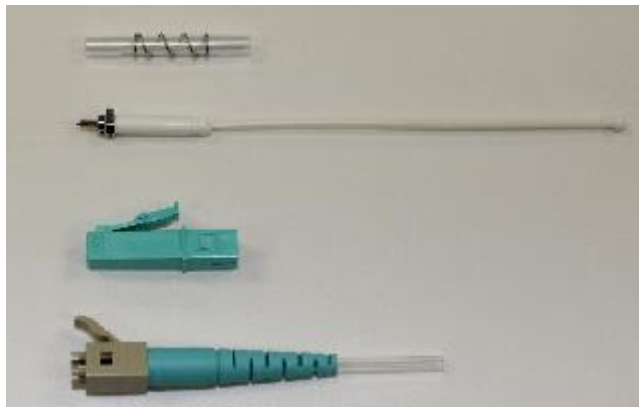
- Expensive
- Additional space required
- Factory polished connector
- Requires Technician to pre-fit pigtail in splice tray



Today's Connectivity Options for Fiber

Connectivity of Today

Fusion splicing of individual fibers is faster, easier, not dependent on technician, known results...
Splice-on Connectors provide the greatest in speed and accuracy, reliability for today's/future networks



Splice-on Connectors solves the problems of yesterdays connectors...

- No Blind Splicing
- Factory Polished End Face
- No Index Matching Gel Issues
- Technician Independent

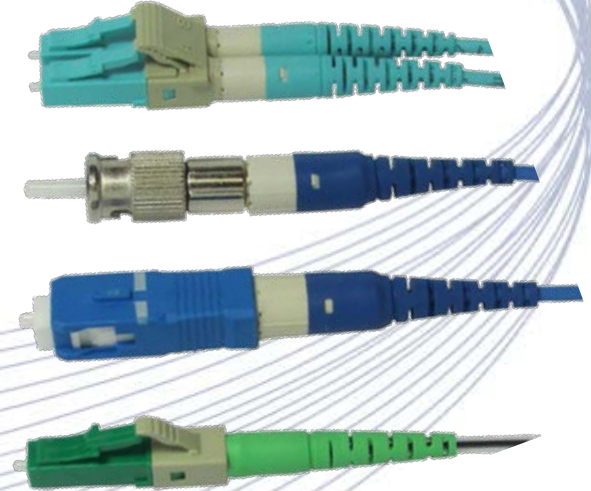


Lynx2 CustomFit[®] SOC's

Splice-On-Connectors

Fast, reliable, no index matching gel, fusion splicer provides much higher yields... for all connector types

- Kevlar strength members attached to the housing provide excellent pull out strength without pulling back on ferrule
- Fast and exact lengths achieved on-site without the problems of slack
- Instant splice loss feedback
- Factory ferrule and fiber bond
- Removes the technician judgment call inherent in mechanical splice technology





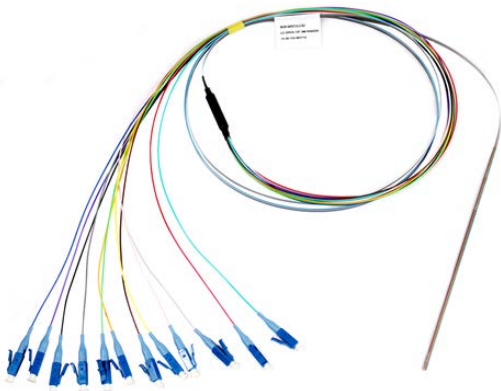
Connectivity Options for Fiber Ribbon

Options for Ribbon Splicing

So we have seen the differences in single fiber splicing versus splicing ribbon and the old style connectors. How can these advantages be exploited for connectivity options?

Lets explore the options further

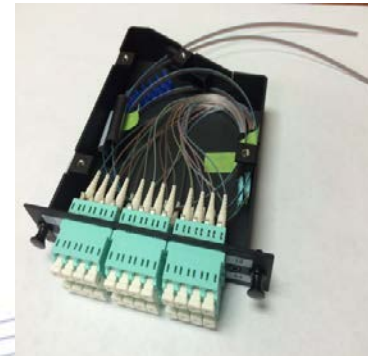
Ribbon Break Out Kits



Splice On MPO



Ribbon Fiber Cassette



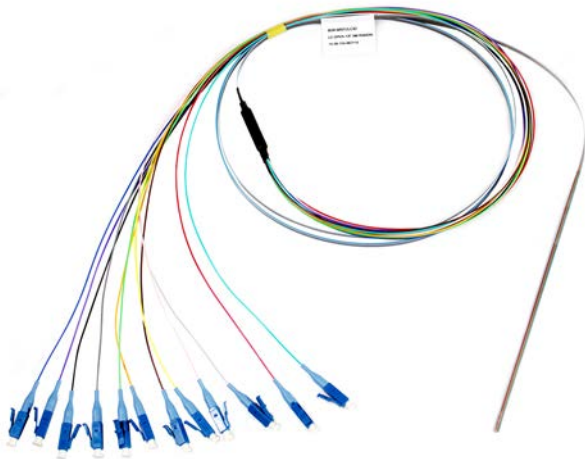


Connectivity Options for Fiber Ribbon

1st Option Breakout Kits

What if the application requires termination from ribbon to single fiber based connectors, such as LC connectors?

12 Fiber Ribbon Break Out Kit



Ribbon Interface

1. Most cost effective per connector

2. Available in all currently available connector types, fiber types, and lengths

3. Ribbon break-outs allow the fast, easy change of connector types with a single ribbon splice



MPO Cassette Interface Options

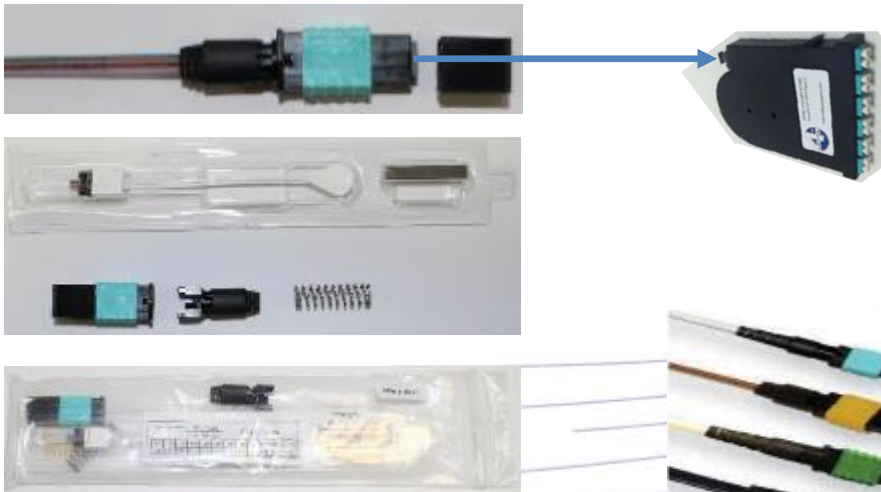
2nd Option
Splice-On MPO

MPO connectors plug into the cassette to allow quick, easy and technician independent change.

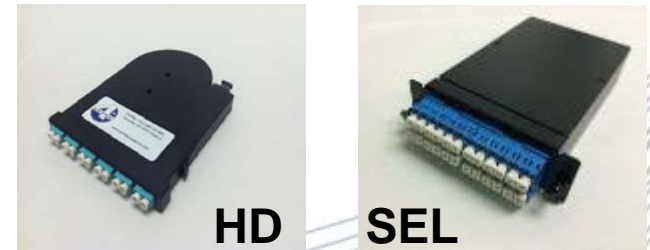


Splice-On MPO connector allows you to work with any ribbon cable and have the exact length you need without any pre-engineering design work.

Lynx2 MPO



MPO Interface



HD

SEL



LGX

LGX-Conversion





Ribbon Fiber Cassette Interface Options

3rd Option Ribbon Fiber Cassettes

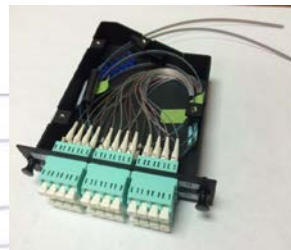
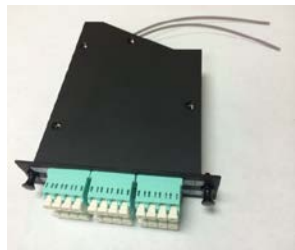
What if the application requires termination from ribbon to single fiber based connectors, such as LC connectors?



HD



SEL



LGX

1. Cassettes with ribbon pigtails can provide any standard type connector
2. Cassettes with ribbon pigtails are terminated with a single mass splice
3. Cassettes with ribbon pigtails allow the fast, easy change of connector types with a single splice
4. Cost Effective because no pre-engineered cable length is required



4th Option Pre-stubbed Ribbon Panels

What if the application requires termination from ribbon to single fiber based connectors, such as LC connectors?

- Cable comes pre-terminated with choice of connector/shelf
- The fastest installation method for high fiber count applications
- Exact length cable available to make installation even faster
- The lowest loss installation method- NO IN-PANEL SPLICES





SOC's – Cover
your every
connector need

Comparing ribbon cables to loose tube or tight buffer cable constructions the fiber count per cable OD is significantly greater for the ribbon based central tube cable construction...

Panel with ribbon termination options.





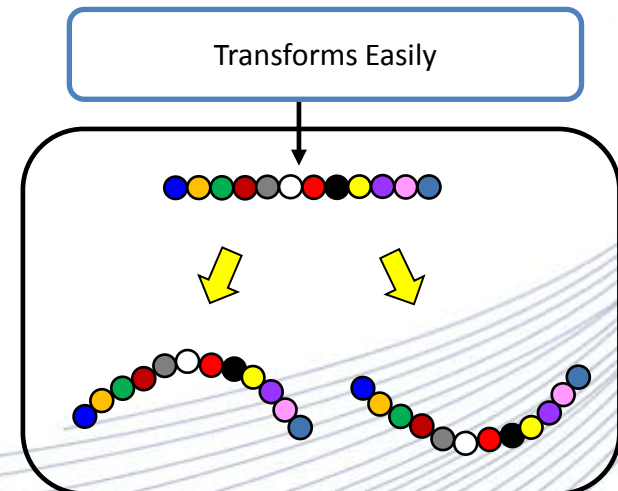
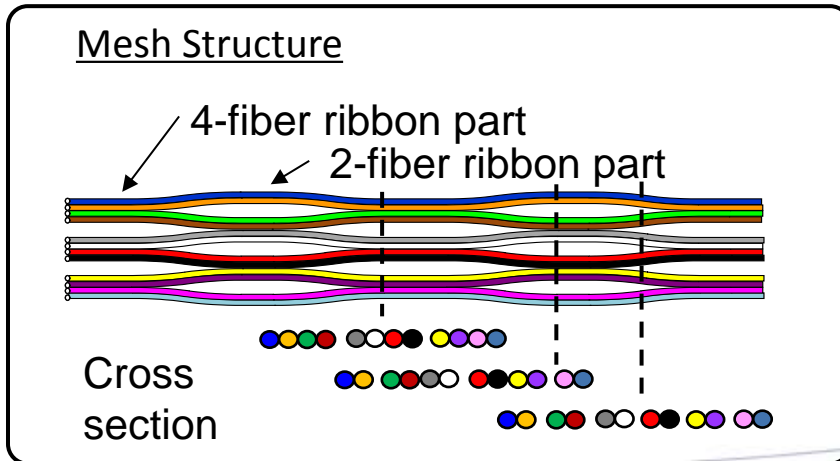
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Pliable Ribbon...Advantages & Benefits

Greater Fiber Packing Density

Comparing ribbon cables to loose tube or tight buffer cable constructions the fiber count per cable OD is significantly greater for the ribbon based central tube cable construction...



- Pliable ribbon is splice compatible with Conventional ribbon
- Pliable ribbon promotes smaller cable diameter
- Pliable ribbon is used for higher count slotted and central core cables



Pliable Ribbon...Advantages & Benefits

Pliable Ribbon Structure

Pliable ribbon structure is similar to standard ribbon structure but with spaced separations of fiber groupings.

- ✓ Pliable ribbon creates a paradigm shift for cable design and construction
- ✓ Increases ribbon packing density
- ✓ Retains the termination advantages of standard ribbon



Pliable Ribbon shown fanned out



Pliable Ribbon Spliced to Standard Ribbon



1. Fiber Optic Specifications
2. Advantages of Standard Fiber Optic Ribbon Based Cables
3. Advantages of Splicing Fiber Optic Ribbon
4. Connectivity Options for Splicing Fiber Optic Ribbon
5. 2nd Generation Fiber Optic Ribbon
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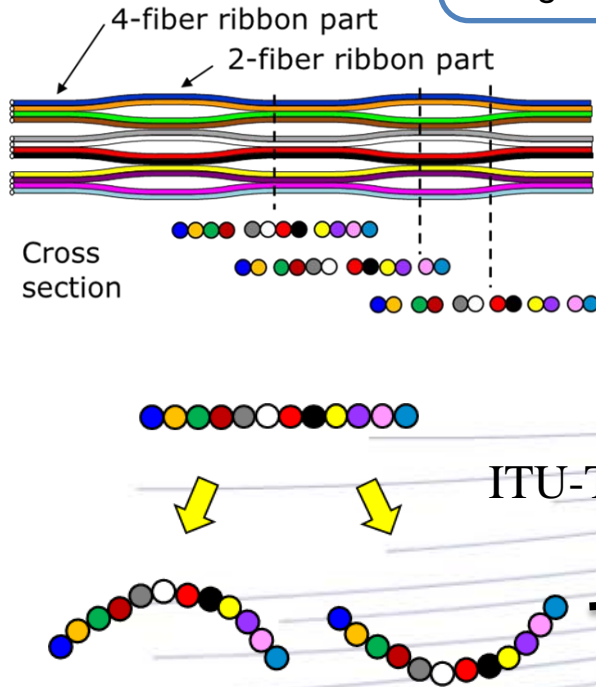


Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Overview

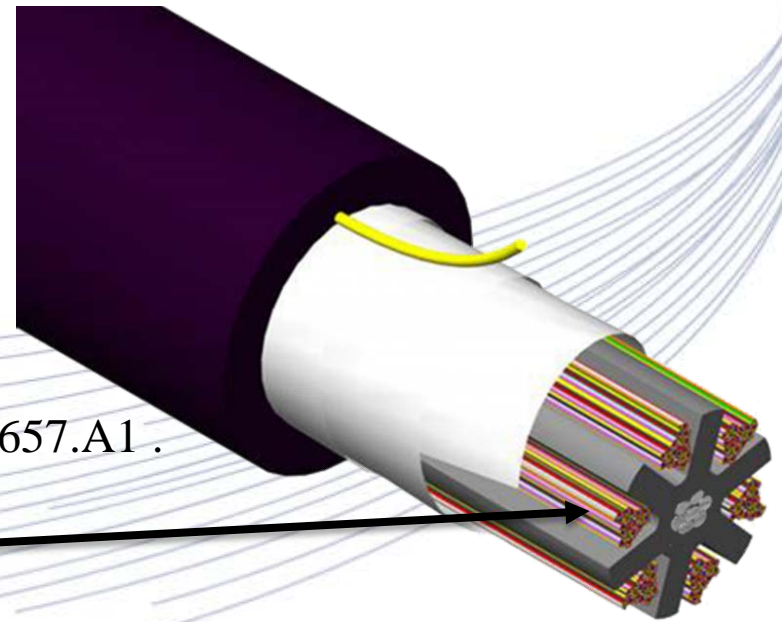
Ultra High Fiber Count Cable

It's not just about making a cable with more fiber, it's about making a cable with a lot more fiber that can still work in existing conduit pathways

By utilizing the combined technology of pliable ribbon and bend insensitive fiber (such as G657A1) high fiber count cables can be designed to improve utilization of existing cable pathways



ITU-T G.652.D and G.657.A1 .





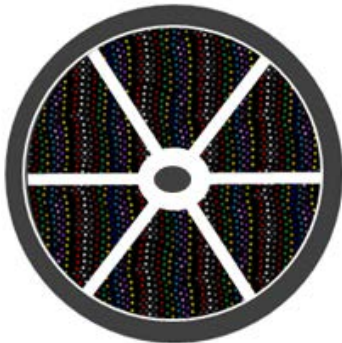
Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Advantages

Ultra High Fiber Count Cable

UHFC design utilizing the combination of pliable ribbon and bend insensitive fiber gives higher packing density to achieve cable with 2X+ fiber capacity within same duct space

Additionally, the UHFC/pliable ribbon based design allows for identical termination advantages as presented earlier with standard ribbon based cable constructions

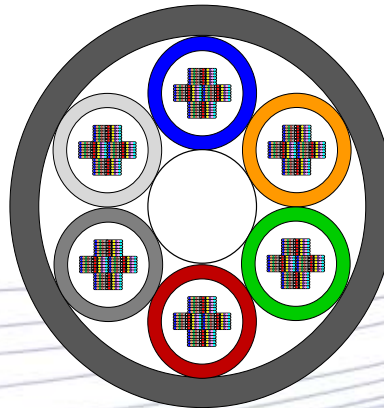
1728ct UHFC
OSP Rated Cable



OD ~1.0in. (25.6mm)

Allowable Duct = 1.5"

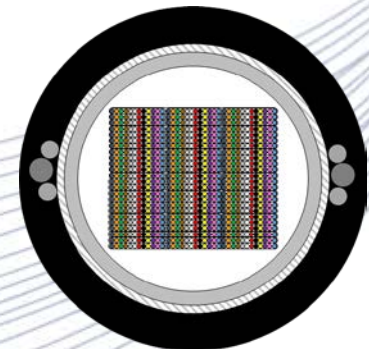
1728ct LTR
OSP Rated Cable



OD ~1.34in. (34mm)

Allowable Duct = 2.0"

864ct
OSP Rated Cable

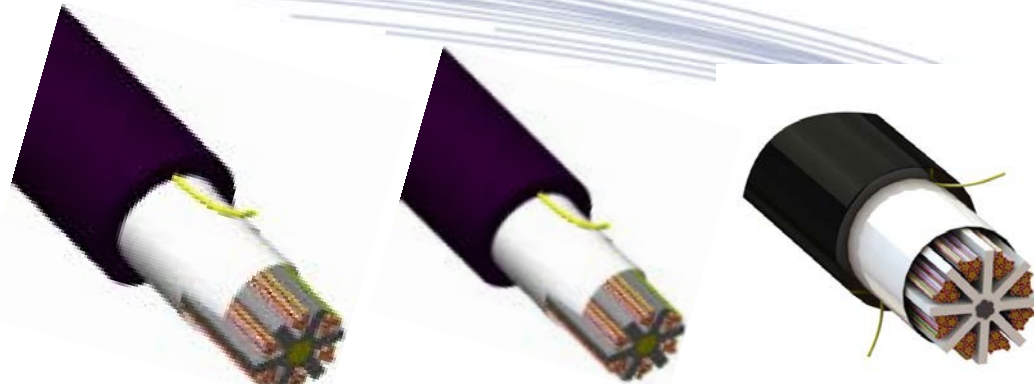


OD ~1.0in. (25.6mm)

Allowable Duct = 1.5"



Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Advantages



Fiber Count	1152	1728	3456
SMF (652 / 657)	✓	✓	✓
Central Strength Member	✓	✓	✓
Tensile Load - I	600	600	600
Tensile Load - O	200	200	200
Operating Temperature Range	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)	-40 to 70°C (-40 to 158°F)
OD	25mm/0.98"	26mm/1.02"	34mm/1.34"

What's next?

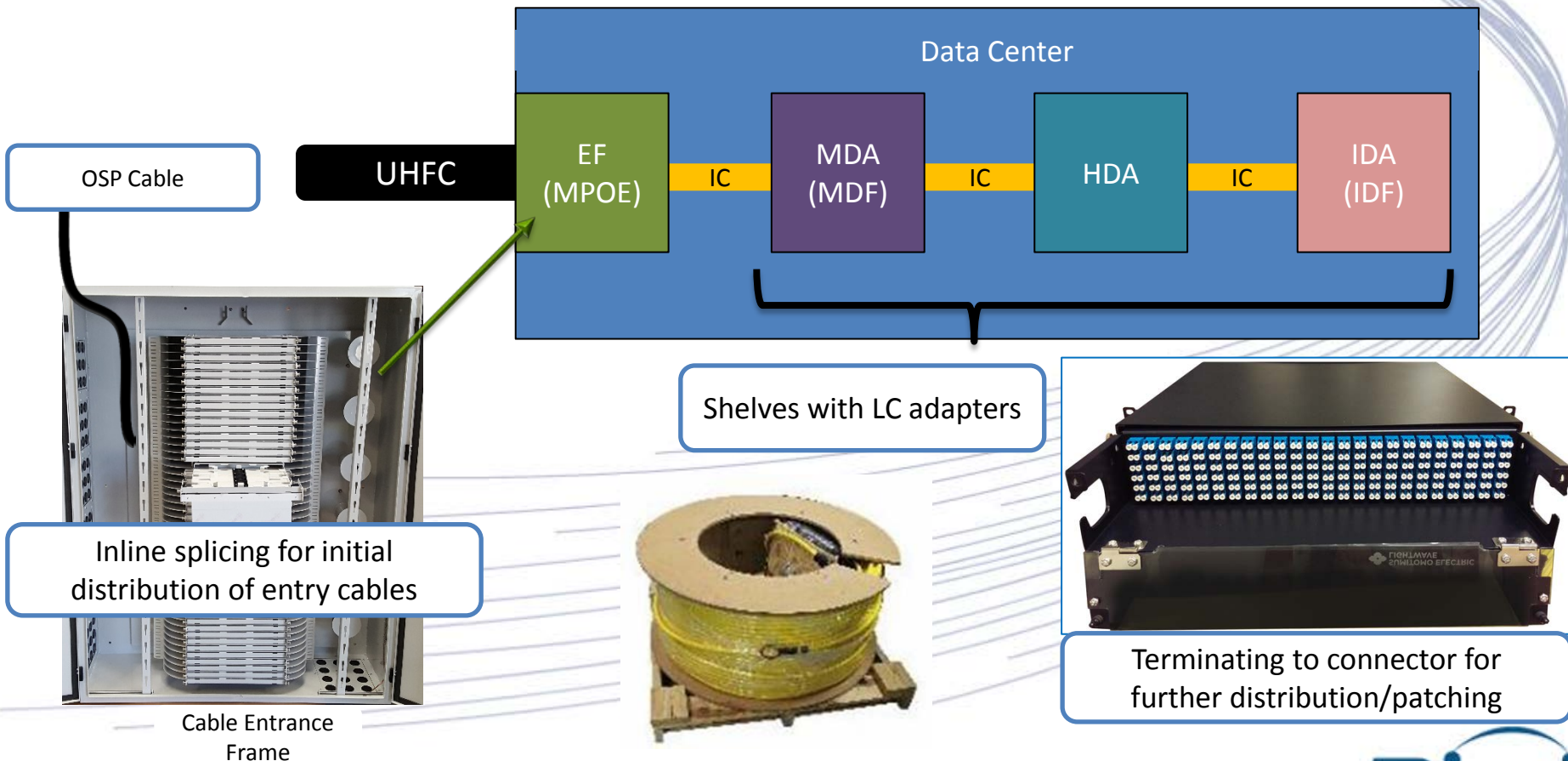




Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Overview

Termination Advantages

What are your options for terminating UHFC?





Ultra High Fiber Count Cable Overview

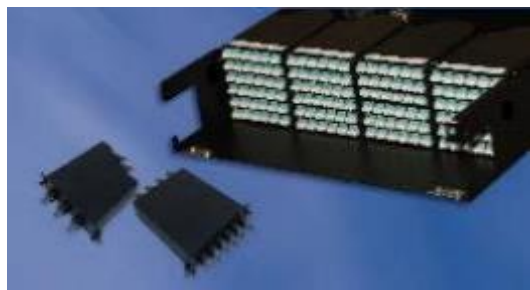
Termination Options

Comparing the density of the various options and ease of installation versus.....

Pre-stubbed Shelves



Patch Panels



OSP HFC Closures



OSP Cable Entrance Facilities



Pre-terminated Shelves



End-To-End Solutions...





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*Easily identifiable

*Available in SMF & MMF



*Easy Peel Ribbon Technology

*Smaller Cable OD's per fiber



*Save's space in cable trays

*Fastest splicing per fiber



*Multiple termination options

*New Higher fiber count cables



Cost savings unmatched



SUMITOMO ELECTRIC
LIGHTWAVE

Questions?

Thank you!