# Fiber Optic 101 and Cable Selection

Instructor Jonathan Sunderwirth Title Sr. Sales Engineer Date 02/08/2017

# Agenda What Are We Going To Learn Today?

#### Overview of Corning Cable Systems

- Fiber Optic Technology 101
  - What is it?
  - How does it work?
  - Fiber Types
  - Fiber Performance
  - Benefits
- Fiber Optic Cable 101
  - What is it?
  - Cable Construction
  - How to Pick a Fiber Optic Cable
  - Pulling Best Practices
- Fiber Optic Termination Methods
- Installing a Fiber Optic System
  - Components of an installation
- Review of Corning Cable Systems Offerings

# Overview of Corning Cable Systems Enterprise Networks: Solutions for Your Application



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Fiber Optics 101 What *Is* Fiber Optics?

# **General Definition**

Transmitting information in the form of light, through a transparent **medium**, typically high-purity glass

## Medium

Any material through which energy moves, over a distance

Examples:

Sound through <u>water</u> Radio Signals through <u>air</u> Light through high-purity <u>glass</u>

# Fiber Optics 101 What *Is* Fiber Optics?



Reference: http://scienceray.com/physics/fiber-optic-cables/

Fiber Optics 101 Properties of Electromagnetic Signals

## Wavelength

The distance between identical points on a wave (typically expressed in nanometers or "nm")



# Fiber Optics 101 Electromagnetic Spectrum

# **Wavelength**



#### **Operating Wavelengths:**

- 850 nm = Short Wave Multimode
- 1300 nm = Long-Wave Multimode
- 1310 nm = Traditional Standard Single-mode
- 1490 nm = FTTx (Downstream Data/Voice)
- 1550 nm = Long-Wave Single-mode
- 1625 nm = Extra Long-Wave Single-mode (WDM)

Fiber Optics 101 Measuring Fiber Optics

- A micrometer, or **micron** ( $\mu$ m), is a metric measurement used to measure the diameter of a fiber.
  - One micron =  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  meters, one millionth of a meter.
  - One micron = 0.000039 inches
  - One human hair is ~ 80 microns
- A coated optical fiber is about 250 μm in diameter
- The light carrying region of an optical fiber can be as small as 10  $\mu$ m or less.
- In optical fiber, some specifications are as tight as 0.5  $\mu$ m!

Fiber Optics 101 Relative size of optical fiber



Fiber Optics 101 Principles of Operation — Theory

Cross section of a typical fiber

• <u>Core</u>

- Carries the light signals

- Cladding
  - Keeps the light in the core
  - Can not be separated from the Core

# 245 μm 125 μm <u>8-62.5 μm</u>

#### <u>Coating</u>

- Protects the glass
- Acrylate (plastic)

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Fiber Optics 101 How Does It Work?

Couple the light into the fiber and keep it there:

"Total Internal Reflection"



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Fiber Optics 101 Fiber Performance is Measured in Bandwidth

# Bandwidth

The capacity of a medium to carry information over a distance without loss of data

(How much data can I carry and how far?)

- Affected by
  - Source/Transmitter (the LASER, VCSEL, or LED)
    - Nominal wavelength, Spectral Width, Time Delays
  - Waveguide (the fiber)
    - Attenuation\*
    - Dispersion\*

\*Both are affected by distance traveled

# Fiber Optics 101 Optical Sources

- Types
  - LED
    - Light Emitting Diode
    - Low cost (850nm, 1300nm)
  - LASER
    - <u>Light</u> <u>Amplification</u> from the <u>S</u>timulated
      <u>E</u>mission of <u>R</u>adiation
    - High cost (1310nm, 1550 nm, 1625nm)
  - VCSEL
    - <u>Vertical</u> <u>Cavity</u> <u>Surface</u> <u>Emitting</u> <u>Laser</u>
    - Lower cost laser (850nm)
- Characteristics
  - Time Delay Lag time of source to power up and power down
  - Spectral Width



Fiber Optics 101 Waveguide (*the* Fiber) Effects

- Attenuation loss of signal strength
  - Expressed in decibels of power lost (dB)
  - Intrinsic Attenuation
  - Extrinsic Attenuation
  - Impacts ability to reach the receiver with sufficient power
  - A 3dB loss in power equates to a 50% loss from what you started with

# Dispersion – spreading of signal pulses

- Modal Dispersion
- Chromatic Dispersion
- Impacts the ability to distinguish discreet signal pulses

Fiber Optics 101 Impact of dB Loss



Fiber Optics 101 Intrinsic Attenuation

#### **Intrinsic Attenuation**

Loss of signal energy due to interaction between the photons and inherent physical properties of the fiber (Internal - Can't be affected by outside influences)

Absorption

Photons give up kinetic energy to subatomic particles

Scattering

Photons bounce off subatomic particles



Fiber Optics 101 Extrinsic Attenuation

#### **Extrinsic Attenuation**

Loss of signal energy due to change in dimensional properties of the fiber

(External - Caused by outside influences)

- Macrobends
- Microbends
- Imperfect Junctions
  - Splices
  - Fiber endfaces

Fiber Optics 101 Extrinsic Attenuation

## Macrobend

Large-scale bend of the waveguide, which changes the angle of incidence of previously reflecting modes

(Generally across entire

cross-section of the fiber) Power Loss Cladding Core Fiber Optics 101 Extrinsic Attenuation

# Microbend

Small-scale distortion of the waveguide, which changes the angle of incidence of previously reflecting modes

(Might affect only one side of the core)



# Dispersion

# Spreading of signal pulses as they travel down the fiber

(May cause pulses to overlap as they arrive at the receiver, and cause bit errors)



# Fiber Optics 101 Dispersion – Bit Error



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Fiber Optics 101 Basic Types of Fiber

# Mode

A single stream of photons that travels in a straight line unless acted upon by the environment

A ray of light

- Single-mode (SM)
  - Narrow Core (~8.3µm)
  - Supports only one ray / mode
- Multimode (MM)
  - Broader Core (50-62.5µm)
  - Supports many rays / modes





# Fiber Optics 101 Basic Types of Fiber



# Fiber Optics 101 Basic Types of Fiber



# Fiber Optics 101 Comparing Single-mode and Multimode Fibers

# Single-mode

- Core Size (8.3 µm)
- Sources
  - Lasers
    - 1310, 1550, 1625nm
- Attenuation (typical)
  - 0.35/0.25 dB/km (1310/1550)
- Dispersion
  - No Modal Dispersion
  - Bandwidth:
    - Limited by electronics only

# <u>Multimode</u>

- Core Size (62.5 or 50 μm)
- Sources
  - LED or VCSEL
    - 850 or 1300nm
- Attenuation (typical)
  - 3.5/1.5 dB/km (850/1300)
- Dispersion
  - Dominated by Modal Disp.
  - Bandwidth: Limited
    - Distance
    - Fiber Type
    - Source Type

# Single-mode

- OS2 SMF28e<sup>+®</sup>
- NZ-DSF LEAF
- Corning<sup>®</sup> ClearCurve<sup>®</sup>
  - 5 mm bend radius
  - Compatible with current SM fibers, equipment, & procedures

# <u>Multimode</u>

- OM1 LANscape<sup>®</sup> 62.5µm
- OM2 LANscape<sup>®</sup> Pretium 150 (50µm)
- OM3 LANscape<sup>®</sup> Pretium 300 (50µm)
- OM4 LANscape<sup>®</sup> Pretium 550 (50µm)
- Corning<sup>®</sup> ClearCurve<sup>®</sup>
  - Industry leading macrobending performance below 10 mm radius
  - Available in OM2, OM3, & OM4

Fiber Optics 101 Comparing Multimode Fibers



Only evident physical difference is core size:

- 50 µm has greater bandwidth due to smaller core
- 50 µm has fewer modes → less modal dispersion

# Fiber Optics 101 Comparing Multimode Fibers

# <u>50 µm</u>

- Greater bandwidth
- Extended GigE and Fiber Channel range
- Accepted by TIA/EIA-568C
- We see more 50 µm in data centers
- Industry moving toward 50micron fiber for bandwidth

# <u>62.5 µm</u>

- Lower bandwidth
- Decreased range at 850nm
- Accepted by TIA/EIA-568C
- Greater installed base
- Previously the only MM fiber accepted by TIA/EIA-568C

#### Note: MM fiber types should not be not mixed within the same LAN

# Fiber Optics 101 Choosing Single-mode vs. Multimode Fibers

# Single-mode

- Applications:
  - Backbones, longhaul, FTTx
- Advantages:
  - Longer lengths
  - Higher data rate systems
    - Video, gaming
  - Lower attenuation
  - Lower dispersion
- Disadvantages:
  - More expensive sources
  - More difficult to align cores

# <u>Multimode</u>

- Applications:
  - DataCenters, LAN
- Advantages:
  - Easier core alignment
  - Less expensive sources
  - Less expensive connectors / adapters
- Disadvantages
  - Shorter lengths
  - Lower data rate systems
  - Modal Dispersion
  - Higher attenuation

Fiber Optics 101 Why Fiber? - Longer Distances \*



\* Typical distance for 1 Gbps system capability

Fiber Optics 101 Distances \* (without single-mode)



## Fiber Optics 101 SM and MM Fiber Distance Capabilities

# TRANSMISSION PERFORMANCE

	OM1	OM3	OM4	OS2
Optical Fiber Type	62.5 µm Multimode	50 µm Multimode	50 µm Multimode	Single-Mode
Wavelength	850 nm/1300 nm	850 nm/1300 nm	850 nm/1300 nm	1310 nm/1550 nm
Maximum Loose Tube Attenuation	3.4/1.0 dB/km	3.0/1.0 dB/km	3.0/1.0 dB/km	0.4/0.3 dB/km
Maximum Tight- Buffered Cabled Attenuation	2.8/1.0 dB/km	2.8/1.0 dB/km*	2.8/1.0 dB/km*	0.65/0.5 km
Minimum Over Filled Launch (OFL) Bandwidth	200/500 MHz•km	1500/500 MHz•km	3500/500 MHz•km	-/-
Minimum Effective Modal Bandwidth (EMB)	2200/-MHz•km	2000/- MHz•km	4700/- MHz•km	-/-
Serial 1 Gigabit Ethernet Distance	300 m/550 m	1000 m/600 m	1000 m/600 m	5000 m/ –
Serial 10 Gigabit Ethernet Distance	33 m/ -	300 m/-	550 m/-**	10000 m/40000 m

\*FREEDM® LST" cable attenuation is 3.0/1.0.

\*\*IEEE 802.3 specifies a maximum distance of 400 meters for 10GBASE-SR transmission. 550 meters is considered an acceptable engineered-length distance utilizing a complete Coming solution.

Contact Corning Customer Care at 800-743-2675 for information.

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# Fiber Optics 101 Benefits of Optical Fiber

Features	Benefits		
Low insertion loss	Longer distances		
High bandwidth	Greater information capacity		
Immune to EMI & RFI	No crosstalk		
Difficult to tap	Secure		

# Fiber Optics 101 Benefits of Optical Fiber

Features	Benefits		
Dielectric construction	Eliminates grounding considerations/shock hazards		
Light weight/ small size	Longer pulls possible Minimal space used		
Application- independent	Supports data, voice, video, process control, etc.		

Fiber Optics 101 Intrinsic Strength...the Facts!

• Measured fiber intrinsic strength compared to other materials



Fiber Optics 101 Fiber versus Copper

 A fiber optic cable with the same bandwidth capacity as a comparable copper cable is less than 1% of both the size and weight

Fiber optic cable vs CAT6 copper cable



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Fiber Optic Cable 101 What *is* Fiber Optic Cable?

### **General Definition**:

Fibers packaged and bundled together for maximum mechanical and physical protection.

#### **Standard Types:**

- Indoor Tight Buffered Cables
- Outdoor Cables
- Indoor/Outdoor Cables
  - Tight Buffered
  - Loose Tube

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#### Fiber Optic Cable 101

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	Blue	
ntification	Orange	
directly on the	Green	
	Brown	
Code	Slate	
yellow, violet, rose,	White	
	Red	
	Black	
	Yellow	
	Violet	
	Rose	
	Aqua	

#### Purpose

- Provides fiber identification
- Coloring ink applied directly on the coated fiber.
- Standard US Color Code
  - Blue, orange, green, brown, slate, white, red, black, yellow, violet, rose, aqua

Fiber Optic Cable 101 Cable Jacket Identification

- Purpose
  - Provides fiber type identification (Indoor Cables)
  - Provides UV protection (Outdoor Cables)



Fiber Optic Cable 101 Indoor Tight Buffered Cable

- Primarily used indoors (exception: FREEDM<sup>®</sup> One)
  - Building and data center backbones
  - Horizontal applications
  - Patch cords and equipment cables
- Meet applicable flame listing requirements
- Increased flexibility
- Easy to field-terminate
- Variety of fiber counts and cable designs

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Tight-Buffered Fiber Construction

- Buffer material applied directly to the 250 µm fiber to obtain a 900 µm outer diameter
- To construct cable, 900 µm may be
  - Stranded or unitized
- Lacks environmental and mechanical robustness of Loose Tube cable



Fiber Optic Cable 101 Tight-Buffered Fiber Construction

 TBII<sup>®</sup> Buffered Fiber uses a patented process that allows for easy removal of the buffering material for splicing or connectorization.



Fiber Optic Cable 101 Indoor Tight-Buffered Cable Manufacturing



# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Common Indoor Tight Buffered Cables



#### Legend

- A Flame-Retardant Outer Jacket
- **B** Ripcord
- **C** Dielectric Strength Members
- **D** Dielectric Strength Members
- E Tight-Buffered Fiber
- **F** Dielectric Strength Members

#### Unitized MIC® Cable





#### Legend

- A Ripcord
- **B** Flame-Retardant Outer Jacket
- **C** Dielectric Strength Members
- **D** Ripcord
- **E** Tight-Buffered Fiber
- **F** Dielectric Central Element
- G Flame-Retardant Subunit Jacket

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Common Indoor Tight Buffered Cables

#### MIC<sup>®</sup> Interlocking Cable



#### Legend

- A Flame-Retardant Outer Jacket
- **B** Interlocking Armor
- C Flame-Retardant Inner Jacket
- D, E, & F Dielectric Strength Members
- **G** Tight-Buffered Fiber
- H Ripcord

#### MIC<sup>®</sup> DX Armored Cable



#### Legend

- A Flame-Retardant Outer Jacket
- **B** Flame-Retardant Inner Jacket
- **C** Tight-Buffered Fiber
- D, E, & F Dielectric Strength Members
- G Dielectric Armor

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Tight Buffered Considerations – Flame Ratings



- National Electric Code (NEC)
- OFNP = Plenum
  - Highest rating plenum air handling spaces
- OFNR = Riser
  - Middle rating vertical cable runs
- OFN = General
  - Lowest rating horizontal cable runs (non-plenum or riser)
- Outside Plant Cable is not flame rated and up to 50 feet can be inside a building

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Tight Buffered Considerations – Flame Ratings



# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Tight Buffered Cable Applications



Fiber Optic Cable 101 Outdoor Loose Tube Cables

- Designed for harsh outdoor installations
- Tensile Strength Elements
  - Central member
    - Dielectric or Steel
    - Maintains bend radius
  - Aramid yarns provide tensile strength
- Cable Waterblocking Material
- Ripcord for accessing core
- Jacket
  - Polyethylene
  - Protection of cable core
  - Chemical resistance
  - UV and abrasion resistance



# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Outdoor Loose Tube Cable Manufacturing



# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Outdoor Loose Tube Cable Construction

- Buffer Tube
  - 250 µm fibers placed in buffer tube
- Gel-free design is fully waterblocked using craft-friendly water-swellable materials
  - Makes cable access simple and requiring no clean up



## Fiber Optic Cable 101 Loose Tube Cable Fiber Buffering



## Fiber Optic Cable 101 Loose Tube Cable Fiber Buffering



# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Outdoor Loose Tube Cable Stranding

- Central member
  - Tensile strength
  - Anti-buckling
  - Steel or dielectric

# SZ stranding

- Tensile force reduction
- Ease of tube access
  - Midspan access
- Eliminates preferential bending
- Completed stranded unit sometimes called "cable core"

Switch-backs allow ease of single tube access

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Outdoor Loose Tube Cable Jacketing

- Jacket
  - Polyethylene
  - Protection of cable core
  - Chemical resistance
  - UV and abrasion resistance

#### Jacket over armor

- Same outer jacket protection
- Armor
  - Corrugated steel tape
  - Provides rodent resistance
  - Provides mechanical protection
  - Used for toning cable





## Fiber Optic Cable 101 Common Outdoor Loose Tube Cables



#### CORNING

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# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Indoor/Outdoor Cables (Loose Tube & Tight Buffered)

- FREEDM<sup>®</sup> Cables
  - Plenum or Riser rated options
  - All dielectric or armored
  - Eliminates need for transition splice
  - Aerial, conduit, & direct buried if armored
- UV-resistant outer jacket
- Water-blocked cable and buffer tubes
- High tensile strength to protect fibers during installation
- Extreme temperature tolerance

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Common Indoor/Outdoor Loose Tube Cables



- D Fiber
- E Buffer Tube
- **F** Filling Element
- **G** Water-Swellable Tape

- C Fiber
- **D** Buffer Tube
- **E** Dielectric Strength Members

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Common Indoor/Outdoor Tight Buffered Cables

FREEDM<sup>®</sup> One Cable

#### Legend

- A Dielectric Strength Yarns
- **B** Ripcord
- **C** Dielectric Strength Yarns
- **D** Dielectric Strength Yarns
- **E** Tight-Buffered Fiber
- F FR / UV-Resistant Outer Jacket

#### FREEDM<sup>®</sup> One Interlocking Armor Cable



#### Legend

- A FR / UV-Resistant Outer Jacket
- **B** Ripcord
- **C** Dielectric Strength Yarns
- **D** Dielectric Strength Yarns
- **E** Dielectric Strength Yarns
- **F** Tight-Buffered Fiber
- G FR / UV-Resistant Inner Jacket
- H Interlocking Armor

### Fiber Optic Cable 101 Indoor/Outdoor Colored Jackets

 Which Indoor/Outdoor cables? Industrial LSZH™, ALTOS LSZH, FREEDM® One, FREEDM LST™ and FREEDM Loose Tube (</= 72f) Cables.</li>

#### • What color options are available?

Any of the 12 standard colors defined by TIA/EIA-598, "Optical Fiber Cable Color Coding" are available: Blue, Orange, Green, Brown, Slate, White, Red, Black, Yellow, Violet, Rose, Aqua.



### Fiber Optic Cable 101 ALTOS® Cable with FastAccess<sup>™</sup> Technology

- Co-extruded jacket feature allows easy jacket removal
- Gel-Free All Dielectric only
- Available with all standard fiber types
- Ripcord will be removed
- No stripes
- Special print statement
  - <u>ALTOS® Cable with</u>
    <u>FastAccess(TM) Technology</u>
- Meets OSP cable standards
  - Telcordia GR-20 and ICEA-640
  - Same specs, weights, and dimensions as standard ALTOS All-Dielectric Gel-Free cable

# Fiber Optic Cable 101 ALTOS® Cable with FastAccess<sup>™</sup> Technology

- Enterprise Networks will take to market at Fall BICSI
  - Week of Sept. 16, 2012
- Value Prop
  - Simple/quick cable access
  - Limits mistakes for inexperienced craft
  - No price increase
  - Differentiated cable product when combined with gel-free technology
  - Provides an advantage for 65% of:
    - Enterprise Market
    - Outside Plant Market
    - Loose Tube Market





### Fiber Optic Cable 101 ALTOS® Cable with FastAccess<sup>™</sup> Technology





## Fiber Optic Cable 101 Loose Tube Cable Applications



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# Fiber Optic Cable 101 How to Pick a Fiber Optic Cable

- If Indoor....
  - Fiber Count
    - ≤ 24 Fibers = MIC<sup>®</sup> Cable
    - > 24 Fibers = MIC<sup>®</sup> Unitized Cable
  - Flame Rating
    - Riser or Plenum
  - Installation
  - Need for extra protection
    - Dielectric or Interlocking Armor



Fiber Optic Cable 101 How to Pick a Fiber Optic Cable

- Where and how will the cable be installed?
  - Outdoor, Indoor, or Both?
- If Outdoor...
  - Environment
  - Installation Technique
    - Direct Buried
    - Aerial
    - Duct
  - If armor is needed



# Fiber Optic Cable 101 How to Pick a Fiber Optic Cable

- If Indoor/Outdoor....
  - Fiber Count
    - ≤ 24 Fibers = FREEDM<sup>®</sup> One Cable
    - > 24 Fibers = FREEDM<sup>®</sup> Loose Tube Cable
  - Flame Rating
    - Riser or Plenum
  - Installation
  - Need for extra protection
    - Interlocking Armor
  - Termination Method
    - Direct or Fan-Out



Fiber Optic Cable 101 Summary

#### Tight Buffered Cables

- Mainly used indoors
- 900 um coated fiber
- Meet applicable flame listing requ
- Common CCS brands are MIC<sup>®</sup> a FREEDM<sup>®</sup> One

#### Loose Tube Cables

- Mainly used outdoors
- 250 um coated fiber
- Operate in large temperature win
- Common CCS brands are Altos<sup>®</sup>
  FREEDM<sup>®</sup> Loose Tube
- Indoor/Outdoor Cables such as FREEDM<sup>®</sup> Plenum can go any where





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# Fiber Optic Cable 101 Cable Placement Safety Information

Numerous cable installation techniques exist and each can present a unique set of safety hazards. Take the utmost care to make sure you are aware of all hazards that may be encountered with any work activity. For specific safety requirements and practices, consult, at a minimum, your Company's policies and procedures, federal, state, and local requirements/standards, and manufacturer\* recommendations.

\* "manufacturer" in this case, suggests manufacturers of installation equipment.

Fiber Optic Cable 101 Cable Placement Considerations

- Ensure sufficient slack
- Monitor tension
- Maintain minimum bend radius
- Protect exposed cable





- Choose a Reputable Supplier
  - Conducts rigorous testing
  - Provides installation guidelines
- Inspect Your Reel
  - Conduct On-reel-testing to verify cable was correctly shipped
  - Check cable for signs of excessive weathering
- Choose Proper Installation Hardware
  - Choose fiber cable with proper tension and bend limits
  - Use the right tools for the task

- Control Cable Installation to Avoid Common Mistakes
  - 1: Paying off the cable
  - 2: Entering and exiting ducts
  - 3: Handling the cable at midspan points
  - 4: Jetting Cable Direct Burial

 Additional Information
 "Avoiding a Costly Crush"

# Cable Stripping Hands-on



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## Fiber Termination Termination Methods



**Pigtail Splicing** 



No Epoxy and No Polish



## Fiber Termination Anatomy of a Fiber Optic Connector



#### • Overview of Corning Cable Systems

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### Installing a Fiber Optic System Components of an Installation

- Cable
  - Fiber Type (MM = OM1, OM2, OM3, or SM = OS2)
  - Indoor, Outdoor, or Indoor/Outdoor Cable
- Connectors
  - Termination Method
    - Anearobic, Unicam, fusion splicing, or preterm
  - Connector Type
    - Fiber and Connector Compatibility
- Hardware
  - Wall Mount or Rack Mount
  - Connector and Fiber Type
  - Indoor or Outdoor Application

### Installing a Fiber Optic System Hardware Options



**SCF** Closures





# Installing a Fiber Optic System Example of a Fiber Optic System

