How to strip a vibrating optical cable

Overview

Good fiber optic stripping techniques in your cable assembly process are crucial. See best practices for how to strip fiber optic cable buffers & jackets.

Key Takeaways

Vibrating optical cables can be safely stripped using precision mechanical, thermal, chemical, or laser-based methods while ensuring the fiber remains undamaged.

Mechanical Stripping

Mechanical fiber strippers are precision tools designed to remove coatings without nicking the glass core. For vibrating cables, it is crucial to secure the fiber using a gripper or clamp to prevent movement during stripping. Tools like the Clauss CFS-1, Fitel S-210, or adjustable strippers can handle standard 125 µm cladding fibers and larger diameters, allowing controlled removal of coatings over 30–50 mm lengths.

Using a textured rubber gripper, as in Thorlabs' BFG1, helps hold the fiber securely without introducing microfractures.

Thermal Stripping

Thermal strippers use controlled heat to soften or remove the coating. Devices such as the Vytran FFS-2000 or FiberStrip 7030 can safely strip fibers with standard or high-temperature coatings. For vibrating cables, stabilizing the fiber in a holder is essential to prevent uneven heating or accidental bending.

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Chemical Stripping

Chemical methods involve solvents or acids (e.g., 120°C sulfuric acid) to dissolve the coating. When working with vibrating fibers, pre-securing the fiber tip with glue or collapsing the fiber ends prevents movement and ensures uniform coating removal. This method is suitable for specialty fibers or high-power applications where mechanical stripping may risk damage.

Laser-

Based Stripping

Laser stripping is particularly effective for tight-buffered or multi-layer cables. A focused infrared laser beam can create grooves in the protective cover without contacting the fiber, allowing the outer jacket to be split and removed safely. This method is ideal for vibrating or delicate fibers, as it avoids mechanical stress and reduces the risk of micro-cracks.

Dual-beam setups can strip multiple grooves simultaneously for complex cable structures.

Best Practices

Progressive Layer Stripping: For multi-layer cables, strip the outer jacket, aramid yarn, and buffers sequentially to avoid damaging underlying layers. Secure the Fiber: Use grippers or clamps to minimize vibration during stripping. Inspect the Fiber: After stripping, check for scratches or nicks using a fiber microscope.

Clean the Fiber: Remove residues with lint-free wipes and high-purity alcohol before cleaving or connectorization. By combining proper tools, stabilization techniques, and careful handling, vibrating optical cables can be stripped efficiently without compromising fiber integrity.

Article Content

Stripping Techniques For Your Fiber Optic Cable

Good fiber optic stripping techniques in your cable assembly process are crucial. See best practices for how to strip fiber optic cable buffers & jackets.

How to Strip and Prepare Fibre Optic Cable for Termination: A ...

In this informative guide, we''ll walk you through the step-by-step process of stripping and preparing fibre optic cable for termination, covering techniques, tools, and best practices to help you

Sheath Removal and Stripping of 8 and 12-Fiber Ribbon Interconnect

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Do not crush the cable or allow it to kink. Doing so may cause damage that can alter the transmission characteristics of the cable - the cable may have to be replaced.

The “golden rule” in stripping

Note the cable diameter and jacket thickness for each cable – Stripping cables and fibers is a delicate process. Carefully set your hand tool or machine tool to the right cable diameter and

Fiber Strippers – tools, mechanical, thermal, chemical, plasma,

Fiber strippers are precision tools that reliably and cleanly remove a defined length of coating (often 30–40 mm) from a fiber end so that the bare glass is exposed without scratching or nicking it.

Fiber and Cable Stripper – Types, Uses & Guide

Learn how to use fiber strippers, cable cutting scissors, and armored cable slitters. Discover their applications in fiber splicing, cable prep, and FTTH.

How To Strip Fiber Optic Cable | Instructional

In this instructional video, Bob Licari, Test Equipment Product Manager, demonstrates a simple way to strip optical fiber.

How to Fix a Cut Fiber Optic Cable

While a cut or damaged fiber optic cable can temporarily take your network down, it is possible to quickly fix the cable with the right tools. This wikiHow article will teach you how to splice a

Fiber U Lesson Plan: Basic Skills Lab, Remote

You have successfully completed this exercise when you have been able to strip the jacket and both buffer coating layers from the fiber without breaking the fiber.

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How to Strip and Prepare Fibre Optic Cable for Termination: A ...

Introduction: Stripping and preparing fibre optic cables for termination is a critical step in the installation and maintenance of fibre optic networks. Properly stripping the cable and preparing

Good stripping techniques for your fiber optic cable ...

Without question, good stripping techniques in your fiber optic cable assembly process are imperative. What happens if you damage the fiber during this production step?

stripping fiber optic cables

I am stripping two 144F loose tube cables and one 48F loose tube cable. Please like, subscribe, and comment any questions you may have.

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