

How to cold-splice an 8-core optical cable



Summary of Content

Cold splicing is a quick, field-friendly method to join optical fibers without fusion, using mechanical connectors to align and secure each fiber core.

Overview

Cold splicing, also known as mechanical splicing, is a method of joining optical fibers without applying heat or fusion. It is particularly useful for multi-core cables, such as 8-core optical cables, where field operations require speed, minimal equipment, and flexibility. Each fiber core is aligned precisely within a cold connector that contains a V-groove or alignment mechanism, often with an index-matching gel to reduce light loss and back reflection .

Steps for Cold Splicing an 8-Core Cable

- **Prepare the Cable:** Strip the outer jacket and buffer of each fiber core, typically about 3 cm, and clean the bare fibers with alcohol to remove contaminants .
- **Install the Cold Connector:** Open the snap rings or slots on the cold connector designed for multi-core alignment.
- **Cut the Fibers:** Use a fiber cutter to trim each fiber to the required length (around 1.4 cm) for insertion into the connector .
- **Insert Fibers into Connector:** Place each fiber core into the corresponding slot of the cold connector, ensuring it sits in the V-groove and is properly aligned. Snap the side rings to secure the fibers in place.

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