

How to measure the break point of pigtail fiber



Summary of Content

The break point of a fiber optic pigtail is identified by inspecting the fiber for physical damage, measuring optical loss, and using a fusion splicer or optical time-domain reflectometer (OTDR) to locate the exact point of failure.

Visual Inspection

Start by carefully examining the bare fiber end of the pigtail. Look for visible cracks, chips, or irregularities in the glass. Any visible line, bubble, or fracture in the fiber often indicates the break point, which is critical to address before splicing or terminating the fiber to avoid high signal loss or back reflection .

Using a Fusion Splicer

When performing a fusion splice, the splicer's display can reveal the break point. If the machine shows unusually high loss (typically over 0.05 dB) or a visible defect in the fiber alignment, this is often the location of the break. In such cases, it is recommended to cut the fiber slightly before the defect and re-splice to ensure a low-loss connection .

Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer (OTDR)

An OTDR can precisely locate the break point along the fiber by sending pulses of light and measuring reflections. The OTDR trace will show a sharp spike or loss at the break location, allowing technicians to identify the exact distance from the connector to the fault. This method is especially useful for longer pigtails or when the break is not visible .

Article Content

Fiber Optic Testing Standards

Measurements for pigtail splice loss and reflectance will be taken using the OTDR's "two-point loss" measurement tool. Any deviation

The Professional's Guide to Fiber Optic Testing: Methods ...

Troubleshooting fiber optic issues? This guide covers testing techniques, interpretation of results, and the right tools

The FOA Reference For Fiber Optics

The best method is to use a bare fiber adapter on the power meter to measure the output of the bare fiber, then attach the splice.

White Paper: Troubleshooting Fiber

Very simple to use, this single-ended optical fault finder uses technology similar to an OTDR, sending a laser light pulse through the

The FOA Reference For Fiber Optics

In order to get a good measurement, it is necessary to find a relatively long section of fiber to give a good baseline for the

How To Test Fiber Optic Cable: The Best Fiber Testing Methods

Understand the best fiber optic cable testing methods, from visual inspection & VFL to OLTS & OTDR, and when

The Complete Guide to Fiber Testing for Continuity: Methods and Tools

Fiber optic testing for continuity is crucial in ensuring that light transmits through fiber optic cables without interruptions,

How to Splice Fiber Optic Pigtails: A Step-by-Step Guide

Master the art of fiber termination. Learn how to splice fiber optic pigtails using fusion splicing, follow the color code,

how to test the length and break point in the fiber optic project

optic fiber ranger is a mini OTDR to test the fiber length, so it can detect the break point in the project

Improving Connector Loss and Splice Loss OTDR Measurement

Two different measurement principles are used here. One principle refers to bidirectional measurement or averaging the losses for

Contact Us

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