ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd

Best Method for Stripping Optical Cables



Overview

Stripping Techniques For Your Fiber Optic Cable Good fiber optic stripping techniques in your cable assembly process are crucial. See best How to Properly.

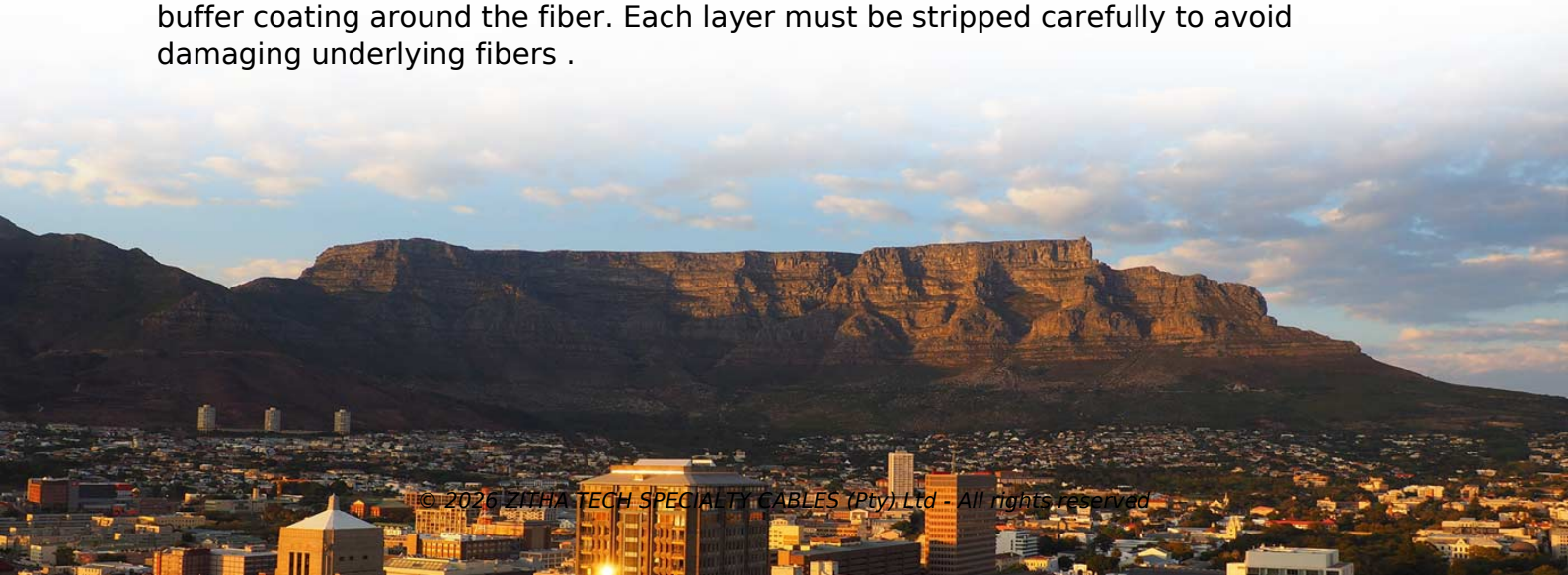
Key Takeaways

Optical cables can be stripped using mechanical, thermal, chemical, or laser-based methods, each tailored to the cable type and coating to expose the bare fiber without damage.Mechanical Stripping

Mechanical stripping is the most common method and involves precision tools designed to remove coatings and jackets:

• Handheld Fiber Strippers: These tools remove polymer coatings (acrylate, silicone, polyimide) from the fiber over a defined length, typically 30–40 mm, without nicking the glass core. They are available in various hole sizes to match standard 125 µm fibers or specialty fibers with thinner coatings .

• Layer-by-Layer Stripping: Multi-layer cables require progressive stripping. First, the outer jacket is removed, followed by aramid yarn strength members, and finally the buffer coating around the fiber. Each layer must be stripped carefully to avoid damaging underlying fibers .



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• Specialized Scissors and Cable Cutters: Tools like CFS-2 fiber cable cutting scissors or buffer tube coaxial strippers allow precise removal of outer sheaths and aramid fibers, with adjustable blade depths to prevent fiber damage .

Thermal and Chemical Methods

• Thermal Stripping: Heat is applied to soften the polymer coating, making it easier to remove. This method is often used for coatings that are difficult to strip mechanically.

• Chemical Stripping: Solvents can dissolve certain polymer coatings. After chemical treatment, fibers must be thoroughly cleaned with lint-free wipes and high-purity alcohol to remove residues .

Laser-Based Stripping

Laser stripping is a non-contact method suitable for high-precision applications:

• A focused laser beam is directed onto the cable's protective cover to form an axial groove without reaching the optical fiber. The groove is then opened to remove the split protective cover portion .

• This method is particularly useful for tight-buffered cables and harness manufacturing, where long sections of protective cover must be removed without stressing the underlying fiber or acrylate layer .

Best Practices

• Inspect Cable Structure: Identify layers such as jacket, buffer coating, strength members, cladding, and core before stripping .

• Use Proper Tools: Select strippers appropriate for the fiber type and diameter. Ensure blades are sharp and well-maintained .

• Controlled Stripping: Perform slow, deliberate movements to avoid scratches or nicks, which can lead to cracks and signal loss .

• Cleaning: After stripping, clean the bare fiber with high-purity alcohol or dedicated fiber cleaning agents to remove residues .

• Safety: Wear protective eyewear to prevent injury from flying debris during mechanical or laser stripping . By following these methods and best practices, optical fibers can be safely prepared for splicing, connectorization, or other processing, ensuring optimal signal transmission and minimizing the risk of fiber damage.

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Article Content

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How to Properly Strip, Cut, and Test Fiber Optic Cables? In fiber optic installations, precision is critical to maintaining optimal signal

Fiber Strippers – tools, mechanical, thermal, chemical,

The main types include mechanical handheld tools with precise blades, thermo-mechanical strippers that

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stripping fiber optic cables

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Ways of Cutting, Coiling, and Stripping Multiconductor Portable Cables

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These cables consist of multiple insulated conductors within a protective jacket, often made from rubber or another

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There are generally two ways how we terminate fiber optic cables: connector or splicing. Termination by Connectors

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It also makes it super easy to strip many wires one after the other, increasing work

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Fiber optic cable stripping is a critical process in the installation and maintenance of fiber optic networks. It requires precision and

Fiber U Lesson Plan: Basic Skills Lab, Remote

Lesson: Stripping Optical Fiber Cable Objectives: From this lesson you should learn: How to use these tools to strip cable to the bare

Stripping Tools

When stripping fiber optic cable, a professional quality stripping tool makes your job easier by providing a clean cut. A fiber stripper

How to Strip Any Type of Wire (DIY) | Family Handyman

Learn how to strip wire with our step-by-step instructions, covering various wire types and

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Achieve precise stripping of fibre optic cables with the Fibre Optical Precision Stripping Tool. Ideal for accurate and efficient cable

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Ripley professional grade Stripping & Cutting Tools For Fiber Optic Cable feature scribes and cleavers, cable strippers and cutters.

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Answering the question for technicians and DIY pros: the right fiber optic cable stripping tool makes jacket, buffer, and

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This best practices document is a step-by-step guide for end and midspan access of loose tube optical cable, including sheath

Tips & Techniques for Using Stripping Tools on Fiber Optic Cable

Technical process expertise is offered in several key technology areas. Specialized expertise includes cable

Fiber U Basic Skills Lab Workbook-termination

Fiber Optic Connector Termination Overview It was not long ago that the proper methods used to terminate fiber optic connectors

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