

Jacket Removal Procedure for Outside Plant Cable

Scope:

The following procedure provides detailed instructions on how to prepare Berk-Tek's Outside Plant cable for termination or splicing.

Required Tools:

Clauss RCS-20 Rotary cable stripper, Ideal 45-163 small blue cable strippers, Kevlar sheers or electricians scissors, isopropyl alcohol, Kimwipes, safety gloves and safety goggles.

Safety:

1. Always wear protective gear when stripping fiber optic cable to protect yourself from glass fragments and sharp instruments.
2. Wearing safety gloves to protect your hands from injury when using sharp-bladed tools is recommended. Dispose of used blades properly.
3. Consult the cable specification sheet for recommendations for pulling force, and bend radius. Applying more force to the cable, crushing or kinking the cable may alter the transmission characteristics of the fiber cable.
4. If the process described herein conflicts with your company's normal safety procedure, your company's normal safety procedures should take precedence.

Procedure:

1. Adjust the depth of the cutting blade of the Clauss tool to approximately equal the thickness of the cable jacket. Adjusting the cutting blade too deep may damage the buffer tubes.



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2. Insert the cable into the Caluss stripping tool. Push the blade into the cable jacket and rotate the tool around the cable adding pressure to ensure that the blade has completely penetrated the cable jacket and that the fiberglass strength members have been severed. Remove the stripping tool.

3. Grasp cable, positioning your hands on each side of the cut. Bend the cable to make certain the fillers are completely severed. Be careful when bending the cable, be careful not to kink the buffer tube located under the jacket. Remove the cable jacket by sliding it off.



4. Make a second cut by inserting the cable into the Ideal stripping tool at the point the fibers need to be exposed. Rotate the tool around the cable adding pressure to insure that the blade has completely penetrated the cable jacket. Use care to avoid damaging the buffer tubes. Remove the stripping tool.



5. Using a hook blade knife, notch the end of the cable jacket next to the ripcord. This allows the stripping process to start easily.



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6. Grasp the ripcord firmly. Protecting your hands with gloves or wrapping the ripcord around a tool such as the shaft of a screwdriver to protect your hands and aid the pulling process is highly recommended. Pull the ripcord through the jacket to the location of the second cut in the cable jacket.



7. Peel the cable jacket from the cable core.



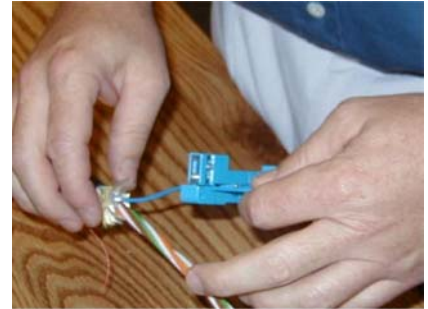
8. Cut away the strength members with Kevlar shears or electricians scissors.



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9. Adjust the blade depth of the Ideal 145-163 small blue stripping tool so that it cuts the buffer tube but does not damage the fibers contained within the tube. Insert the buffer tube into the Ideal stripping tool at the point the fibers need to be exposed. Rotate the tool around the buffer tube. When the buffer tube has been completely severed, slide the buffer tube freeing the fibers.



10. Remove the buffer tube from the fibers.



11. Moisten the Kimwipe cleaning tissue with isopropyl alcohol. Clean the fibers by rubbing the tissue paper along the outside of the fiber bundle. Then clean each individual fiber to remove all traces of gel.



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