

Data Center Cabling Best Practices

While cable management may not be the first thing you think about when planning and building your data center, it shouldn't be your last.

Through employing simple and focused techniques, you can help ensure optimal system performance and mitigate the impact of large cable volumes on airflow, cooling and energy efficiency.

1. Proper cable and patch panel labeling using the guidelines presented in the TIA-606 standard simplifies and streamlines moves, adds and changes.
2. When dressing and bundling cables within the rack, cable ties should not be cinched too tightly, and should take advantage of vertical supports that can aid in preventing cable from blocking air flow.
3. Be sure to always control the bend radius at the point of termination. Ensuring a cable sweep of 4x the cable O.D. helps maintain optimal system performance.
4. When pulling cable through opening in raised floors, the use of gaskets or grommets promotes correct static pressure under floor and increases cooling efficiency.
5. Using blanking panels to fill all open spaces within the rack improves hot aisle/cold aisle isolation.
6. Vertical managers that promote correct cable bend radius and help manage cable volume help ensure optimal system performance.
7. In any instance where fiber optic or copper cables are terminated using connectors or plugs, proper bend radius of cable helps to prevent strain at the connection which can degrade system performance. Be sure to remember this when installing and dressing patch cords.

Industry-leading expertise, innovative cable designs and a commitment to true customer service set Berk-Tek apart from other structured cabling manufacturers.

Contact us to learn more about how we can help you create a more efficient, more flexible data center that will serve you for years to come.

