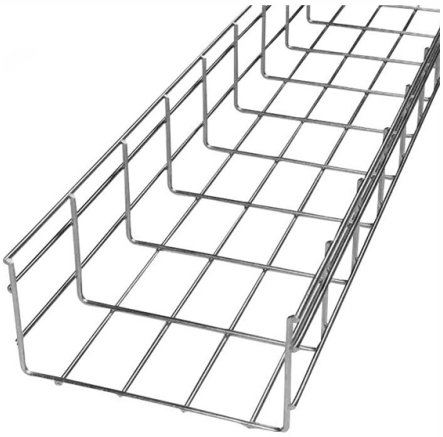
Standards for Long-Term Storage Requirements of Optical Cable Reels



Overview

Cable Storage and handlingThe data sheet of the cable provides information on temperature ranges for ambient installation and/or operation and/or storage.

Key Takeaways

Optical cable reels must be stored upright in a dry, level, and protected environment, with sealed ends and periodic inspection to maintain cable integrity.Storage Environment
• Indoor storage is preferred to protect cables from UV radiation, moisture, and weather variability, even for outdoor-rated cables .

• Temperature and humidity should comply with the cable manufacturer's specifications, typically avoiding high humidity and extremes of heat or cold .

• Surface conditions: Use a level, firm surface such as concrete or well-drained ground to prevent flanges from sinking or deforming . Avoid areas prone to flooding, chemical spills, or falling objects .

• Air circulation: Leave sufficient space between reels to allow airflow and prevent condensation .
Reel Positioning and Handling
• Always store reels upright with flanges vertical; horizontal storage can cause cable loosening or damage .

• Movement: Use forklifts or reel movers with forks longer than the drum width, lifting the reel upright and avoiding contact with the ground until fully stopped .

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• Securing reels: Use stoppers or barriers to prevent accidental rolling, especially in high-traffic areas .

• Periodic rotation: Roll the reels 90° every three months to prevent uneven tension or settling .
Cable End Protection
• Seal cable ends with heat-shrink caps or equivalent to prevent moisture ingress, especially for storage longer than four weeks .

• Fix cut ends to the inside edge of the drum flange to prevent them from extending beyond the flanges during movement .

• Inspect sealing caps before storage and replace any damaged caps immediately .
Rewinding and Compatibility
• If rewinding onto a new drum, ensure the new drum diameter meets or exceeds the original drum's minimum bending radius to avoid cable damage .

• Maintain even tension during rewinding to prevent permanent deformation or kinks in the cable .
Additional Considerations
• Avoid direct sunlight and UV exposure for indoor cables; outdoor cables should still be shielded from extreme weather .

• Labeling and documentation: Record all drum data, including cable type, length, and storage date, for traceability and quality control .

• Inspection before installation: Visually check reels for damage or loose winding before de-reeling . By following these guidelines, optical cable reels can be stored safely for extended periods without compromising performance or structural integrity.

Article Content

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Use professional storage equipment such as cable racks, protective cases, and standard fiber optic cable reels to secure the fiber

GENERAL INFORMATION

All cable reels should be stored in such a manner allowing easy access for lifting and moving, away from construction activities,

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Fiber Optic Cable Storage & Respool Guide

This document provides guidelines for storing, respooling, and shipping Berk-Tek fiber optic cables. The key points are: 1) Cables

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This article explains eight of the most important global fiber and cable standards — ITU-T, IEC, TIA, ISO/IEC, and Telcordia —

Recommended Handling and Storage Practices

Cable reels should be stored with the protective covering or lagging in place. If a length of cable has been cut from the reel, the cable

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This systematic approach supports efficient daily management and accurate traceability for future usage and maintenance.

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1. Recommendations for Fiber Optic Cable Installation 1.1 General recommendations for all installation and storage areas of cable

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IEC Standard specifies tape and reel requirements

The IEC has recently published an updated version of IEC 60286-3 which provides the specifications for the tape and

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The reel''s structural components consist of two flanges, central drum, flange bolts, SmartReelTM test connector and

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