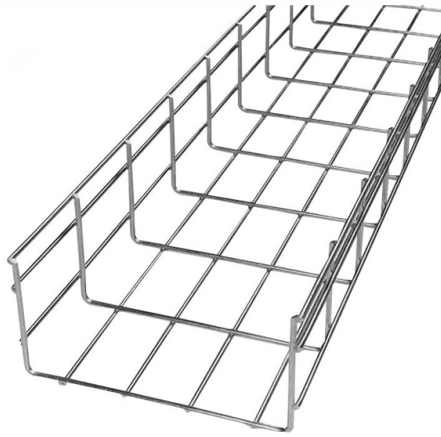


Standards for Long-Term Storage Requirements of Optical Cable Reels



Overview

Cable Storage and handling The 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 .

- 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.

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

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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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