

Requirements for splicing communication optical cables at booster substations



Article Overview

Splicing optical cables at booster substations requires adherence to technical standards, proper cable preparation, and strict safety and grounding protocols to ensure performance and personnel safety.

Technical Requirements

Splice Quality and Stability: Splices must maintain low optical loss and high tensile strength, comparable to the fiber's proof-test level, and remain stable over the system's design life under expected environmental conditions. Both fusion and mechanical splicing are acceptable, with fusion splicing generally preferred for permanent, high-performance connections (ITU-T L.12) . **Cable Types:** Common optical cables in substations include OPGW (Optical Power Ground Wire), ADSS (All-Dielectric Self-Supporting), and SkyWrap. OPGW cables combine grounding and communication functions, often installed above high-voltage conductors, and require careful preparation for splicing due to their metallic and fiber components .

Cable Preparation

- **Marking and Stripping:** Measure and mark 2–2.5 meters of cable to be stripped. Secure the cable with tape to prevent wire displacement during cutting .
- **Metal Layer Removal:** Use a metal saw or mini grinder to carefully cut and remove outer and inner aluminum or steel strands. For OPGW with metal loose tubes, inner strands should extend ~10 mm beyond outer strands to expose the fiber tubes .
- **Fiber Tube Handling:** If fibers are in plastic tubes, standard optical cable preparati...

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To support integrators, here's an easy to follow guide for fiber optic cable splicing discussing mechanical splicing and

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Power grid communications Communication networks are an integral part of interconnected transmission lines in a

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Fiber Optic Testing Standards

The Contractor tasked to perform testing or splicing on any fiber optic cable will follow these testing standards to fulfill their

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ITU-T Rec. L.12 (03/2008) Optical fibre splices

It describes a suitable procedure for splicing that shall be carefully followed in order to obtain reliable splices between optical fibres or

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WGD2 - Cable Systems in Substations

Scope: The scope of the Cable Systems Working Group is: Design, installation, and protection of insulated wire and cable systems in

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IEEE Guide for the Design and Installation of Cable Systems in

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This paper, OPGW Grounding Techniques for Safe Fiber Splicing, outlines critical safety protocols and procedures for

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SUBSTATION COMMUNICATIONS

EARLY SUBSTATION COMMUNICATIONS The first substation-to-substation communications were continuous wires carrying DC

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InstallGuide

Fiber optic connectors may be field installed by direct attachment to the cable or by splicing preterminated pigtails onto the installed

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P525/D1, Jan 2024

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7 CFR 1755.200 -

Unless the cable manufacturer's recommendation is more stringent, the minimum bending radius shall be 10 times the cable

Contact Us

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