

# **FIBER OPTIC CONNECTOR** Cleaning Solutions

## Fiber Optic Cleaning Guide

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IBC<sup>™</sup>Brand Cleaner MPO



IBC<sup>™</sup>Brand Cleaner Optipop





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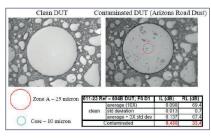
### **Fiber Optic Connector**

**Cleaning Solutions** 

### THE IMPORTANCE OF CLEANING

A clean connector is extremely important in the reliability of any optical network infrastructure. Connector end faces containing even small amounts of debris (skin oils, dust, lotions, water residue, etc.) not only suffer from power degradation but also an increased likelihood of permanent damage when mated. Good cleaning practices, proper training, and use of reliable cleaning tools will aid in the following:

#### 1. Prevent signal degradation



#### 3. Reduce lasting effects of contamination



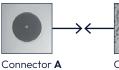
Initial clean endface



endface

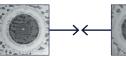
Mated 5x dirty then cleaned (Results in severe permanent damage)

#### 2. Prevent residue cross contamination



(Before Mating)

Connector **B** (Before Mating)



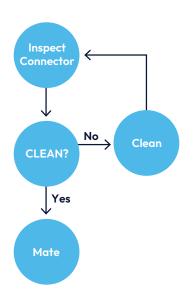
Connector **A** (After Mating)

Connector **B** (After Mating)

#### **GOOD CLEANING PRACTICES: INSPECT-CLEAN-INSPECT**

- 1. Always inspect both connectors before mating.
- 2. Mating dirty connectors may:
  - Cross contaminate both connectors
  - Scratch and pit the ferrule end face
- **3.** Inspecting and cleaning before mating will:
  - Prevent permanent damage to connectors
  - Reduce trouble shooting time
  - Reduce material costs
  - Improve signal quality
- 4. Make keeping fiber optic connectors clean a priority
  - o Develop inspection and cleaning procedures
  - Train your team regularly on how to inspect and clean your connectors

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#### **MULTI-FIBER CLEANER INSTRUCTIONS**

#### Cleaning cable assemblies in bulkhead adapters:





Remove guide cap and place it on the cap holder

#### Cleaning unmated cable assemblies:



Open the cover of the guide cap



Insert connector into the guide cap

Guide Cap



Push the cleaner forward inside the adapter until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete



Push the cleaner forward towards the connector end face until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete

#### SINGLE FIBER CLEANER INSTRUCTIONS

Cleaning cable assemblies in bulkhead adapters:



Remove guide cap from cleaner



Insert tip of cleaner into adapter



Push the cleaner forward inside the adapter until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete

Push the cleaner forward towards the connector end face until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete

#### Cleaning unmated cable assemblies:



Open the cover of the guide cap



Insert connector into the guide cap



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#### **REFILLABLE CASSETTE CLEANER INSTRUCTIONS**

#### Cleaning unmated cable assemblies:



Depress lever to expose cleaning slot and cloth



With cleaning cloth exposed, slide connector end face in the direction of the arrow



Keep connector perpendicular to cleaning surface

#### WET-TO-DRY CLEAN

Dry cleaning procedures are very effective at removing common sources of contamination. A wet-to-dry cleaning process may assist in removing stubborn debris and/or may reduce contamination caused by static found in dry environments. For detailed Wet-to-Dry cleaning instructions, please refer to US Conec AE Note 1824.

#### IBC<sup>™</sup> Cleaner Wet-to-Dry Instructions



Spray a small amount of cleaning solvent on an optical grade wipe



Lightly touch the cleaning ribbon/ thread to the wet area of the wipe. Do not soak the ribbon/thread. Excessive cleaning solvent will require additional dry cleans



Follow standard cleaning procedure for connector type and cleaner used. A second push will provide a dry clean

#### **Cassette Cleaner Wet-to-Dry Instructions**



Press the lever of the cleaning cassette to advance to a new cleaning cloth



Spray a very small amount of cleaning solvent on one end of the cleaning cloth. Do not soak the cloth. Excessive cleaning solvent will require additional dry cleans



Place the connector on the wet area of the cloth and wipe from the wet area to the dry area

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