

Fiber optic cable air blowing cable

Article Overview

Fiber optic cable air blowing, or jetting, uses high-speed airflow combined with mechanical pushing to efficiently install cables into pre-installed ducts.

Overview of the Method

The air blowing method involves pushing the fiber optic cable into a conduit while simultaneously injecting compressed air. The cable is attached to a blowing head with seals that grip it tightly. As air pressure builds, the cable is propelled through the duct, effectively “floating” inside, which reduces friction and allows for longer installation distances compared to traditional pulling methods . This technique is widely used for telecom networks, broadband infrastructure, and long-distance fiber deployments .

Equipment Required

Key equipment for fiber blowing includes :

- Blowing machine: Provides mechanical pushing and controls cable feed.
- Air control system: Regulates airflow and pressure to safely propel the cable.
- Duct clamps and seals: Ensure airtight conditions for efficient jetting.
- Speed and pressure controls: Allow real-time adjustments to prevent cable damage.
- Cable drive system: Feeds the cable into the duct at a controlled rate.

Procedure

- Preparation: Inspect ducts for debris, moisture, and integrity. Verify cable specifications and environmental conditions .
- Initial Push: A few hundred meters of cable are mechanically pushed into the duct using traction rollers or a pushing device .
- Air Injection: Compressed air is introduced at the duct inlet, creating a high-speed airflow that reduces contact between the cable and duct walls, allowing the cable to float .
- Monitoring: Adjust air pressure and feed speed to prevent cable buckling or damage. Use the minimum pressure necessary for smooth installation .
- Completion: Continue blowing until the cable reaches the desired length or duct endpoint.

Cable and Duct Considerations...



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