What is the tool used for laying optical cables called



Overview

A fiber optic fusion splicer is used to join two fiber optic strands together, creating a single long fiber without data loss.

Key Takeaways

Laying optical cables requires a combination of installation, cutting, splicing, cleaning, and testing tools to ensure precise handling and optimal network performance.

Installation Tools

Installation tools are used to prepare and lay fiber optic cables safely and efficiently. Common equipment includes cable pullers, trenchers, plows, and bucket trucks for outdoor or large-scale deployments, while hand tools like screwdrivers, pliers, wrenches, and saws assist in securing and routing cables. Fiber optic cable strippers are essential for removing outer jackets and buffer coatings without damaging the delicate glass fibers inside.

Kevlar scissors or shears are used to cut the aramid yarn strength members in fiber cables cleanly.

Splicing and Termination Tools

Splicing and termination require high precision to minimize signal loss. Fusion splicers align and fuse fiber ends using an electric arc, providing low-loss, high-strength connections. Mechanical splicing kits are also used for certain applications.

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Fiber cleavers produce perfectly flat, perpendicular end faces, which are critical for reducing insertion loss and ensuring reliable splices. Splice sleeves and sleeve heaters protect and reinforce the spliced fibers.

Cleaning and Inspection Tools

Contamination can severely affect fiber performance. Lint-free wipes, cleaning fluids, cassette cleaners, and cleaning sticks are used to clean connector end faces and adapters. Inspection scopes or microscopes allow technicians to check for dirt, scratches, or defects before connecting fibers.

Proper cleaning ensures signal stability and reduces troubleshooting time.

Testing Tools

Testing tools verify network performance and detect faults.

Optical Time-

Domain Reflectometers (OTDRs) measure distance to faults, reflectance, and total fiber loss. Optical power meters and light sources assess insertion loss and continuity across various wavelengths, ensuring compliance with network standards. These tools are crucial for certifying new installations and troubleshooting existing networks.

Auxiliary Equipment

Additional tools include cable jackets removal tools, buffer tube strippers, and multi-purpose 5-in-1 stripping tools for different fiber diameters. Ergonomic and precision-designed tools reduce hand fatigue and prevent micro-cracks in the fiber, which can compromise long-term network reliability. In summary, laying optical cables involves a combination of installation hardware, precision cutting and stripping tools, splicing and termination equipment, cleaning and inspection kits, and testing instruments to ensure a high-quality, reliable fiber optic network.

Article Content

Common Tools to use for Fiber Optic Installations

A fiber optic fusion splicer is used to join two fiber optic strands together, creating a single long fiber without data loss. We sell Fusion Splicer Kits that come with everything you need, including an easy

Tools for Cable and Fiber Preparation

One of the most important tools for working with cables is the longitudinal cable sheath cutting tool or cable jacket slitter. There are many different models available on the market for specific types and

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Basic Hand Tools for Fiber Optic Technicians

Midspan Tools – Midspan tools like Jonard''s patented line of Mid Span Slitting and Ringing tools are designed to provide easy access to optical fibers in outer

Top 7 Must-Have Tools for Fiber Optic Technicians

A Visual Fault Locator (VFL) is a compact, pen-shaped device used by fiber optics technicians to locate and identify faults or breaks in fiber optic cables. The VFL emits a visible red laser light into the fiber,

Types of Network Tools

Crimping tool is a commonly used tool for installing and crimping cable connectors. The commonly used network crimping tools in the current market are multifunctional and can adapt to

Fiber optic equipment guide: tools, uses and testing explained

The optical time domain reflectometer, or OTDR, is the most comprehensive diagnostic tool available for fiber networks. It sends a pulse of light down the fiber and analyzes the signal that

The FOA Reference For Fiber Optics

Installation tools include some big hardware like bucket trucks, trenchers, cable pullers or plows. The need for these will be established early in the planning stages. Many contractors do not own

Fiber Optic Tools Guide – Choosing the Right Tools

This is why professional installers invest in certified, ergonomic, and durable tools designed specifically for fiber optics. Unlike improvised tools from the electrical world, fiber tools are

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The document provides a checklist of tools, test equipment, and supplies needed for fiber optic installation. It lists specific items like strippers, cleavers, crimp tools, safety glasses, continuity

Tools Used in Fiber Optic Installation: Ensuring Precision

Explore the essential tools utilized in fiber optic installation, ensuring accurate and efficient network setup for high-speed data transmission.

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Everything you need to know about fiber optic termination

Different connectors and splice termination procedures are used for singlemode and multimode connectors, so make sure you know what the fiber will be before you

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