

Armored Vibration Optical Cable



Overview

Learn different types of armored fiber optic cable, including steel wire, corrugated, and indoor armored cables.

Key Takeaways

Armored vibration optical cables are specialized fiber optic cables designed for high mechanical protection and sensitive micro-vibration detection in harsh environments.

Armored vibration optical cables combine the protective features of traditional armored optical cables with enhanced sensitivity to external vibrations. They are widely used in distributed vibration sensing systems, such as intrusion detection, structural monitoring, and industrial safety applications .

Structure and Materials

- Double-layer stainless steel armor: Provides high tensile and compressive strength, anti-twisting, rodent resistance, cut resistance, and water/moisture protection .
- Optical fiber in free state inside a steel pipe: Ensures high sensitivity to micro-vibrations while maintaining fiber integrity .
- Outer sheath: Typically made of flame-retardant, environmentally friendly materials for fire safety and durability .

- Optional aramid layers: Enhance tensile strength and further protect the fiber core . Some designs, like Corning SST-Ribbon and SST-UltraRibbon, use gel-free, single-tube constructions with water-swellaable tapes to minimize ribbon movement and maintain performance under vibration .

Key Advantages

- High mechanical protection: Resistant to bending, compression, cutting, and rodent damage .
- Vibration sensitivity: Unique steel hose design allows precise detection of micro-vibrations, ideal for security and monitoring systems .
- Environmental resilience: Suitable for outdoor, underground, and harsh industrial environments, with resistance to moisture, temperature extremes, and UV exposure .
- Ease of installation: Flexible and tough, allowing for straightforward deployment and maintenance .

Applications

- Security and intrusion detection: Airports, military installations, highways, and residential areas .
- Industrial monitoring: Power plants, chemical plants, mining areas, and factories .
- Infrastructure protection: Distributed sensing for structural health monitoring and damage prevention .

Summary

Armored vibration optical cables are a robust solution for environments requiring both mechanical protection and high sensitivity to vibrations. Their combination of stainless steel armor, flexible fiber placement, and environmental resistance makes them ideal for distributed sensing, security, and industrial monitoring applications. They maintain optical performance while providing long-term durability and reliability in challenging conditions .

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