

10-3. FIBER CABLE INSTALLATION

Fiber optic cable shall be installed in conduit or cable duct system as show on the plans. Fiber optic conduit system shall consist of conduits, fiber optic pull boxes and fiber optic splice vaults or cabinets.

Installation procedures shall be in conformance with the procedures specified by the cable manufacturer for the specific cable being installed. The Contractor shall submit to the engineer the manufacturer's recommended procedures for pulling fiber optic cable at least 20 working days prior to installing cable. Mechanical aids may be used, provided that a tension measuring device is placed in tension to the end of the cable, and the allowable tension does not exceed 500 lbf or the manufacturers recommended pulling tension, whichever is less.

The cable shall be installed using a cable pulling lubricant recommended by the cable manufacture and a non-abrasive pull tape conforming to the provisions described under "Conduit" elsewhere in these special provisions. Contractor's personnel shall be stationed at each pull box, vault and cabinet through which the cable is pulled to lubricate and prevent kinking or other damage.

During cable installation, the bend radius shall be maintained at not less than twenty times the outside diameter of the cable. The cable grips for installing the fiber optic cable shall have a ball bearing swivel to prevent the cable from twisting during installation.

At the Contractor's option, the fiber cable may be installed using the air blown method. If integral innerduct is used, the duct splice points or any temporary splices of innerduct used for installation must withstand a static air pressure of 110 psi.

The fiber installation equipment must incorporate a mechanical drive unit or pusher, which feeds cable into the pressurized innerduct to provide a sufficient push force on the cable, which is coupled with the drag force created by the high-speed airflow. The unit must be equipped with controls to regulate the flow rate of compressed air entering the duct and any hydraulic or pneumatic pressure applied to the cable. It must accommodate longitudinally ribbed or smooth wall ducts from nominal 0.625-inch to 2-inch inner diameter. Mid assist or cascading of equipment must be for the installation of long cable runs. The equipment must incorporate safety shutoff valves to disable the system in the event of sudden changes in pneumatic or hydraulic pressure.

The equipment must not require the use of a piston or any other air capturing device to impose a pulling force at the front end of the cable, which also significantly restricts the free flow of air through the inner duct. It must incorporate the use of a counting device to determine the speed of the cable during installation and the length of the cable installed.

The cable shall be installed without splices except where specifically allowed on the plans or described in these special provisions. Minimum slack of the cable as shown on the plans shall be provided at each cable access location without a cable splice. At fiber optic splice location, a minimum of 30 feet slack of each cable (2 or more) shall be stored in the splice location.