## 10-3.__ CABLE SPLICING

Field cable splices shall be done either in splice vaults or cabinets as shown on the plans.

Unless otherwise allowed, the cable splices shall be fusion type. The mean splice loss shall not exceed 0.07 dB per splice. The mean splice loss shall be obtained by measuring the loss through the splice in both directions and then averaging the resultant values.

The mid-span access method shall be used to access the individual fibers in a cable for splicing to another cable as shown on the plans. Cable manufacturers recommended procedures and approved tools shall be used when performing a mid-span access. Only the fibers to be spliced may be cut. All measures shall be taken to avoid damaging buffer tubes and individual fibers not being used in the mid-span access.

The field splices shall connect the fibers of the two cable lengths together. These splices shall be placed in splice trays and these splice trays shall then be placed in the splice enclosure.

The termination splices shall connect the cable span ends with pigtails. The termination splices shall be placed in splice trays and the splice trays shall then be placed in the fiber distribution unit (FDU).

Splice trays must accommodate a minimum of 12 fusion splices. The individual fibers shall be looped at least one full turn within the splice tray to avoid micro bending. A 2 inches minimum bend radius shall be maintained during installation and after final assembly in the optical fiber splice tray. Each bare fiber shall be individually restrained in a splice tray. The optical fibers in buffer tubes and the placement of the bare optical fibers in the splice tray shall be such that there is no discernable tensile force on the optical fiber.

All splices shall be protected with a metal reinforced thermal shrink sleeve.