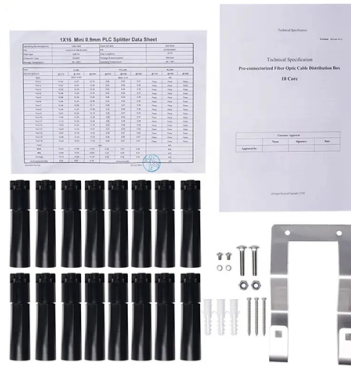


Connect fiber optic module



Article Overview

Fiber optic modules can be connected using connectors, mechanical splicing, fusion splicing, or advanced physical connection methods, each suited for different applications and performance requirements.

1. Connector-Based (Active) Connections

Connector-based connections use plugs and sockets to join fiber optic cables temporarily or semi-permanently. Common connector types include LC, SC, ST, MPO, and FC, chosen based on network compatibility and cable type (single-mode or multi-mode). This method is flexible and convenient, allowing easy reconfiguration, but typically introduces 1 dB of attenuation per connection, with potential light loss of 10–20%. Proper cleaning and maintenance of connectors are essential to prevent signal degradation.

2. Mechanical Splicing (Cold Splicing)

Mechanical splicing, also called cold splicing, aligns two fiber ends in a precision sleeve using index-matching gel or adhesives. It is quick and reliable, with typical attenuation of 0.1–0.3 dB per point, making it suitable for emergency or temporary connections. Mechanical splices do not require heat, and the fibers can be joined in about five minutes by trained personnel. However, the connection may become unstable over time, so it is not ideal for long-term installations.

3. Fusion Splicing (Permanent Connection)...

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