

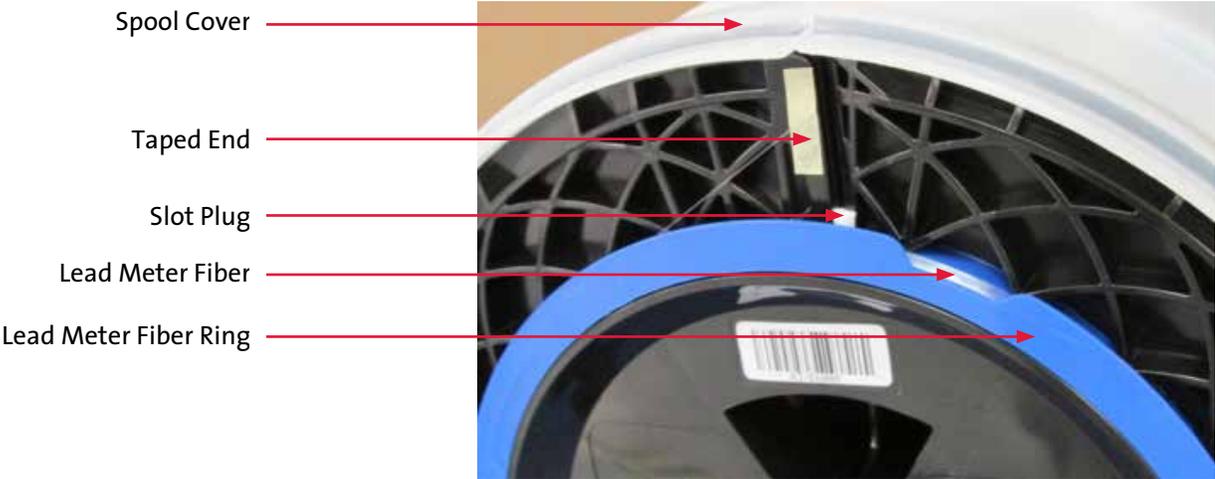
Recommended Handling Procedures for Slot Plugs and Inside End Lead Meter Fiber

Application Note

AN3683
Issued: December 2015
Supersedes: June 2009
ISO 9001 REGISTERED

Corning Incorporated is a world leader in manufacturing optical fiber, and takes pride in delivering a total quality product that meets our customers' requirements. Corning Optical Fiber uses a small foam insert for the slotted-flange shipping spools to prevent the inside fiber end from slipping through the spool's slot during processing. Most customers process Corning shipping spools in the as-received condition. Leaving the inside lead meter fiber in place may result in ejection of the slot plug if the lead meter fiber runs through the slot after the fiber is fully wound off the barrel of the spool. To avoid this, the slot plug may be removed prior to processing by following the procedures outlined below.

NOTE: In order to protect the fiber from contamination and damage, the spool cover should always remain in place during spool preparation.



STEP 1

Remove the extra length of inside end lead meter fiber using one of the recommended methods.



Method 1 (Unwrapping the lead meter fiber)

Remove the taped end of the fiber and then unwind the entire length of fiber from the lead meter ring, and break the fiber within 1 inch (2.54 cm) of the spool slot and foam slot plug.



Method 2 (Removal of lead meter fiber by cutting)

Use a sharp knife with appropriate safety protection to cut through the full width of lead meter fibers by pressing down on the lead meter ring within 1 inch of the spool slot and foam slot plug.

Do not attempt to pull the fiber from the slot in the spool flange as this may dislodge the slot plug and render it ineffective.

Remove all lead meter fiber including the taped end.

< 1 inch of lead meter fiber should protrude from the slot in the spool flange.

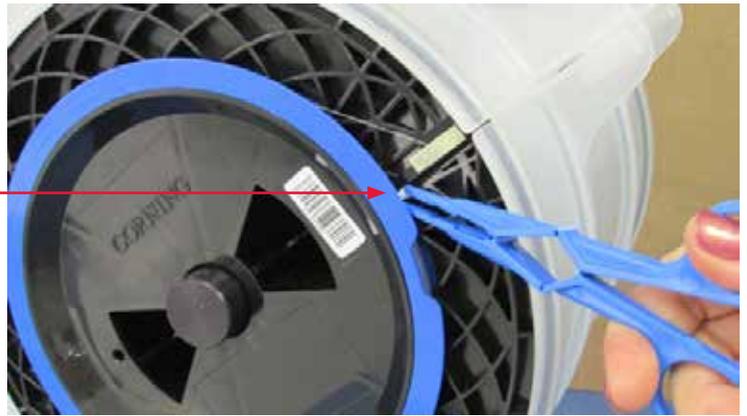


NOTE: In either method, it is important to collect and remove all stray fiber from the spool and surrounding area. This will help prevent fiber to fiber contact (whip) damage.

Once the lead meter fiber has been removed, the slot plug may be removed using an appropriate tool. A rubber or plastic nosed set of pliers is recommended for removal (metal pliers are not recommended, because they increase the risk of damage to the fiber and/or the spool).



Removal of the Slot Plug



Corning Incorporated
www.corning.com/opticalfiber

One Riverfront Plaza
Corning, New York
USA

Phone: (607)248-2000
Email: cofic@corning.com

Corning is a registered trademark of Corning Incorporated, Corning, N.Y.

© 2015, Corning Incorporated