Optical Fiber Precautions

WARNING: Cleaved or broken glass fibers are very sharp and can pierce the skin or damage the eyes easily. Do not let pieces of fiber stick to your clothing or drop in the work area where they can cause injury later. Use tweezers to pick up pieces of fiber and place them on a loop of tape kept for that purpose alone. Good housekeeping is very important.

Chemical Precautions

CAUTION: Fiber Clean Wipes contain hydrocarbons. Apply in rooms having normal room ventilation. For prolonged and/or repeated use, gloves are recommended. Avoid eye contact. Keep away from open flames and ignition sources. If ingested, do not induce vomiting. Consult a physician. In case of eye contact, flush eyes with water for 15 minutes.

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Precautions

CAUTION: Corning Cable Systems recommends the use of safety glasses (spectacles) conforming to ANSI Z87, for eye protection from accidental injury when handling chemicals, cables or working with fiber. Pieces of glass fiber are very sharp and have the potential to damage the eye.

CAUTION: The wearing of cut-resistant safety gloves to protect your hands from accidental injury when using sharp-bladed tools is strongly recommended. To minimize the chance of injury from sharp-bladed tools, always cut away from yourself and others. Dispose of used blades and armor scrap properly.

Laser Precautions

CAUTION: Never look directly into the end of a fiber that may be carrying laser light. Laser light can be invisible and can damage your eye. Viewing it directly does not cause pain. The iris of the eye will not close involuntarily as when viewing a bright bulb. Consequently, serious damage to the retina of the eye is possible. Should accidental eye exposure to laser light be suspected, arrange for an eye examination immediately.

Cable Handling Precautions

CAUTION: Fiber optic cable is sensitive to excessive pulling, bending and crushing forces. Consult the cable specification sheet for the cable you are installing. Do not bend the cable more sharply than the minimum recommended bend radius. Do not apply more pulling force to the cable than specified. Do not crush the cable or allow it to kink. Doing so may cause damage that can alter the transmission characteristics of the cable; the cable may have to be replaced.

CAUTION: The typical filler rod color in the cable described in this procedure is black. Careful attention should be taken to avoid accidental cutting of live buffer tubes; particularly white and black tubes. In mid-span applications, Corning Cable Systems recommends coiling all tubes and filler rods in the slack storage area of the splice closure; especially for cables with fiber counts above 96 fibers. Avoid cutting any filler rods unless necessary for storage space considerations. When in doubt regarding the buffer tube color code and filler rod replacements, contact Corning Cable Systems Engineering Services for assistance prior to cutting.

WARNING: Care must be taken while handling fibers during mid-span access procedures to avoid causing large deviations in optical power throughput on fibers carrying communications traffic. INTERRUPTION OF SYSTEM TRAFFIC MAY RESULT FROM NEGLIGENT HANDLING OF FIBERS.