SC, FC and ST* Hot Melt Fiber Optic Connectors

Instructions
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1.0 Safety and Helpful Hints

Use reagent grade isopropyl alcohol that is 99% pure to clean the fibers and other components. When terminating connectors on any cable containing grease, ensure that all grease is wiped away and the buffer, coating, and fiber are thoroughly cleaned with isopropyl alcohol.

Isopropyl alcohol is not shipped with the 3M Field Termination Kits; however, a bottle for the alcohol is included.

Note: Carefully follow safety, health and environmental information given on the container label or the Material Safety Data Sheet for the isopropyl alcohol being used.

Safety glasses should be worn when working with optical fibers.

Caution: Do not touch any part of the heating block of the Hot Melt Oven during operation. It is very HOT.

Warning: Do not view fiber ends if they are illuminated with a laser.

2.0 Field Termination Kit Contents

2.1 Oven
2.2 Cooling Stand
2.3 ST* Connector Holder
2.4 FC Connector Holder
2.5 SC Connector Holder
2.6 Polishing Pad
2.7 2 µm Lapping Film (pale aqua)
2.8 Final Lapping Film (pale yellow)
2.9 8892 Polishing Jig
2.10 6955-C Crimp Tool

2.11 Jacket Removal Tool

2.12 Scissors

2.13 6955-S Fiber Buffer and Coating Stripper

2.14 Scribe

2.15 View Scope

2.16 Lint-Free Cloths

2.17 Alcohol and Water Bottles (Shipped Empty)
3.0 ST—Installation on 900 µm Buffered Fiber

3.1 Turn on the Hot Melt Oven. The oven requires 5 minutes to warm up.

3.2 Open the connector package and remove the components.

3.3 Each connector package contains a connector (A), strain relief boot (B) and clear strain relief tube (C).

3.4 Load the connector onto the ST* connector holder.

3.5 Latch the connector bayonet housing to the connector holder.

Note: The connector should be in the oven for at least one minute, but no more than ten minutes.

3.6 Place the connector holder and connector into the oven.

3.7 Place the strain relief boot and clear strain relief tube on the buffered fiber.

3.8 Remove the buffer in small pieces until ⅜”–¾” (16-19 mm) of the buffer has been stripped.

3.9 Stripping template.
3.10 Clean the fiber with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

3.11 Remove the connector holder from the oven.

CAUTION: VERY HOT.

3.12 Gently insert the fiber into the connector.

3.13 Push the buffered fiber until it stops.

3.14 Slide the clear strain relief tube into the backbone of the connector until it stops.

3.15 Bare fiber should be visible in the bottom of the connector holder.

3.16 Place the buffered fiber in the cable holder.

3.17 Place the connector holder into the cooling stand. The cooling time is about 3 minutes.

Proceed to Section 9: Scribing, Page 18.
4.0 ST—Installation on Jacketed Cable

4.1 Turn on the Hot Melt Oven. The oven requires 5 minutes to warm up.

4.2 Open the connector package and remove the components.

4.3 Each connector package contains a connector (A), strain relief boot (B) and clear strain relief tube (C). The strain relief tube is not used on jacketed cable.

4.4 Load the connector onto the ST* connector holder.

4.5 Latch the connector bayonet housing to the connector holder.

4.6 Place the connector holder and connector into the oven.

*Note: The connector should be in the oven for at least one minute, but no more than ten minutes.

4.7 Place the strain relief boot on the cable.

4.8 Score the jacket ⅜" (19 mm) to ⅞" (22 mm) from the end.

4.9 Remove the jacket from the end of the cable.

4.10 Gather the aramid yarn together and hold them against the cable jacket.

4.11 To prevent the buffered fiber from being pulled out, lace the cable through your fingers.

4.12 Remove ⅜" (16 mm) of the buffer.
4.13 Stripping template.

4.14 Clean the fiber with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

4.15 Cut the aramid yarn to 1/4" (6 mm) long.

4.16 Remove the connector holder from the oven.

CAUTION: VERY HOT.

4.17 Gently insert the fiber into the connector.

4.18 Push the cable until the aramid yarn is inside the connector.

4.19 Bare fiber should be visible in the bottom of the connector holder.

4.20 Secure the cable to the cable holder.

4.21 Place the connector holder into the cooling stand. The cooling time is about 3 minutes.

Proceed to Section 9: Scribing, Page 18.
5.0 SC—Installation on 900 µm Buffered Fiber

5.1 Turn on the Hot Melt oven. The oven requires 5 minutes to warm up.

5.2 Open the package and remove the components.

5.3 Each package contains a connector (A), strain relief boot (B), clear strain relief tube (C), black crimp ring for 3 mm cable (D) and connector shell (E).

5.4 Load the connector into the SC connector holder.

5.5 Push down on the connector and turn it 90 degrees so that the arms hold the connector in place.

Note: The connector should be in the oven for at least one minute, but no more than ten minutes.

5.6 Place the connector holder and connector into the oven.

5.7 Place the strain relief boot, clear strain relief tubing and crimp ring on the fiber.

5.8 Remove the buffer in small pieces until $\frac{9}{16}$"–$\frac{5}{8}$" (14-16 mm) of buffer has been stripped.

5.9 Stripping template.
5.10 Clean the fiber with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

5.11 Remove the connector holder from the oven.  
*CAUTION: VERY HOT.*

5.12 Gently insert the fiber into the connector.

5.13 Push the buffered fiber until it stops.

5.14 Slide the crimp ring over the backbone until it is against the connector.

5.15 Slide the clear strain relief tube into the crimp ring.

5.16 Verify that the bare fiber is visible in the bottom of the connector holder.

5.17 Crimp the larger part of the crimp ring with the .190 cavity of the crimp tool.

5.18 Crimp the smaller part of the crimp ring using the .137 cavity.

5.19 Place the connector holder into the cooling stand. The cooling time is about 3 minutes.

Proceed to Section 9: Scribing, Page 18.
6.0 SC—Installation on Jacketed Cable

6.1 Turn on the Hot Melt oven. The oven requires 5 minutes to warm up.

6.2 Open the package and remove the components.

6.3 Each package contains a connector (A), strain relief boot (B), clear strain relief tube (C), black crimp ring for 3 mm cable (D) and connector shell (E). The strain relief tube is not used on jacketed cable.

6.4 Load the connector into the SC connector holder.

6.5 Push down on the connector and turn it 90 degrees so that the arms hold the connector in place.

6.6 Place the connector holder and connector into the oven. Note: The connector should be in the oven for at least one minute, but no more than ten minutes.

6.7 Place the strain relief boot and crimp ring on the cable.

6.8 Score the jacket $1\frac{1}{8}$” (30 mm) from the end.

6.9 Remove the jacket from the end of the cable.

6.10 Gather the aramid yarn together and hold them against the cable jacket.

6.11 To prevent the buffered fiber from being pulled out, lace the cable through your fingers.

6.12 Remove the buffer in small pieces until $\frac{3}{16}$”–$\frac{5}{8}$” (14-16 mm) of the buffer remains.
6.13 Strip the crimp ring over the aramid yarn until it is seated against the connector.

6.14 Clean the fiber with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

6.15 Cut the aramid yarn to \( \frac{5}{16}'' \) (8 mm) long.

6.16 Remove the connector holder from the oven.

**CAUTION: VERY HOT.**

6.17 Gently insert the fiber into the connector.

6.18 Push the cable until it stops against the connector. The aramid yarn should flare out over the backbone.

6.19 Slide the crimp ring over the aramid yarn until it is seated against the connector.

6.20 Verify that the bare fiber is visible in the bottom of the connector holder.

6.21 Crimp the larger part of the crimp ring with the .190 cavity of the crimp tool.

6.22 Crimp the smaller part of the crimp ring using the .137 cavity. (Use the .120 cavity for the optional 2.4 mm crimp ring.)

6.23 Place the connector holder into the cooling stand. The cooling time is about 3 minutes.
7.0 FC—Installation on 900 µm Buffered Fiber

7.1 Turn on the Hot Melt oven. The oven requires 5 minutes to warm up.

7.2 Open the package and remove the components.

7.3 Each package contains a connector (A), strain relief boot (B), clear strain relief tube (C) and black crimp ring for 3 mm cable (D).

7.4 Load the connector into the FC connector holder. Align the key on the connector with the key way on the connector holder.

7.5 Place the connector holder and connector into the oven.

Note: The connector should be in the oven for at least one minute, but no more than ten minutes.

7.6 Place the strain relief boot, clear strain relief tube and crimp ring on the fiber.

7.7 Remove the buffer in small pieces until 9/16"–5/8" (14-16 mm) of buffer has been stripped.

7.8 Stripping template.

7.9 Clean the fiber with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.
7.10 Remove the connector holder from the oven.

CAUTION: VERY HOT.

7.13 Slide the crimp ring over the backbone until it is against the connector.

7.14 Slide the clear strain relief tube into the crimp ring.

7.15 Verify that the bare fiber is visible in the bottom of the connector holder.

7.16 Crimp the larger part of the crimp ring with the .190 cavity of the crimp tool.

7.17 Crimp the smaller part of the crimp ring using the .137 cavity.

7.18 Place the connector holder into the cooling stand. The cooling time is about 3 minutes.

Proceed to Section 9: Scribing, Page 18.
8.0 FC—Installation on Jacketed Cable

8.1 Turn on the Hot Melt oven. The oven requires 5 minutes to warm up.

8.2 Open the package and remove the components.

8.3 Each package contains a connector (A), strain relief boot (B), clear strain relief tube (C) and black crimp ring for 3 mm cable (D). The strain relief tube is not used on jacketed cable.

8.4 Load the connector into the FC connector holder. Align the key on the connector with the key way on the connector holder.

8.5 Place the connector holder and connector into the oven.

Note: The connector should be in the oven for at least one minute, but no more than ten minutes.

8.6 Place the strain relief boot and crimp ring on the cable.

8.7 Score the jacket 1\(\frac{3}{16}\)" (30 mm) from the end.

8.8 Remove the jacket from the end of the cable.

8.9 Gather the aramid yarn together and hold them against the cable jacket.

8.10 To prevent the buffered fiber from being pulled out, lace the cable through your fingers.

8.11 Remove the buffer in small pieces until 9\(\frac{1}{16}\)" (14 mm) of the buffer remains.

8.12 Stripping template.
8.13 Clean the fiber with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

8.14 Cut the aramid yarn to $\frac{3}{16}$" (8 mm) long.

8.15 Remove the connector holder from the oven.

CAUTION: VERY HOT.

8.16 Gently insert the fiber into the connector.

8.17 Push the cable until it stops against the connector. The aramid yarn should flare out over the backbone.

8.18 Slide the crimp ring over the aramid yarn until it is seated against the connector.

8.19 Verify that the bare fiber is visible in the bottom of the connector holder.

8.20 Crimp the larger part of the crimp ring with the .190 cavity of the crimp tool.

8.21 Crimp the smaller part of the crimp ring using the .137 cavity. (Use the .120 cavity for the optional 2.4 mm crimp ring)

8.22 Place the connector holder into the cooling stand. The cooling time is about 3 minutes.
9.0 Scribing

9.1 Remove the connector from the connector holder.

Caution: Be careful so that you do not break the protruding fiber.

9.2 Score the fiber by gently sliding the blades across the fiber just above the adhesive bead. Scoring means that you are making a small scratch on the outside of the fiber. Be very gentle.

9.3 Pull the fiber away from the connector. Pull along the axis of the fiber, not to one side or the other. If the fiber does not break away, score the fiber again.

Caution: Dispose of the fiber per company practice.
10.0 Multimode Polishing Procedure

This procedure is for multimode connectors and single-mode connectors that require only a -27 dB reflection. For single-mode applications that require better reflection performance, follow the procedure in Section 11.

10.1 Perform an air polish on the fiber by gently moving the connector in a circular motion on the 2 micron lapping film (pale aqua color).

10.2 Clean the polishing jig with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

10.3 Clean the rubber pad with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

10.4 Wipe a layer of alcohol onto the rubber pad.

10.5 Before the alcohol evaporates, place the 2 micron lapping film on the rubber pad shiny side down. The alcohol creates a suction on the lapping film and helps hold it in place.

10.6 Clean the lapping film with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

*Note: The 2 micron polishing film may be used for two connectors.*

10.7 Place the connector ferrule in the polishing jig to verify that it fits properly. The fit should allow for easy movement of the ferrule.

10.8 If the ferrule does not fit properly, there are two possible causes. The first is that there is adhesive on the ferrule. To remove the adhesive, use the scissors and gently scrape away the adhesive.

10.9 The second possibility is that the hole in the jig may have adhesive in it. Saturate a pipe cleaner with isopropyl alcohol and move it back and forth in the jig to remove the adhesive.
10.10 Place the jig on the lapping film.

10.11 Place the ferrule in the jig until it stops.

10.12 Hold the connector as shown.

10.13 Beginning with a light pressure, move the jig in a figure eight pattern. The speed of your figure eights should be between one and two per second.

After you have done 5 figure eights, increase to a medium pressure and polish until all of the adhesive has been removed. Then, polish an additional 3 figure eights.

*Note: The jig will feel much easier to push immediately after the adhesive has been removed.*

10.14 Clean the connector end face with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

10.15 Inspect the connector end face with the view scope.

10.16 Turn on the light and adjust the focus.

10.17 Good polish (single-mode)

10.18 Good polish (multimode)

10.19 Needs more polishing.

10.20 Too much pressure when scribing.

10.21 Scribed fiber was too long and broke during polishing or too much downward pressure during polishing.

10.22 ST Connector—Install the boot on the connector.
10.23 FC Connector—Install the boot on the connector.

10.24 SC connector—Align the flats of the boot with the flat sides of the connector body.

10.25 Push the boot into place.

10.26 Install the shell by aligning the chamfers in the shell with the chamfers on the connector.

10.27 Push firmly on the shell until it snaps in place.

10.28 Install the dust cap on the connector.

11.0 Single-Mode Polishing Procedure

11.1 Perform an air polish on the fiber by gently moving the connector in a circular motion on the 2 micron lapping film (pale aqua color).

11.2 Clean the polishing jig with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

11.3 Clean the rubber pad with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

11.4 Wipe a layer of alcohol onto the rubber pad.

11.5 Before the alcohol evaporates, place the 2 micron lapping film on the rubber pad shiny side down. The alcohol creates suction on the lapping film and helps hold it in place.

11.6 Clean the lapping film with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

Note: The 2 micron lapping film should be used for one connector only.
11.7 Place the connector ferrule in the polishing jig to verify that it fits properly. The fit should allow for easy movement of the ferrule.

11.8 If the ferrule does not fit properly, there are two possible causes. The first is that there is adhesive on the ferrule. To remove the adhesive, use the scissors and gently scrape away the adhesive.

11.9 The second possibility is that the hole in the jig may have adhesive in it. Saturate a pipe cleaner with isopropyl alcohol and move it back and forth in the jig to remove the adhesive.

11.10 Place the jig on the lapping film.

11.11 Place the ferrule in the jig until it stops.

11.12 Hold the connector as shown.

11.13 Beginning with a light pressure, move the jig in a figure eight pattern.

11.14 The speed of your figure eights should be between one and two per second.

After you have done 5 figure eights, increase to a medium pressure and polish until all of the adhesive has been removed. Then, polish one additional figure eight only.

Note: The jig will feel much easier to push immediately after the adhesive has been removed.

11.15 Clean the second rubber pad.

11.16 Wipe a layer of alcohol onto the rubber pad.

11.17 Before the alcohol evaporates, place the 0.05 Micron Lapping film (pale yellow) on the rubber pad shiny side down.

11.18 Clean the lapping film with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

Note: The SM Final Polish film may be used for up to 8 connectors.
11.19 Add several drops of distilled water to the lapping film.

11.20 Place the jig on the lapping film.

11.21 Place the ferrule in the jig until it stops.

11.22 Hold the connector as shown.

11.23 Polish the connector for 3 figure eights only.

11.24 Clean the connector end face with a lint free cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol.

11.25 Inspect the connector end face with the view scope. Section 10 has pictures of properly and improperly polished connectors.

11.26 Install the dust cap on the connector.
### 12.0 Field Termination Kit Replacement Part Numbers

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