

Cabling challenges in data center white space

Data center grows and changes constantly and continuously. When customers relocate hardware to multi-tenant or colocation white space of data centers, numerous fiber optic connections are needed. Fiber optic surpasses copper based communication and is de-facto most future-proof.

However, there is insufficient level of awareness and comprehension regarding fiber optic technology among the data center specialists. Many vendors provide different solutions and components, so it makes the choice even more complicated.

Without fully understanding all the nuances of selecting the necessary fiber optic equipment, network designers often seek an easier route, namely, using individual cables. Despite the fact that this approach is technically acceptable, it leads to a range of future problems.

To address these specific issues, every data center has a qualified resource available to help prevent such problems.



Benefits of engaging data center implementation teams



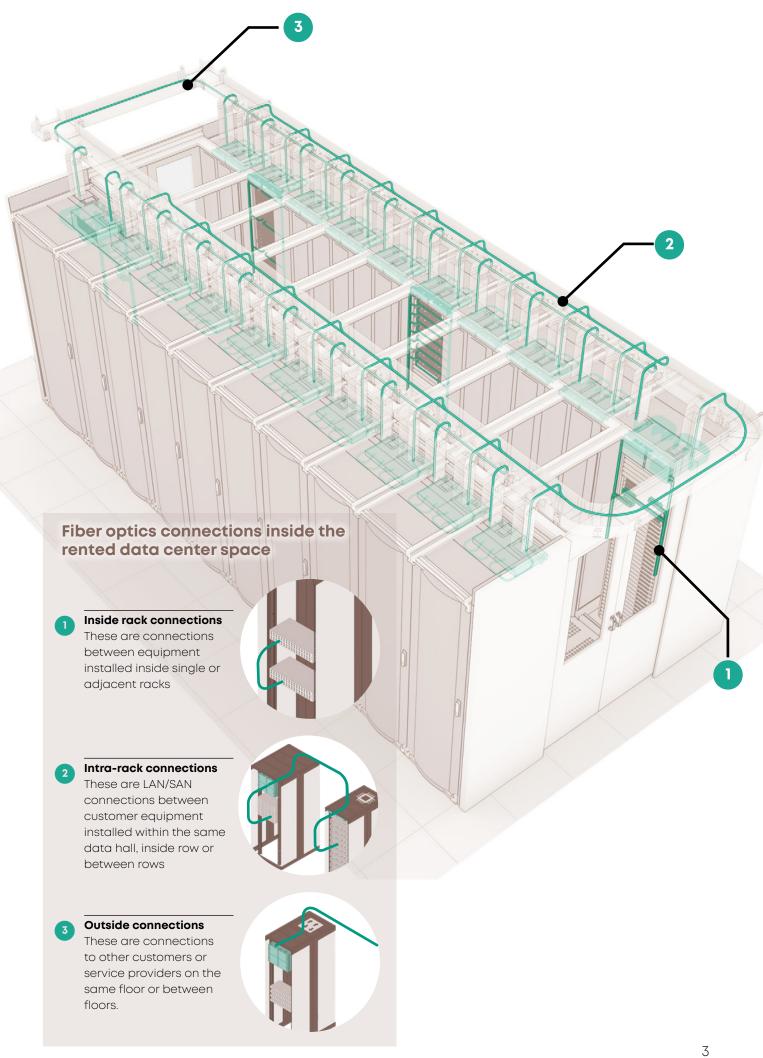
Implementation teams can help to set up a clean and structured cabling.



Customers may skip vendor research and order patch cables for swift setup. Implementation teams are trained to offer best solution.



Employing cabling implementation teams with expertise, materials, tools and culture is a prudent choice for future-proofed customer connections.



Cabling implementation process

Roles



needs fiber optic cable connections for your racks



Sales specialist, central point of contact for end customer



Data center technician, "remote hands" who deploy patch cables in customer racks



White space installer, he will deploy permanent links between customer racks

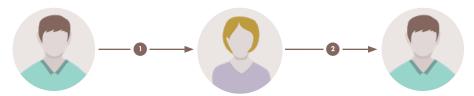


Grey space installer, he makes sure that customer equipment can reach outside

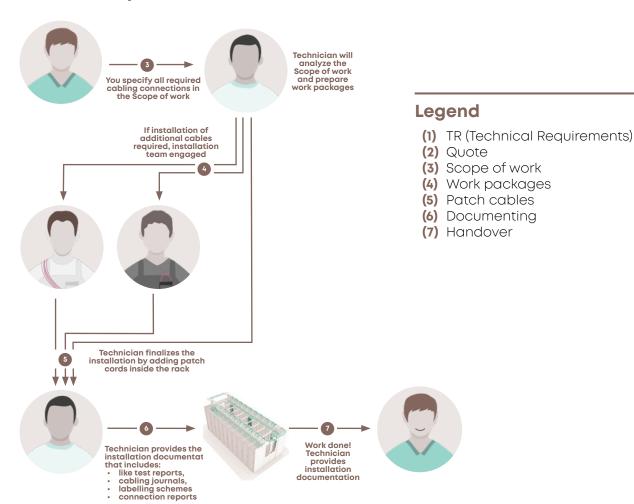


HUBER+SUHNER who guarantees quality

Pre-sales process



Installation process



Direct or in-rack connections

Connections within same or adjacent customer rack

Work packages for technician

- Breaks the scope of work in different work packages
- Keeps variety of cables at the premise: duplex patch cord, MTP patch cords, harness cables at various lengths
- Establishes connections, tests and labels
- Maintains high culture, organize cables neatly inside the rack
- He adds, removes and changes connections on a daily base
- Collects the installation documentation from white and grey space installers

Structured cabling within the white space

Connections between customer cabinets inside the same data hall



Work packages for white space installer

- Swiftly installing permanent links to suit various customer budgets and time lines:
- Trained on product portfolios and different installation techniques
- Deploy modular systems, that support most network applications, future upgrades and re-use of cables;
- Facilitates the option to add additional connections more quickly in the future;
- Ensures system available as soon as possible (from one working day to two weeks), depending on complexity. Cables are tested, deployed and labelled;

Structured cabling between white spaces

Connections to other customers or dark fibers in the same building.



Work packages for grey space installers

- Sustain the data center's core cabling infrastructure to guarantee flexibility for various cross-connections.
- Place the customer demarcation panel (to access the premise's fiber plant) within the customer cabinet.
- Cautious upkeep of fiber optic areas within shared grey space, which crucial for all tenants

HUBER+SUHNER's contribution





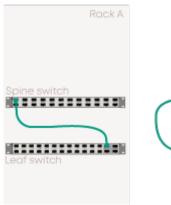


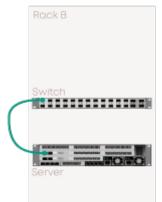
How to organize connections within rack?

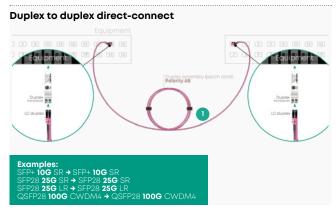


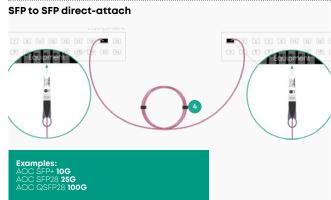
These are examples of connections between equipment within the same or adjacent racks. No patch panels are needed in this scenario.

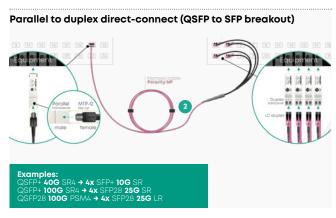
All these connections needs are basic and can be in minimum time established by data center technicians, because all required materials for these types of connections are available at premise.

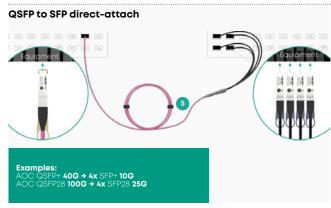


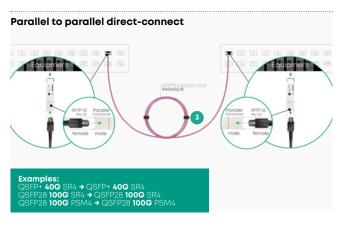


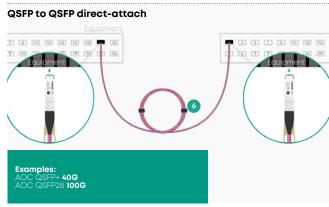












Direct-connect, transceiver and patch cord



PCRS_LCMX_LCMX_0421T_xxxx_LL

- Lengths from 1 to 5 m High density LC clip with label Reversable polarity



PCRS_LCUX_LCUX_A221T_XXXX_SS

- Lengths from 1 to 5 m High density LC clip with label Reversable polarity



OHO8NPL_DA4xxxD_0000PF_5080LP

- Lengths from 1 to 5 m High density LC clip with label Polarity and gender change possible Single Jacket Ø2.0mm cable CPR D



MB12_MPMM_MPMM_0440y_xxxx_LL

- Lengths from 5 up to 50 m Male to male (gender change possible) Polarity B (polarity change possible) Double jacket ø4.0mm cable CPR B



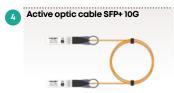
OHO8NPL_DAOxxxD_0000PF_5080LP

- High density LC clip with label Polarity and gender change possible Single jacket ø2.0mm cable CPR D



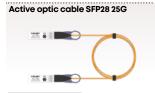
- Lengths from 5 up to 100 m Male to male (gender change possible) Polarity B, Double jacket ø4.0mm cable CPR B

Direct-attach, active optic cable (AOC)



SFP_10G_AOC_XX

Various codings and lengths



SFP28_25G_AOC_XX

Various codings and lengths



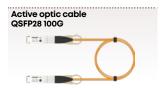
QSFP_40G_SFP_10G_AOC_XX

Active optic cable QSFP28 100G → 4x SFP28 25G QSFP28_100G_SFP28_25G_AOC_xx



OSFP 40G AOC XX

ious codings and lengths



OSFP28 100G AOC XX

Copper, RJ45 patch cords



RJ45M-RJ45M-UC6A-xx-yyy-UU-STN

Slim cable AWG28
 U/UTP, category 6A, 500 MHz
 Various colours xx and lengths yyy



RJ45M-RJ45M-SC6A-xx-yyy-SF-STN

- Slim cable AWG28
 S/FTP category 6A, 500 MHz
 Various colours xx and lengths yyy

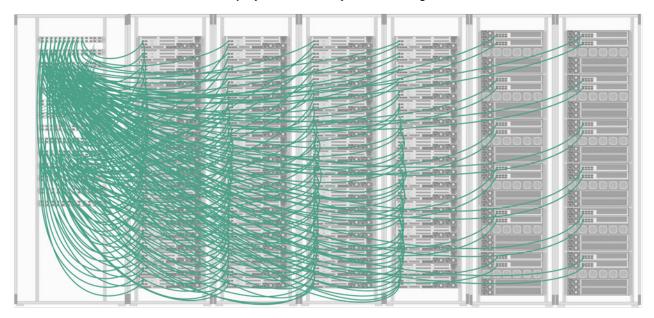






Spaghetti cabling methods

Direct-connect or direct-attach links deployed without any cable management accessories

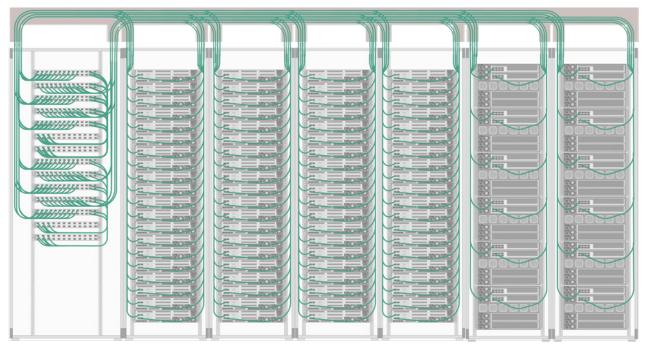


Why should direct-connects (or point-to-point) be minimized between racks in data center?



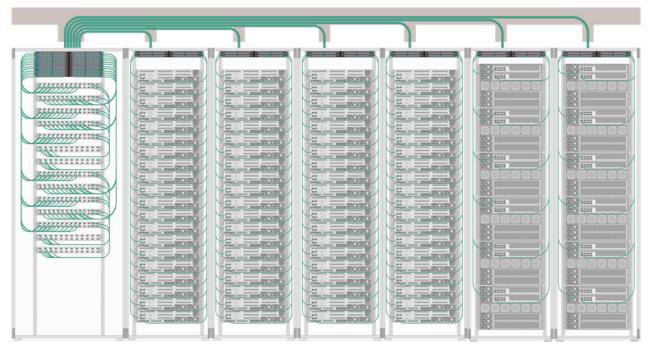
Minimizing point-to-point connections in favour of structured cabling solutions enhances scalability, simplifies maintenance, provides flexibility, promotes organization, optimizes airflow, cooling, power and floor plan in a data center.

Direct-connect or direct-attach links deployed with use of cable management accessories



How to reorganize connections between racks?

Structured cabling - inter-connect links deployed between racks



Benefits of structured cabling

Scalability

Data centers tenants often need to expand or reconfigure their equipment. Point-to-point connections can become unwieldy and difficult to manage as the number of racks and connections increases.

Maintenance

Managing and troubleshooting individual pointto-point connections can be time-consuming and error-prone. Structured cabling solutions, make maintenance and changes more efficient. It reduces downtime and minimizes the risk of accidentally disconnecting the wrong cables

Flexibility

Structured cabling allows for more flexibility when adding, moving, or changing equipment. It simplifies the process of rerouting connections without disrupting the entire network.

Organization

Structured cabling promotes a more organized and tidy data center environment, reducing the risk of cable congestion, accidental disconnections, and human errors.

Aesthetics

A clean and organized data center not only functions better but also presents a more professional and efficient image to clients, auditors, and stakeholders.

Airflow and cooling

Excessive cables obstruct airflow within the data center, making it harder to maintain proper cooling. A well-designed data center minimizes cable congestion to ensure efficient cooling, which is critical for preventing equipment overheating.

Floor plan optimization

Balancing power and cooling can be challenging when using direct cables because they restrict your planning options. In contrast, structured cabling not only extends the cable distance between equipment but also offers the flexibility to reconfigure the floor plan, which can optimize power and cooling.

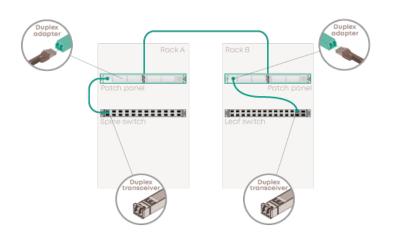
No copper

An organized cabling methodology enables the elimination of copper connections between racks

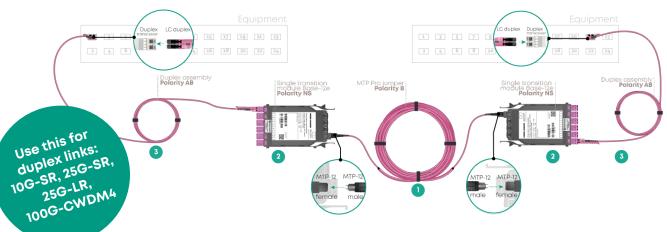
Structured cabling methods

Below is one of most popular scenario of connections between equipment with duplex transceivers, such as SFP+10G SR, SFP28 25G SR, SFP28 25G LR, QSFP28 100G CWDM4, QSFP-DD 400G FR4 in discrete racks.

Patch panels, modules and jumper cables are used to prevent point-topoint cabling.



Duplex to duplex inter-connect link, plug-and-go deployment method





- Lengths from 5 up to 100 m Male to male (gender change possible) Polarity B. Double jacket ø4.0mm cable CPR B



MTP Pro jumper Base-12e multimode

12 B



- LC-XD patch cord singlemode 2 D
- PCRS_LCUX_LCUX_A221T_xxxx_SS
- Lengths from 1 to 5 m High density LC clip with label Reversable polarity

- IANOS single module transition
- ibers, 1x MTP femal iversal polarity NS

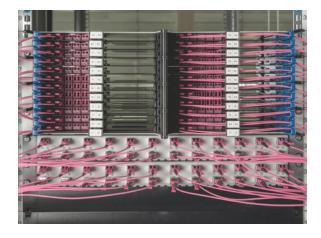


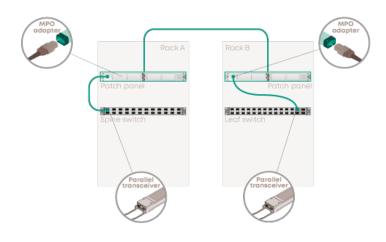
- PCRS_LCMX_LCMX_0421T_xxxx_LL
- Lengths from 1 to 5 m High density LC clip with label Reversable polarity



- **85102690** IANOS-STD-CHASSIS-FLX-1U-2G-T4
- Up to 12 single modules / 6 dou Sliding design Capacity 144 fibers (LC duplex)

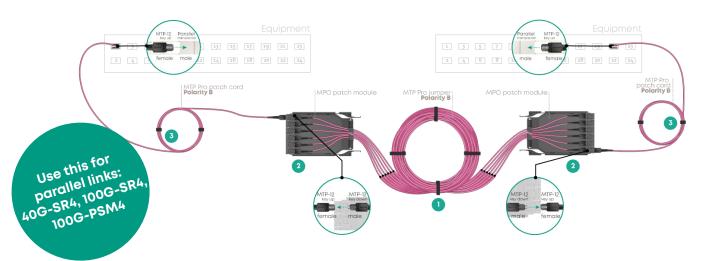






This is another popular scenario of connections between equipment with parallel transceivers in discrete racks, such as QSFP+ 40G SR4, QSFP28 100G SR4, QSFP28 100G PSM4, QSFP-DD 400G DR4.

Parallel to parallel transceiver, inter-connect, plug-and-go deployment method





Lengths from 5 up to 100 m Male to male (gender change possible) Polarity B, Doublé jacket ø4.0mm cable CPR B

MTP Pro jumper Base-12e multimode 12 B MB12_MPMM_MPMM_0440y_xxxx_LL

Lengths from 5 up to 50 m Male to male (gender change possible) Polarity B (polarity change possible) Double jacket ø4.0mm cable CPR B

IANOS 1U patch panel **85102690** IANOS-STD-CHASSIS-FLX-1U-2G-T4

Up to 12 single modules / 6 dou Sliding design Capacity 144 fibers (LC duplex)



85107331 IANOS-LITE-REAR-CAB-MGR-1U-T4



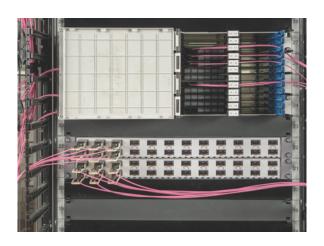


MB12_MPAF_MPAF_A220y_xxxx_BB

Lengths from 1 to 5m Female to female (gender change possible) Polarity B Single jacket ø2.0mm cable CPR D



MB12_MPMF_MPMF_0420y_xxxx_LL Lengths from 1 to 5m Female to female (gender change possible) Polarity B (change possible) Single jacket ø20mm cable CPR D



Structured cabling services



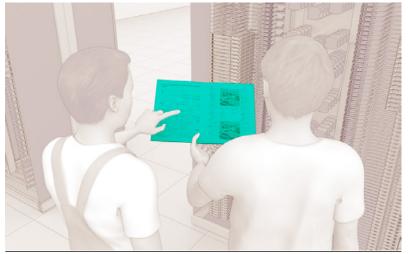
The distinction between a cabling implementation team and IT specialists, concerning cabling, arises from their areas of focus and expertise.

IT specialists primarily ensure that equipment operates in accordance with specifications, whereas a cabling implementation team is primarily dedicated to the precise installation of cables and the enhancement of the visual aesthetics of their work.



Consult you on variety of options

Based on HUBER+SUHNER's portfolio of structured cabling solutions for white space deployments, implementation team can offer you different options.



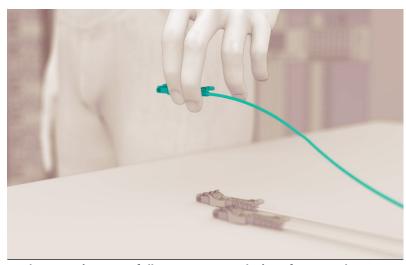
There are many products to choose from, and our team is familiar with the portfolio.

Select appropriate cables

When it comes to choose cables, it is essential to be compliant to local fire safety regulations, ensure space limitations and design of pathways.

For example, cables for in-rack cabling must be flexible and tiny.

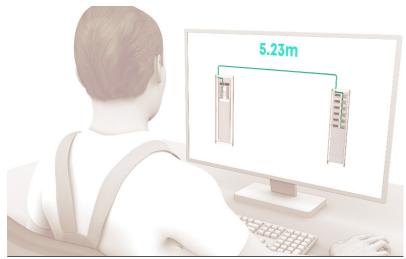
Cables for intra-rack cabling must be also flexible but robust, to ensure to hold more stress.



Implementation team follows recommendations from regulatory bodies and make sure to use state-of-art cables

Calculate cabling lengths

It can be tedious task for the customer, but our installation team can confidently perform the necessary calculations and make a list of required cables/lengths.



Implementation team can in minimum time calculate using CAD

Test and verify

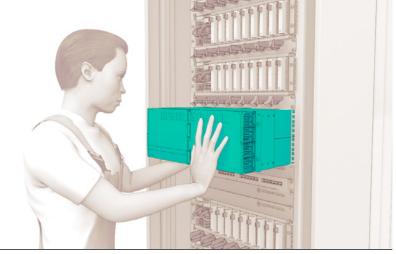
Every deployed fiber must be tested and verified for future use. It guarantees that the fiber support the network application.



Implementation team has set of equipment that is required for fiber testing

Prepare for deployment

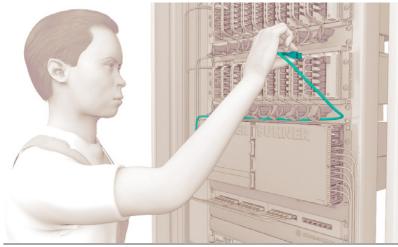
Some fiber optic components require pre-installation set ups, such as polarity change, gender change, performance verification to make sure products, that are deployed matching specifications and requirements.



Implementation team has set of equipment that is required for pre-deployment product verification

Take care of order in rack

Implementation team loves to work with cables and patch cords. Instead of paying large bills for "tidy up your rack" service, it is better to work with professionals from beginning.



Implementation team follows best practices of patch cord management

Splice fibers

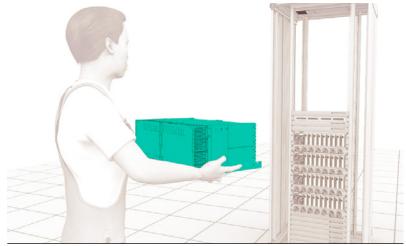
Sometimes splicing in data center cabling can effectively be used. It is not only improves the optical performance of permanent link, but also can reduce project budget. Splicing can also be used to repair some faulty connections.



Implementation team has required tools and skill set to perform splicing jobs

Find the best location for patch panels

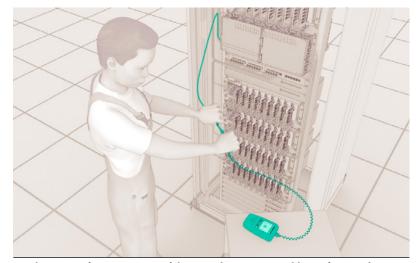
There are lots of different rack types inside data center with different air circulation schemes. It has impact on the location of patch panel. The next important stage is to bring cables to the panel and equipment.



Implementation team considers rack type, panel location and uses appropriate accessories

Really clean fiber optic connectors

You've heard about fiber optic connector cleaning? But how often is this ignored? Implementation team's DNA is to provide professional service, so we really clean interface before mating.



Implementation team considers rack type, panel location and uses appropriate accessories

Labelling and documentation

In the end, customer want to keep track and up-to-date status of installed cables, modules, panels. That is why labelling together with installation documentation is important. And this comes as the deliverable of the every work package.



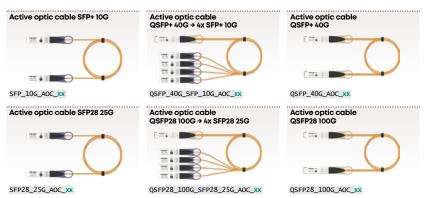
Implementation team generates installation documentation and ensures every component is labelled

Product summary

Modules and panels



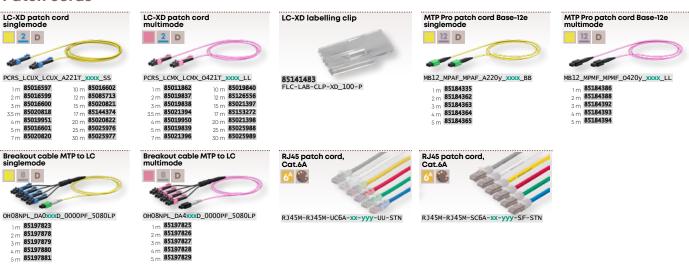
Active optic cables



Cables



Patch cords



Tools





About HUBER+SUHNER

We are a leading global supplier of components and systems solutions. With our broad range of products and deep know-how, we serve the industry, communications and transportation markets with applications from the three technologies of radio frequency, fiber optics and

low frequency. And as a global company with a presence in over 80 countries, we stay close to our customers. Always.

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HUBER+SUHNER is certified according to EN(AS) 9100, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO/TS 16949 and IRIS.

Waiver