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2022 - April

Acceptance Requirements for Optical Fiber, Optical Cable, and Hybrid Wiring Harness Assemblies

Supersedes IPC-A-640
May 2017

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Developed by the Fiber Optic Cable Acceptability Task Group (7-31m) of
the Product Assurance Committee (7-30) of IPC.

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Users of this publication are encouraged to participate in the
development of future revisions.

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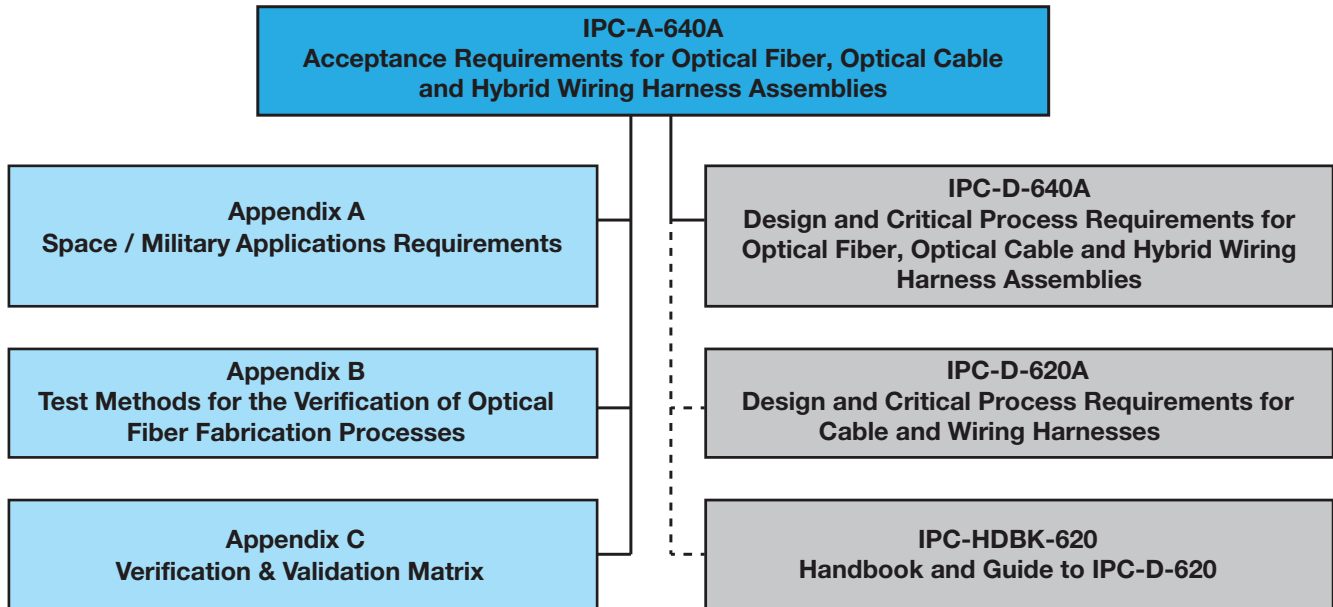


Figure 1 Hierarchy of IPC Design Specifications (IPC-A-640A Series)

FOREWARD

This standard provides information on the design and acceptance requirements for optical fiber, optical cable and hybrid wiring harness to the extent that they can be applied to the broad spectrum of optical cable and wiring harness design. It is therefore crucial that decisions concerning the choice of product classification, fiber technology, connectorization requirements, and performance and reliability requirements be made as early as possible.

As optical wiring and connector technology changes, specific requirements will be updated or new requirements added to the document set.

IPC invites input on the effectiveness of the documentation and encourages User response through completion of “Suggestions for Improvement” form located at the end of each document.

Acknowledgment

Any document involving a complex technology draws material from a vast number of sources across many continents. Shown below are the principal members of the Fiber Optic Cable Acceptability Task Group (7-31m) of the Product Assurance Committee (7-30). It is not possible to include all of those who assisted in the evolution of this standard. To each of them, the members of the IPC extend their gratitude.

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Table of Contents

1 GENERAL	1	1.18.1 Control	7
1.1 Scope	1	1.18.2 Calibration	7
1.2 Purpose	1	1.19 Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Protection	8
1.3 Performance / Product Classification	2	1.20 Contamination	8
1.3.1 Performance / Product Classification - Definitions	2	1.21 Rework / Repair	8
1.4 Definition of Requirements	2	1.22 Statistical Process Control (SPC)	8
1.4.1 Requirement Format (N/A/D)	2	1.23 Supply Chain Traceability	8
1.4.2 Requirements Flowdown	3	2 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS	8
1.5 Note(s) / Italicized Text	3	2.1 IPC	8
1.6 Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS)	3	2.2 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)	9
1.7 Existing or Previously Approved Designs	3	2.3 ASTM International	9
1.8 Line Drawings and Illustrations	3	2.4 EOS/ESD Association	9
1.9 Measurement Units and Applications	3	2.5 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)	9
1.10 Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Terms	3	2.6 International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)	9
1.10.1 Use of Lead	4	2.7 Laser Institute of America (LIA)	9
1.10.2 Periodic Table Elements	4	2.8 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)	9
1.11 Engineering Documentation	4	2.9 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)	9
1.12 Order of Precedence	4	2.10 NCSL International	9
1.12.1 Conflict	4	2.11 Telecommunications Industry Association	9
1.12.2 Clause References	4	2.12 United States Department of Defense (DoD)	9
1.13 Appendices A – C	4	2.13 UL	10
1.14 Approval of Departures from Standards and Requirements	4	2.14 Reference	10
1.15 Personnel Proficiency	5	3 ASSEMBLY	11
1.16 Facilities	5	3.1 Handling – Optical Fiber / Optical Cable, General Requirements	12
1.16.1 Temperature	5	3.1.1 Handling - Optical Fiber / Optical Cable – Work-In-Progress	12
1.16.2 Humidity	5	3.2 Optical Fiber End Preparation	13
1.16.3 Process Control & Test	5	3.2.1 Procedures – Optical Fiber Processing	13
1.16.4 Positive Pressure	5	3.3 Splicing	14
1.16.5 Personnel Behavior	5	3.3.1 Fusion Splicing	14
1.16.6 Field Assembly Operations	5	3.3.2 Mechanical Splicing	14
1.16.7 Foreign Object Debris (FOD) Control Plan	5	3.3.3 Chemical Splicing	14
1.17 Safety	5	3.3.4 Environmental Seals	15
1.17.1 Chemicals	6	3.3.5 Location	15
1.17.2 Epoxies/Adhesives	6	3.3.6 Protection	15
1.17.3 Toxic Products and Formulations	6	3.3.7 Testing	15
1.17.4 Protection from Bare Fibers	6	3.4 Optical Fiber Cable Assemblies	15
1.17.5 Eye Safety – Energized Source Concern	6		
1.18 Tools and Equipment	7		

3.5	Optical Fiber Assemblies	15	8	QUALITY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS – GENERAL AND VISUAL	22
3.6	Cleanliness	16	8.1	Product Class Conditions	22
3.7	Inspection	16	8.2	Inspection	23
3.8	Post-assembly Test	16	8.3	Responsibility for Inspections and Tests	23
3.9	Post-test Inspection	16	8.4	Classification of Inspections and Tests	23
3.10	Documentation	16	8.4.1	Parts, Materials and Process Controls	23
3.10.1	Traceability	16	8.4.2	Process Verification Audit	24
3.10.2	Test Data	16	8.4.3	Acceptance and Qualification Testing	24
4	INSTALLATION	16	8.4.4	Workmanship	24
4.1	General Installation Requirements	16	8.5	Visual Acceptance Criteria	29
4.1.1	Bundling (Fiber in the Wiring Harness)	16	9	QUALITY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS – TEST	69
4.1.2	Conduits	16	9.1	Link Loss Budget	69
4.1.3	Bend Radii	16	9.2	Test Conditions	69
4.1.4	Axial Alignment	16	9.2.1	Standard Test Conditions	69
4.1.5	Tensile Load	17	9.2.2	Extended Test Conditions	69
4.1.6	Mating	17	9.3	Safety Precautions	70
4.1.7	Torquing	17	9.3.1	Laser Service Group Definitions	70
4.1.8	Coefficient of Thermal Expansion (CTE) Issues	17	9.3.2	Laser Safety Precautions	70
4.2	Routing	17	9.3.3	Personnel Safety Precautions	70
4.3	Protection and Support	17	9.4	Acceptance and Qualification Testing	71
5	CLEANING	18	9.4.1	Receiving and Inspection	71
5.1	General Requirements	18	9.4.2	Acceptance Test	71
5.1.1	Solvents	18	9.4.3	Testing after Rework or Repair	71
5.1.2	Canned Air	19	9.4.4	Test Discrepancy/Failure	71
5.1.3	Compressed Air / Dry Nitrogen / Other Gas Media	19	9.4.5	Qualification	71
5.1.4	Wipes/Swabs	19	9.5	Inspection	72
5.2	Drying	19	9.5.1	General Requirements	72
6	DOCUMENTATION	20	9.5.2	Fiber and Cable Inspection	72
6.1	General	20	9.5.3	Optical Component Inspection	72
6.2	Data	20	10	DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS	73
6.3	Connector Orientation (Clocking)	20	11	TABLES	85
6.4	Connector Pin-Out	21	APPENDICES		91
6.5	Dimensioning and Tolerance	21	Appendix A	Space / Military / HAZARDOUS Applications Requirements	93
6.6	Documentation for Maintenance/Emergency Restoration	22	Appendix B	Test Methods for the Initial Testing and Qualification of Optical Fiber, Optical Cable and Associated Devices	103
7	TAILORING	22	Appendix C	Verification and Validation Matrix	109

Tables

Table 8-1 Allowable Conditions for Fiber Connectors 25

Table 8-2 Allowable Conditions for Single-Mode Transceivers (With Internal Fiber Stubs) . . . 26

Table 8-3 Lensed Device Acceptance Criteria 26

Table 11-1 Bend Radius 85

Table 11-2 Optical Fiber/Cable Length Measurement/ Tolerance. 86

Table 11-3 Magnification Aids (Power = X) 86

Table 11-4 Standard Test Conditions 87

Table 11-5 Extended Test Conditions 87

Table 11-6 Optical Power (Absolute Power and Power Loss) 87

Table 11-7 Typical Transmitter Specifications 88

Table 11-8 Comparison of LED and LD Transmitter Parameters. 88

Table A1 Space / Military / Hazardous Application Requirements 93

Figures

Figure 1-1 Optical Fiber Assemblies, Cables And 1

Figure 1-2 International Laser Warning Label 6

Figure 1-3 Example of a Laser Warning Label Designed for Use in a Fiber Optic Communications Systems (FOCS). 7

Figure 3-1 Typical Fiber Optic Cable. 13

Figure 5-1 Contamination (Oil and Debris) 18

Figure 5-2 Contamination (Before Cleaning). 19

Figure 5-3 Contamination (After Cleaning). 19

Figure 6-1a Connector Orientation (Clocking) and Mating Face View (Inset) with D38999 Bulkhead Example (Arrow identifies key). 21

Figure 6-1b Connector Orientation (Clocking), Example - APC Connector without Dust Cap 21

Figure 6-1c Connector Orientation (Clocking), Example - LC Connector without Dust Cap 21

Figure 6-1d Connector Orientation (Clocking), Example - MPO Connector without Dust Cap 21

Figure 8-1 End Face 25

Figure 8-2 End Face 26

Figure 8-3 End Face 26

Figure 8-4 Connector/Cable Configuration 29

Figure 8-5 Connector/Optical Fiber Configuration 29

Figure 8-6 Axial Alignment 29

Figure 8-7 Cable Alignment/Bend Radius 30

Figure 8-8 Fiber Alignment/Bend Radius 30

Figure 8-9 Protection Cap (Dust Cap) 31

Figure 8-10 Identification/Marker 31

Figure 8-11 Scuff Marks. 32

Figure 8-12 Pistoning (Fiber). 32

Figure 8-13 Routing 33

Figure 8-14 Shrinkage (Outer Jacket) 33

Figure 8-15 Multimode (Left) and Single-Mode (Right) Fiber Ends 33

Figure 8-16 Edge Chips 34

Figure 8-17 Hackle. 34

Figure 8-18 Scratches. 35

Figure 8-19 Crash (Shattered Fiber). 35

Figure 8-20 Crack (Surface). 36

Figure 8-21 Crack, Surface (Side View) 36

Figure 8-22 Crack (Subsurface). 37

Figure 8-23 Necking. 37

Figure 8-24 Lip. 38

Figure 8-25 Lip (Side View). 38

Figure 8-26 Spiral Cleave. 38

Figure 8-27 Breakdown / Roll-Off. 39

Figure 8-28 Breakdown / Roll-Off (Side View). 39

Figure 8-29 Concave Core 40

Figure 8-30 Convex Core 40

Figure 8-31 Improper Strip Length 41

Figure 8-32 Kinking (Fiber). 41

Figure 8-33 Light Leakage (Fiber). 42

Figure 8-34 Buffer Shrinkage (Fiber). 42

Figure 8-35 Connector/Fiber Configuration. 42

Figure 8-36 End Face View (Multimode Fiber). 43

Figure 8-37 End Face, Magnified Image (200X) 44

Figure 8-38 Scratches – Multiple Sizes, Cladding/ Core Zone (Large Scratch - Cladding Zone; Small Scratches 44

Figure 8-39 Scratch - Cladding and Core Zones 45

Figure 8-40 Scratches – Multiple Sizes, Cladding/Core Zone 46

Figure 8-41 Core Damage 47

Figure 8-42 Crash 47

Figure 8-43 Coarse Finish (Polish/Handling). 48

Figure 8-44 Contamination Particles and Fibers Located in Contact Zone. 48

Figure 8-45 Severe Chipping and Pitting in Cladding Zone, Extending into Core Zone	49	Figure 8-66 Surface Distortion (Fusion Splice)	59
Figure 8-46 Particle Located in Core Zone	49	Figure 8-67 Alcohol Residue	60
Figure 8-47 Multiple Particles Located In Cladding Zone	50	Figure 8-68 Angular Misalignment of Fibers (Fusion Splice)	60
Figure 8-48 Oil/Liquid Residue	50	Figure 8-69 Boundary Layer/Diffraction Zone (Fusion Splice)	61
Figure 8-49 Crash (Severe Cladding and Core Damage)	51	Figure 8-70 Bubbles (Fusion Splice)	61
Figure 8-50 Surface Cracks and Chips Extending into Core Zone	51	Figure 8-71 Core Mismatch (Fusion Splice)	62
Figure 8-51 Contamination / Voids / Cavities in the Adhesive Zone	52	Figure 8-72 Lateral Offset (Misalignment) of Fibers (Fusion Splice)	62
Figure 8-52 Multiple Particles Located in Cladding Zone	52	Figure 8-73 Mechanical Splice (Assembled)	63
Figure 8-53 Multifiber Termination, Fiber Contamination	53	Figure 8-74 Bubbles in Index-Matching Gel (Mechanical Splice)	63
Figure 8-54 Adhesive Residue	53	Figure 8-75 Fiber End Face Separation (Mechanical Splice)	63
Figure 8-55 Example of a Lensed and Fiber Stub Device	54	Figure 8-76 Splice Closure/Protector	64
Figure 8-56 Lens End Face View (10X Magnification)	54	Figure 8-77 Butterfly Splice Closure/Protector	64
Figure 8-57 Fiber Stub End Face (10X Magnification)	55	Figure 8-78 Heat Shrink Splice Closure/Protector (Assembled Fusion Splice)	64
Figure 8-58 Fiber Stub End Face (200X magnification)	55	Figure 8-79 Strength Member	65
Figure 8-59 Crack Across Viewing Area and Lens	56	Figure 8-80 Strength Member (Protruding Fibers)	65
Figure 8-60 Crash (Severe Surface Abrasion)	56	Figure 8-81 Strain-Relief Device (Boot)	66
Figure 8-61 Crash (Severe Chipping)	57	Figure 8-82 Missing Strain-Relief Boot	66
Figure 8-62 Contamination	57	Figure 8-83 Improperly Installed Strain-Relief Boot	67
Figure 8-63 Scratch	55	Figure 8-84 Example of Undamaged Insulation Jacket	67
Figure 8-64 Chemical Splice (Assembled)	58	Figure 8-85 Acceptable Mechanical/ Thermal Damage	67
Figure 8-65 Fusion Splice	59	Figure 8-86 Unacceptable Mechanical/ Thermal Damage	67

Acceptance Requirements for Optical Fiber, Optical Cable, and Hybrid Wiring Harness Assemblies

1 GENERAL

1.1 Scope This standard provides acceptance requirements and technical insight that have been removed from acceptance standards for cable and wire harness assemblies incorporating optical fiber, optical cable and hybrid wiring technology. Reference materials listed in this text are among those considered as required reading. The User is encouraged to obtain all relevant reference materials, as this document cannot (nor can any single document) cover every material, process, environment, performance, or safety aspect that affect a given design.

1.2 Purpose This standard is intended to provide information on design and acceptance requirements for optical fiber, optical cable, hybrid wiring harness assemblies and fiber optic communications systems (FOCS) to the extent that they can be applied to the broad spectrum of optical cable and wiring harness design.

Neither this document nor its Appendices provide detailed procedures for the test, acceptance, commissioning and /or maintenance of FOCS.

This document is intended for use by the design engineer, manufacturing engineer, quality engineer or other individual(s) responsible for tailoring specific requirements of this document to the applicable performance class.

- a. This document defines acceptability criteria and limits for “New/Beginning of Life” hardware. It is not the intent of this document to establish or define “In Service” acceptance criteria to address performance or reliability issues caused by aging or use. However, the acceptability criteria and limits that are detailed in this document may be considered to be wide enough to be applicable to the more common hardware degradation conditions caused by aging/use. Use of these criteria for acceptance of “In Service” hardware conditions **shall [D1D2D3]** be as agreed between User and Supplier (AABUS).
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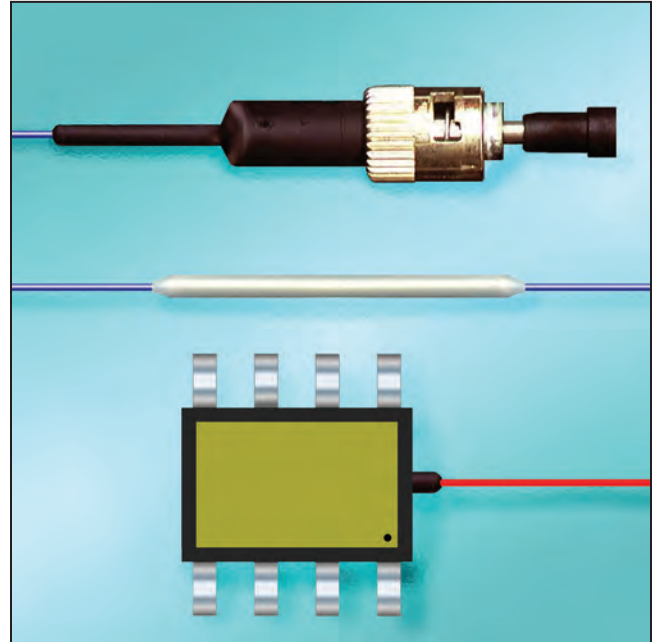


Figure 1-1 Optical Fiber Assemblies, Cables And Wiring Harnesses Connector, Splice and Transmitter
Image credit: NASA