

BLOCKCOAT®

Blockcoat® provides optical fibers or ribbons with a dry water blocking functionality in cable tubes without the need for gels or yarn. It is especially suited as a dry-dry solution for micro cables, loose tubes and high density cable designs used in outdoor and outdoor/indoor environments to meet European CPR regulations.

The concept

In contact with water, Blockcoat® will swell up to 200 times its' dry volume into a hydrogel similar to a super absorber. Applied directly on optical fiber, your fibers in a cable tube will stop water penetration without the need for gels or yarn. Blockcoat® is provided as a liquid coating to coat a colored optical fiber and is cured using an UV optical fiber coloring line. This results in an optical fiber with the transparent super absorbing polymer Blockcoat® on top of your color layer. Typical layer thickness is 4 to 6 micrometer and the fiber color stays clearly visible under the transparent Blockcoat® as pictured. Optical fibers with Blockcoat® can be further processed into an extrusion line to obtain dry water blocking tubes without using gels or yarns. Low friction fibers with Blockcoat® process well during extrusion.

Benefits for network owners

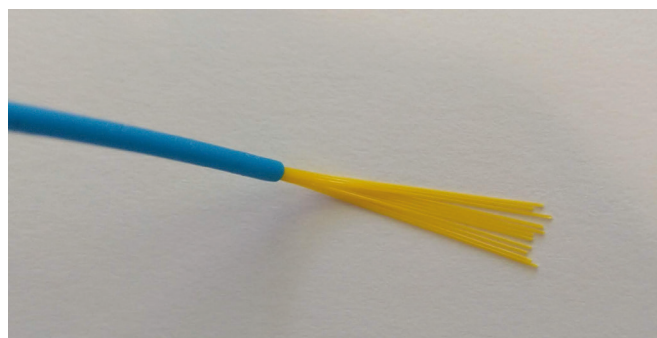
- Dry solution, lower installation costs.
- Dry solution, faster deployment as less installation time is needed.
- Smaller dry-dry cable designs possible.

Purpose Benefits for installers

- No gels, no wiping, easy handling.
- Stripping the optical fiber is the same as without Blockcoat®.

Benefits for cable production

- Cable tube extrusion without gel or yarn; excellent processing.
- No yarn breaks: lower scrap.
- Use your existing UV coloring line ; no capital investment needed.
- Handling of optical fibers is the same with or without Blockcoat®.



Loose tube or micro cable coated with Blockcoat®

Contact

If you want further details, please ask George van den Berg for the Blockcoat® technical application note.

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Blockcoat® is patent pending.

ARTÖFIL
High Tech Yarn & Coatings