

FIBER OPTIC CLEANING: A TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

Reliable network connections depend heavily on the cleanliness of the connectors within your network. Dirty optics can obstruct signals, leading to frame rate loss, data loss, and hindrances to data reaching its end destination. This guide will provide a detailed process of cleaning your fiber optic transceivers, conducting a fiber end-face inspection, and maintaining the cleanliness of your network components to ensure optimal network performance.

IMPORTANCE OF CLEAN FIBER OPTICS, END-FACE, AND EQUIPMENT:

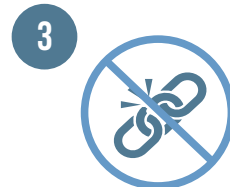
Understanding how to properly [clean your fiber optics](#), conduct [end-face inspections](#), and maintain your network equipment is vital for the health and uptime of your network. Regular cleaning can save time, money, prevent permanent, performance-affecting damage, and avoid unnecessary downtime and product returns.



NETWORK UPTIME



COST-EFFECTIVE



PREVENT DAMAGE



AVOID UNNECESSARY RETURNS

STEPS TO CLEAN YOUR FIBER OPTICS, CONDUCT END-FACE INSPECTION, AND MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT:

STEP 1 REMOVE THE BOOT COVER

Remove the boot cover from the optic to expose it for inspection and cleaning

STEP 2 SCOPE THE OPTIC

Use a scope to thoroughly inspect the optic. Identify any dirt or debris that may be blocking the signal.

CAUTION: Never look into the end of a live fiber. Be sure to use a scope for inspection.

STEP 3 CLEAN THE OPTIC

If the optic is dirty, use a cleaning stick to clean it. Apply one pump of the cleaning solution to the cleaning stick for each side of the optic.

STEP 4 RESCOPE THE OPTIC

After cleaning, rescope the optic to confirm that it is clean. If any dirt or debris remains, repeat the cleaning process until the optic is thoroughly clean.

STEP 5 SCOPE THE FIBER END-FACE

The first connection the fiber optic makes is with the end face fiber. Scope the fiber end-face to check for dirt or debris.

STEP 6 CLEAN THE FIBER END-FACE

If the fiber end-face is found to be dirty, there are two methods to clean it. You can use either fiber wipes or a cleaning stick:

Method A: Fiber Wipes - Place the fiber end-face directly on the wipe and give it a little twist.

Method B: Cleaning Stick - Place the fiber end-face into the tip of the cleaning stick and give it one pump.

STEP 7 RESCOPE THE FIBER END-FACE

Rescope the fiber end-face to ensure it has been successfully cleaned. If it remains dirty, repeat the cleaning process.

STEP 8 DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR WORK

Always double-check or even triple-check your work. Ensuring the cleanliness of each optic and fiber end-face before it's put back into use helps maintain the quality and reliability of your network..

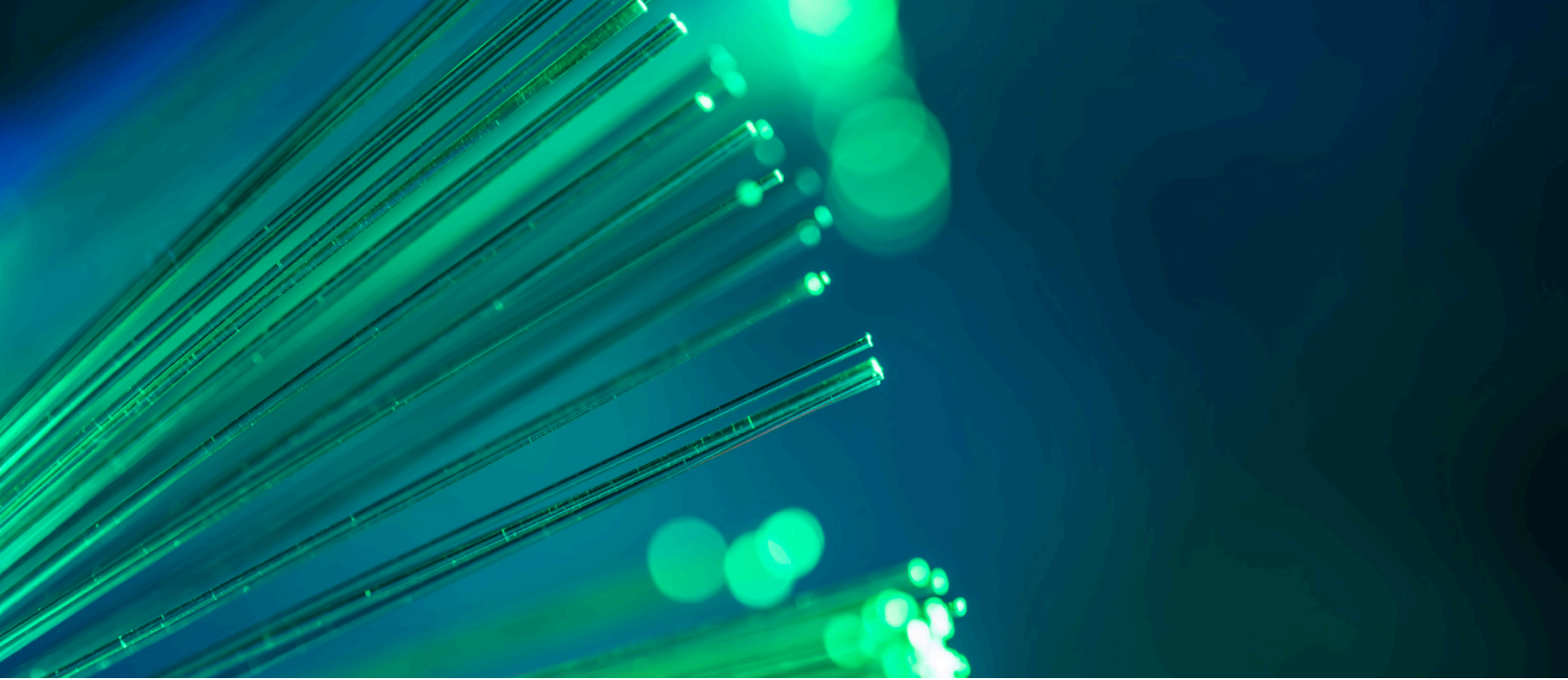
STEP 9 MONITOR AND REPEAT

Keep a close eye on the performance of your optics and end-face fibers. If they're underperforming, inspect them for cleanliness before deciding to replace them. Repeat the cleaning process as necessary to maintain optimal performance.

STEP 10 MAINTAIN YOUR EQUIPMENT

Regularly clean your equipment using the recommended cleaning tools and techniques. This helps in avoiding unnecessary product pulls, returns, and replacements.

For more information about network uptime and reliability, tutorials on cleaning techniques, or if you need further assistance with cleaning your fiber optics, conducting end-face inspections, or maintaining your network equipment, please feel free to reach out [Integra Optics](https://www.integraoptics.com).



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