

STICKLERS™ Application Note



When You Need Perfectly Clean Fiber Splices and Connectors

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Cleaning MPO Ribbon Connectors



Tools You Need

Every fiber optic connector should be cleaned every time it is mated, tested or reconfigured, even connectors protected by a dust cap. Select the Sticklers™ Fiber Splice and Connector Cleaner fluid, #MCC-POC03M, which replaces alcohol and is engineered for cleaning fiber optic connectors. Also select the CleanStixx™ XMT tool (#MCC-XMT) which is the only swab in the industry specifically designed for cleaning ribbon connectors.

Select the Cleaning Stick

Begin by removing one stick from the package (not shown). Be careful not to contaminate the tip by touching it. Re-seal the bag to avoid contaminating remaining sticks.

Dampen the Nib or Cleaning Tip

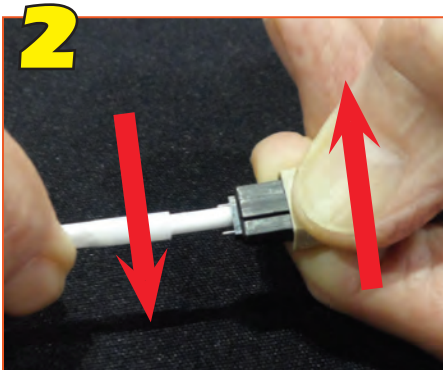
[Photo 1] Pick up the can of fluid, tilt it back slightly and slowly depress the dispenser to fill the “well” with fluid. Dip the tip briefly — damp is good, wet is bad. (A saturated tip cannot absorb contaminants).

Cleaning the MPO Connector

[Photo 2] Place the CleanStixx™ XMT swab against the ribbon connector and rub gently back and forth across the connector between the pins, holding the tip flush to the end-face (red arrows).

Cleaning the MPO Alignment Pins

[Photo 3] Dirt on the alignment pins can prevent the connector from mating tightly, increasing back-reflection losses. Using the same swab, insert the CleanStixx™ XMT swab over one of the pins, jamming the pin up into the swab. Rotate the swab to scrub the pin. Remove the swab and clean the second pin, making a new hole in the swab. As always, remove the CleanStixx™ and discard. Inspect to verify cleanliness.



Products

Fiber Optic Splice and Connector Cleaner

3 oz. / 85 g

MCC-POC03M

CleanStixx™ XMT Swabs

50 CleanStixx/Box

MCC-XMT

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