

1. Description

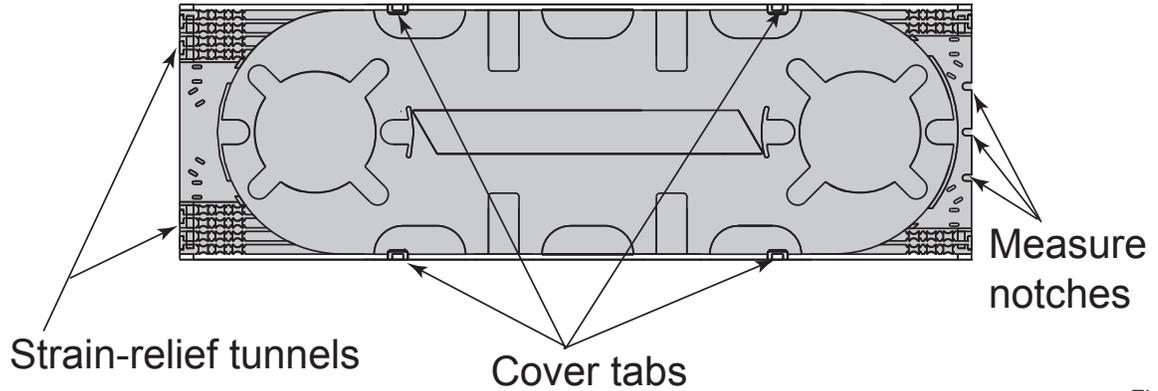


Figure 1

The UST-024 plastic splice tray is factory assembled for discrete heat shrink fusion splices (UST-024-10), mechanical splices (UST-024-20), or up to twenty-four single fusion splice elements (UST-024-30). The tray may also be assembled after purchase (UST-024) by installing one of the three splice holder elements contained in the package (Figures 1 through 4).

This document should be used along with the sheath removal instructions for the cable you are installing and the splicing instructions for the splicing method you are using.

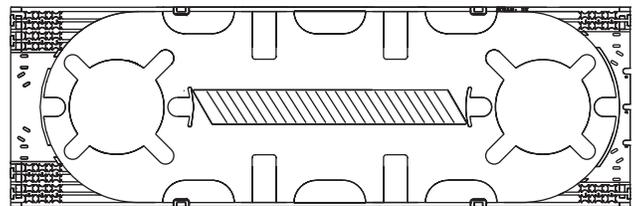


Figure 2

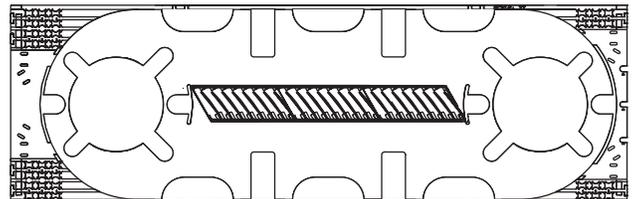


Figure 3

2. Precautions

See your sheath removal and splicing instructions for recommended precautions.

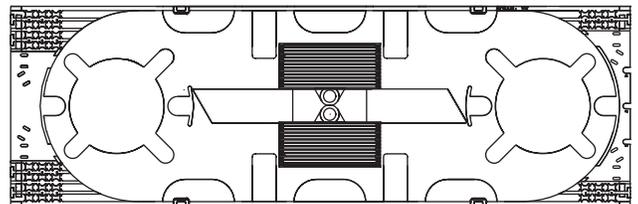


Figure 4

3. Cover Removal/Replacement

Step 1: Remove the cover by sliding it to the right until the larger notches are aligned under the tabs on the tray walls and lifting the cover up. Hold the tray as shown in Figure 5.

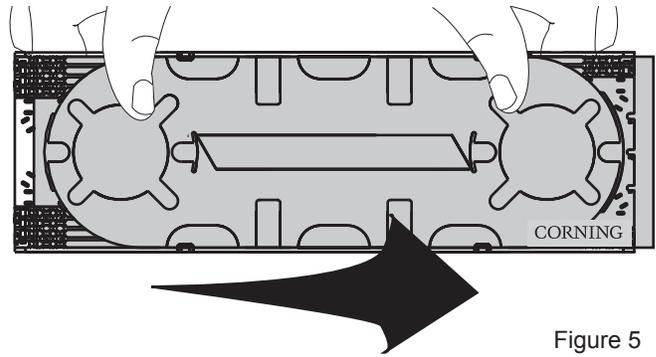


Figure 5

Step 2: Replace the cover by positioning it so that the larger notches are aligned under the tabs and sliding it to the left (Figure 6). It may also be snapped into place.

Step 3: If you have the UST-024, you will need to install the splice organizer of your choice.

- For single-fiber heat shrink fusion and mass fusion heat shrink splices, install the long rubber organizer by peeling off the backing and pressing the organizer into the recess in the center of the tray (Figure 2).
- For mechanical splices, install the three (3) eight position plastic organizers by peeling off the backing and placing the plastic organizer in the recess in the center of the tray (Figure 3).
- For single fusion splices, place the stepped slot organizer assembly in the center of the recess and snap it into place (Figure 4).

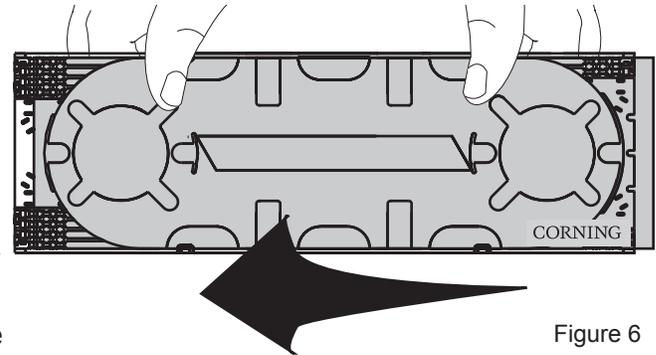


Figure 6

IMPORTANT:

- Make sure none of the fibers get caught between the cover and the tray when you close it. Compressing the fiber may degrade its transmission ability.
- Do not hold the tray by its sides as you remove the cover. This will compress the tabs and make cover removal difficult.
- Always position the cover on the tray so that the company logo is upright and the buffer tube measurement tabs are to the right (Figure 1). If the cover is positioned upside down, it will either not stay in place under the tabs or extend too far to the right.

4. Fiber Stripping

Remove cable sheath as described in the instructions for the cable you are installing. Strip off buffer tube to expose 130 cm (51 in) of coated fiber. Fiber stripping details can be found in the splicing documentation.

5. Buffer Tube Strain-Relief

Step 1: Attach buffer tubes at the upper left corner of the tray (Figure 7). If this results in too tight a bend in the buffer tubes, another corner may be used. Place the tray into the closure or shelf to make sure you are using the best location that requires the least bending of the buffer tubes in the closure or shelf.

Step 2: To determine the size of your buffer tubes, use the numbered slots in the right hand end of the splice tray as a gauge. The numbered size of your buffer tubes is the number corresponding to the smallest slot into which the buffer tube will fit without forcing.

Step 3: Insert the buffer tube so the end of the tube extends just past the strain-relief teeth. Press the buffer tube down into the teeth until the tube is seated in the bottom of the strain-relief channel.

Step 4: If using 3 mm jacketed fibers or 6- or 12-fiber MIC® subunits, attach these to the tray using the cable ties supplied. If using three 3 mm jacketed fibers, they may be grouped as bundles of up to six fibers. Tape the bundles with vinyl tape to facilitate handling. If using 6-fiber subunits, up to three may be bundled together and cable tied. If using 12-fiber subunits, two may be bundled together and cable tied to tray (Figure 7).

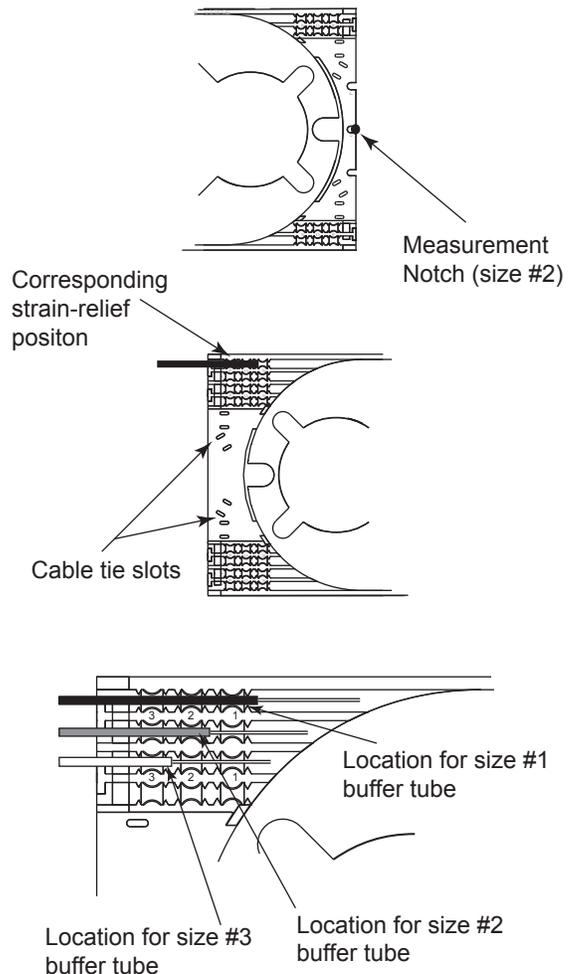


Figure 7

6. Ribbon Cable Strain-Relief

To strain-relieve ribbon cable, wrap a piece of foam (supplied) around the ribbon so that the adhesive contacts the ribbon where it will be inserted into the tray. Press the foam-wrapped ribbon into a strain-relief slot (Figure 8). One foam piece is used per ribbon, up to eight ribbons per tray.

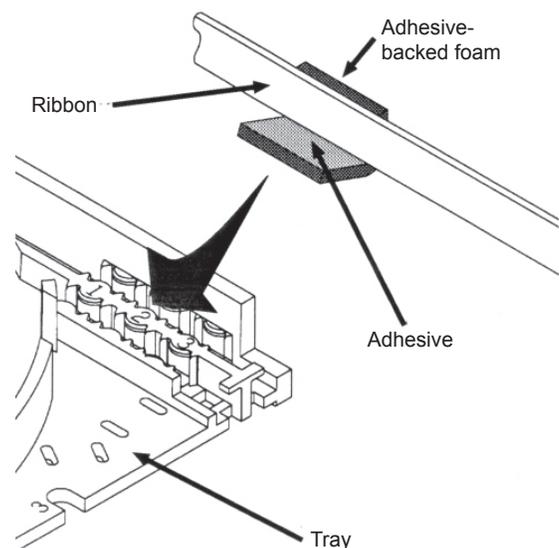
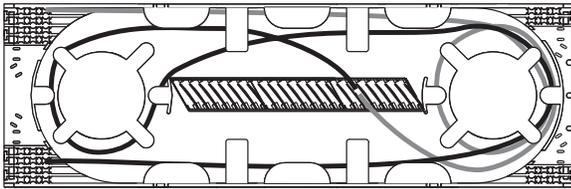


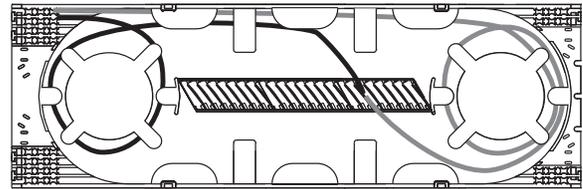
Figure 8

7. Loading the Tray

Route the fibers into the tray as illustrated in Figure 9. Extra slack may be stored at either end or by using the full length of the tray. Loop the bare fiber into the position it will occupy after splicing. Bring the fiber to the center of the splice organizer. Add 2.5 cm (1 inch) to this length and cut with scissors. This 2.5 cm will be trimmed later when the fiber is prepared for splicing.



Fibers are strain-relieved in opposite corners, same side.



Fibers are strain-relieved in one corner.

Figure 9

8. Splicing

Step 1: Unload as little fiber as possible from the tray. Splice each pair of fibers as described in splicing documents and load the spliced fibers back into the tray. Check fiber bend radius inside the tray.

NOTE: Take care to avoid twisting the fiber as you splice and load it into the tray (Figure 10).

Step 2: Replace the cover as described below.

Splicing to Avoid Torsional Forces

Avoid putting a torsional force on 900 μm fibers being spliced. Torsional, or twisting, forces can cause transmission failure at the connection after some time. The torsional force occurs when the splice is turned and the fiber is twisted as it is moved from the splice area and routed in a figure-eight pattern in the splice tray. After some time the fiber may break and cause transmission failure.

To avoid placing torsional forces on the fiber:

- Lay the fiber into the tray in the position it will occupy after splicing.
- Position the splicing tool next to the tray.
- Remove only a half loop of each fiber to be spliced.
- Splice as per manufacturer's instructions.
- Carefully place the splice on top of its organizer in the position it will occupy.
- Arrange the fibers in the tray.
- Press the splice into the organizer.

Because figure-eight routing won't be necessary to place the completed splice in its organizer, twisting won't occur.

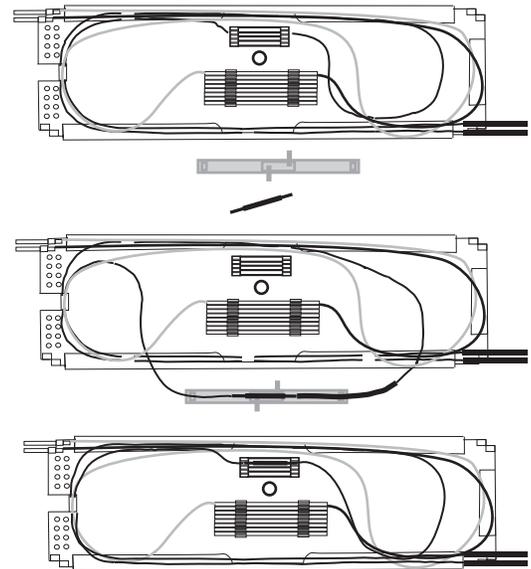


Figure 10

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