

## FIBER PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

### DO NOT USE STRIPPERS TO:

- ✗ Terminate SSF™ Fiber with mechanical splice connectors

### USE STRIPPERS TO:

- ✓ Prepare SSF™ Fiber for fusion splicing
- ✓ Prepare Traditional Fiber for termination/splicing
- ✓ Remove 600  $\mu\text{m}$ -3.0 mm jackets from SSF™ or Traditional Fibers

Cleerline SSF™ fiber incorporates SSF™ Polymer coating at the glass level. **DO NOT USE STRIPPERS ON SSF™ FIBER FOR INSTALLATION OF MECHANICAL SPLICES, i.e. SSF™ Connectors.** SSF™ Polymer Coating must remain in place for non-fusion splicing applications.

Successful fusion splicing requires removal of the SSF™ Polymer Coating.

For all non-fusion splicing applications with SSF™ fiber, **use fingertips or nails only to remove 250  $\mu\text{m}$  colored SSF™ Soft Peel acrylate** from fiber.

In these instructions, “Traditional Fiber” refers to any optical fiber without SSF™ polymer coating.

## OPENINGS



The SSF™ Tri-Hole Fiber Optic Stripping Tool has three openings:

### **(A) 1.6-3 mm -- 600-900 $\mu\text{m}$ : SSF™ & Traditional Fiber Jacket Removal**

Use to remove cable jackets from 600  $\mu\text{m}$  to 3.0 mm in diameter.

### **(B) 250-900 $\mu\text{m}$ -- 125 $\mu\text{m}$ : Traditional Fiber Prep & SSF™ Fusion Splicing**

**SSF™ Fiber & Non-Fusion Splicing: DO NOT USE**

**SSF™ Fiber & Fusion Splicing:** Use this opening for removal of colored 250  $\mu\text{m}$  Soft Peel acrylate and to begin SSF™ polymer removal.

**Traditional Fiber:** Use to remove 900  $\mu\text{m}$  buffer and/or 250  $\mu\text{m}$  acrylate glass coatings to expose and prepare the 125  $\mu\text{m}$  fiber.

### **(C) 125 $\mu\text{m}$ -- SSF™: Removal of SSF™ Polymer For Fusion Splicing ONLY**

**SSF™ Fiber & Non-Fusion Splicing: DO NOT USE**

**SSF™ Fiber & Fusion Splicing:** After removing colored SSF™ Soft Peel acrylate, use this opening to remove 125  $\mu\text{m}$  SSF™ Polymer.

Clean opening with included brush before and after each use to remove build-up.

**Traditional Fiber: DO NOT USE**

## OPERATION FOR SSF™ POLYMER REMOVAL PRIOR TO FUSION SPLICING

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1. Remove jacket as needed using opening “A” followed by inserting fiber into opening “B”.
2. Insert fiber into opening “C”, angle the tool slightly to approx. 70 degrees (can be increased down to 45 degrees as needed).
3. Using thumb to hold pressure, draw tool along the fiber, moving toward fiber end, you will see and feel polymer being removed, typically one to two passes.
4. Complete preparation by cleaning fiber with alcohol wipe and cleaving.
5. If fiber appears “dirty” when viewed in fusion splicer increase the angle of the strippers per step #2 and/or the number of passes to remove polymer fully.

**NOTE:** When stripping extended lengths of SSF™ Polymer or traditional fiber buffer and acrylate coatings, work in ½” or 13 mm increments. This will relieve pressure caused by stripped coating as it accumulates ahead of the cutting edge.

Clean the “V” opening of the tool on a regular basis using the included bristled cleaning brush. Failure to clean can cause fiber breakage and make coating removal difficult. Openings may also be cleaned with 99% isopropyl alcohol and (dry) compressed air.

**CAUTION:** Do not open tool beyond preset factory limit. Forcing the tool open or bypassing the open position stop will result in loss of factory preset calibration and damage the tool.

**View instructions online at [cleerline.com/resources](http://cleerline.com/resources).**

## MAINTENANCE

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Regularly inspect tool for rust, difficult operation, missing/damaged stop or any bending. Store in a clean and dry area. Replace tool if not performing correctly. The tool should only be used to strip fiber and the fiber should be subjected to normal qualification tests. The stripping of the fiber should be performed by a trained technician.

To ensure tool is in optimum condition, inspect using magnification (50-100X). Hold tool closed with moderate pressure. Place on a flat surface so that the openings are perpendicular to the angle of viewing. The openings should form a complete round circle. The guide/cutting surfaces should overlap completely.

Cleerline Technology Group warrants that its products will conform to its applicable specifications and will be otherwise free from defects in material and workmanship for 5 years.

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