

CORNING

Sheath Removal of 1728-Fiber RocketRibbon™ Extreme-Density Cable

P/N 004-281-AEN
Issue 1

related literature | Search www.corning.com/opcomm. Click on “Resources/Standard Recommended Procedures.”

004-098

[Instruction, Ribbon Splitting Tool \(RST-000\)](#)

1. General

This document describes handling practices for dielectric 1728-fiber gel-free ribbon cable. Cable-end access procedures are outlined in this document.

The cable illustrated in this procedure is a non-armored cable manufactured with subunits. Four glass-reinforced plastic (GRP) rods provide tensile strength for the cable (Figure 1).

2. Precautions

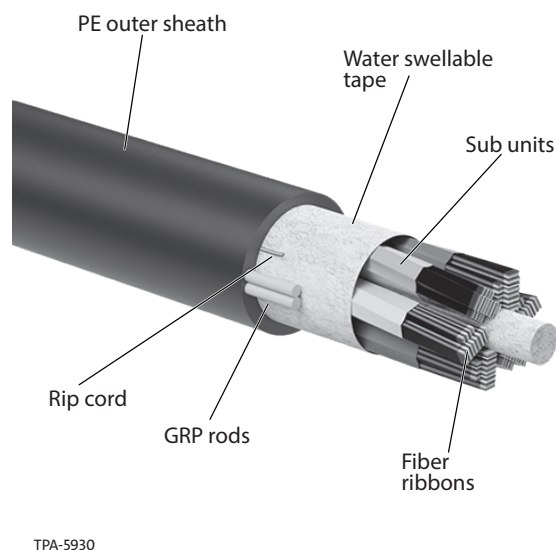
2.1 Cable and Subunit Handling Precautions

NOTE: *Fiber optic cables and their internal subunits are sensitive to excessive pulling, bending, and crushing forces. Consult the cable specification sheet for the cable you are installing. Do not bend the cable or its subunits more sharply than the minimum recommended bend radius. Do not apply more pulling force to the cable than specified. Do not crush the cable or subunits or allow them to kink. Doing so may cause damage that can alter the transmission characteristics of the cable; the cable may have to be replaced.*

2.2 Laser Handling Precautions



WARNING: Never look directly into the end of a fiber that may be carrying laser light. Laser light can be invisible and can damage your eyes. Viewing it directly does not cause pain. The iris of the eye will not close involuntarily as when viewing a bright light. Consequently, serious damage to the retina of the eye is possible. Should accidental eye exposure to laser light be suspected, arrange for an eye examination immediately.



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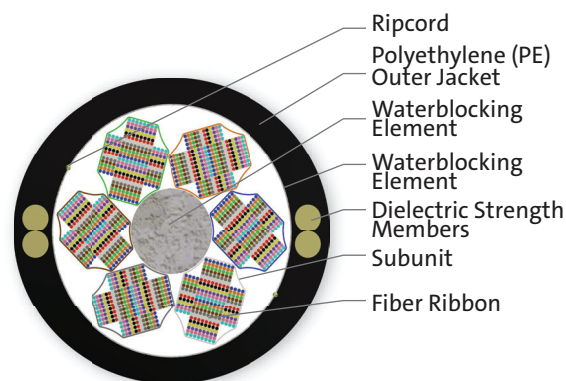


Figure 1

2.3 Safety Glasses



CAUTION: Recommend the use of safety glasses (spectacles) conforming to ANSI Z87, for eye protection from accidental injury when handling chemicals, cables or fiber. Pieces of glass fiber are very sharp and have the potential to damage the eye.

2.4 Safety Gloves



CAUTION: The wearing of cut-resistant safety gloves to protect your hands from accidental injury is strongly recommended when sharp-bladed tools.

3. Tools and Materials

The following tools and materials are required for the cable stripping sections of this procedure:

- Gloves
- Diagonal cutting pliers (Side cutters) (P/N 100300-01)
- Utility knife with hook-blade and straight blade
- Cable sheath knife
- Needle nose pliers
- Friction tape-wrapped screwdriver
- Scissors (P/N 100294-01)
- Tape measure (P/N 100305-01)
- Permanent marking pen (P/N 2102003-01)

4. Cable-End Sheath Removal — Method “A”

Step 1: Determine the proper sheath removal length for the hardware being used. Mark a point at this distance from the end of the cable with a wrap of tape (Figure 2).

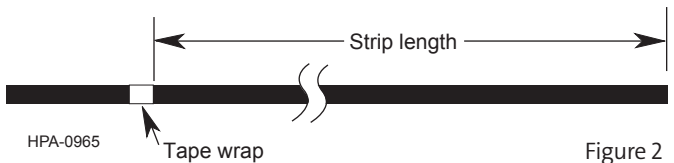


Figure 2

Step 2: Starting at the end of the cable, use the cable sheath knife to shave off 15 cm (6 in) of the outer sheath directly over the rods.

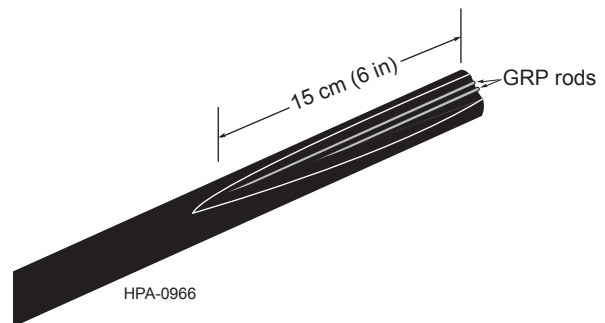


Figure 3

Shave the sheath until the GRP rods and the ripcord on each side of the cable are visible (Figure 4).

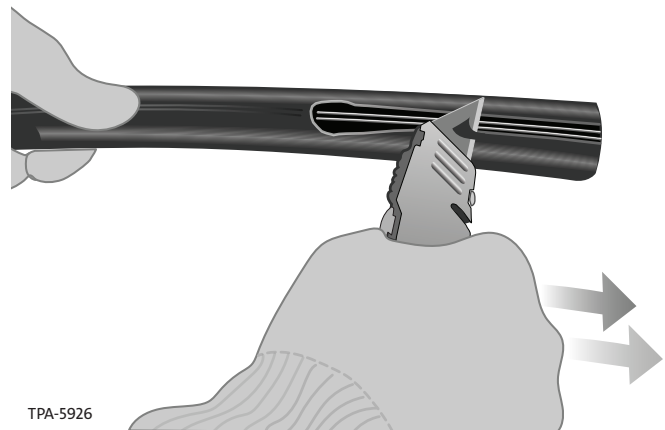
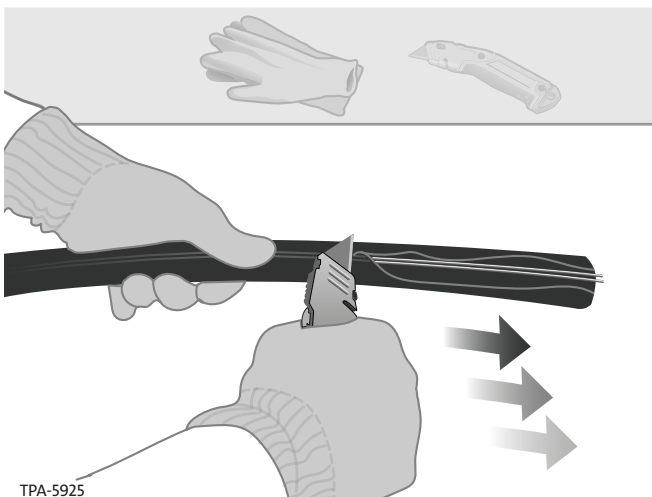


Figure 4

Step 3: Remove GRP rods and access the ripcord (Figure 5).

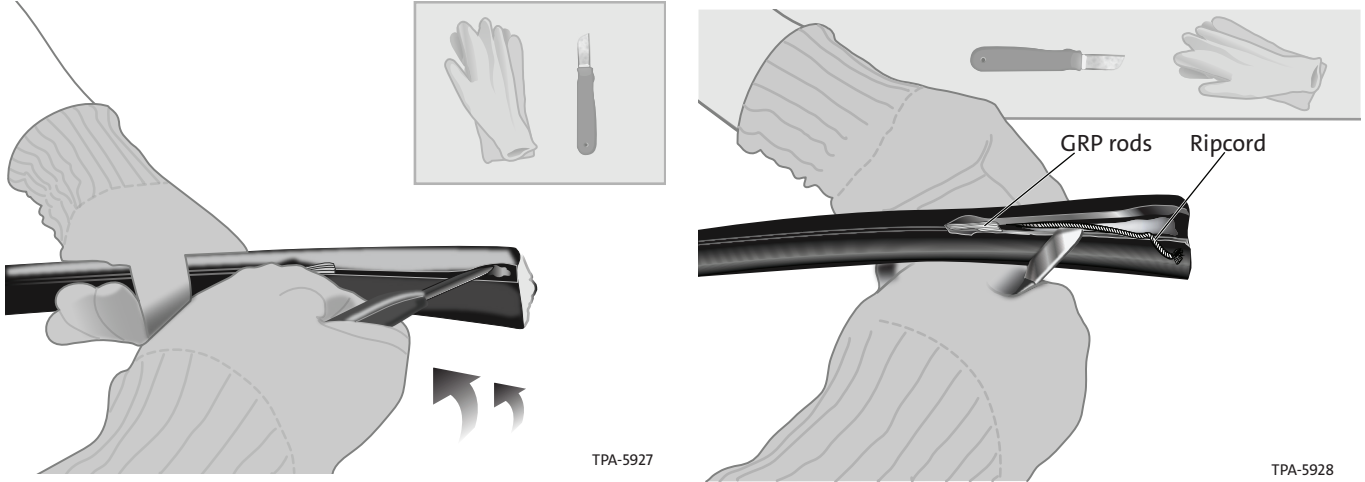


Figure 5

Step 4: Using the friction tape wrapped shaft of a screwdriver as a handle, pull one ripcord at a time through the sheath to the wrap of tape (Figure 6).

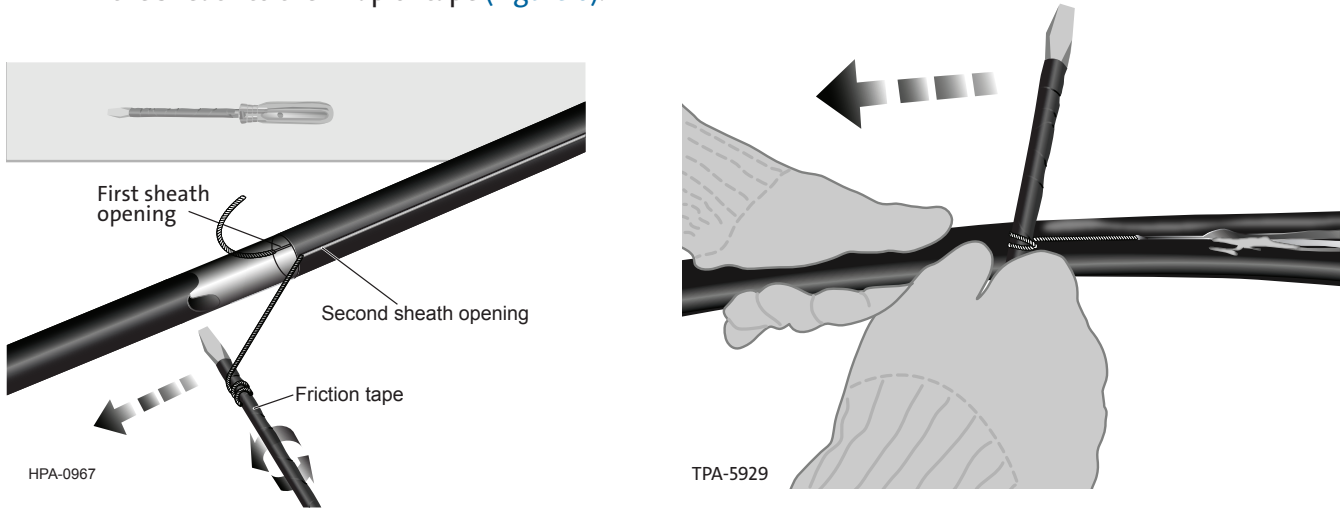


Figure 6

Step 5: Cut the ripcords flush at the tape wrap with scissors.

Step 6: Use the hook blade knife to make a ring cut about half-way through the black outer polyethelene (PE) sheath and GRP rods at the tape mark (Figure 7).

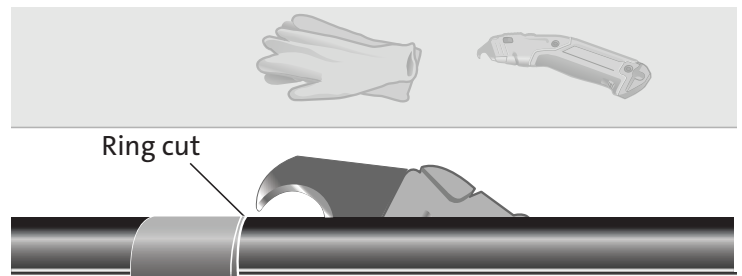


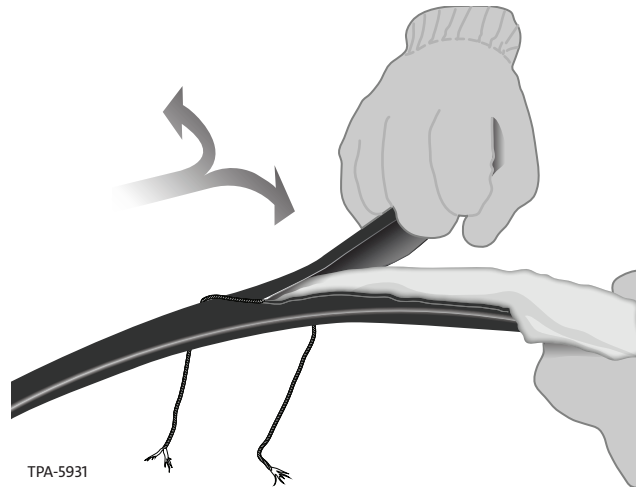
Figure 7

Step 7: Starting at the end of the cable, peel back both sections of split sheath to expose the central tube, water-swollable tape and GRP rods (Figure 8).

Step 8: At the ring cut, carefully flex the sections of sheath and remove them. Side cutters may be helpful in removal (Figure 9).

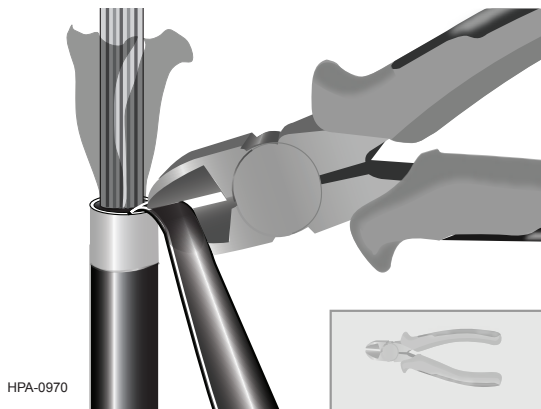
Step 9: Using scissors, cut the water-swollable tape flush with the end of the sheath and the tape wrap (Figure 10).

Step 10: Remove the tape wrap from the cable sheath.



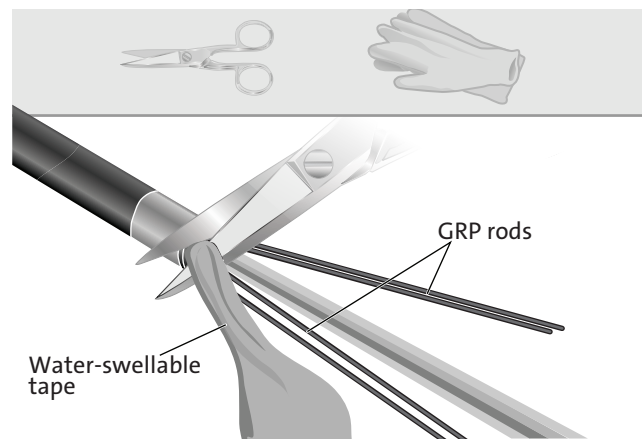
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Figure 8



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Figure 9



Water-swollable
tape

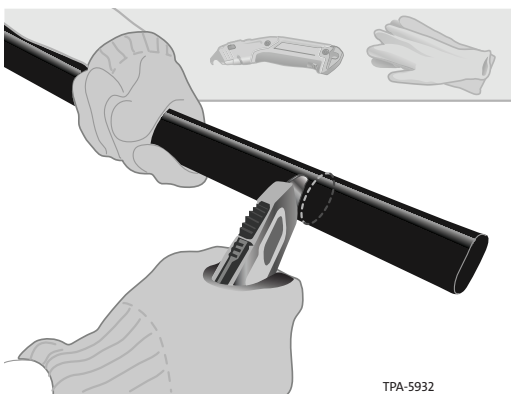
GRP rods

Figure 10

5. Cable-End Sheath Removal — Method “B”

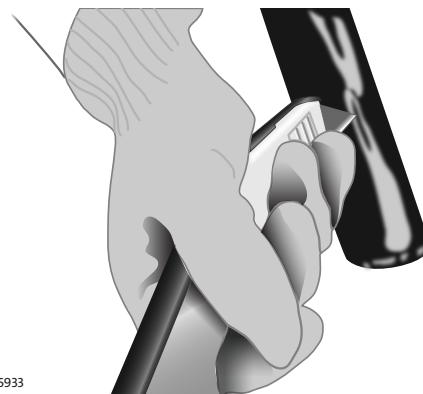
Step 1: Ring cut with hook blade or similar knife approximately 6 in from end (Figure 11).

Step 2: Make a straight cut from the ring cut to the end of the cable (Figure 12).



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Figure 11



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Figure 12

Step 3: Pry open the jacket using a sheath (chipping) knife (Figure 13).

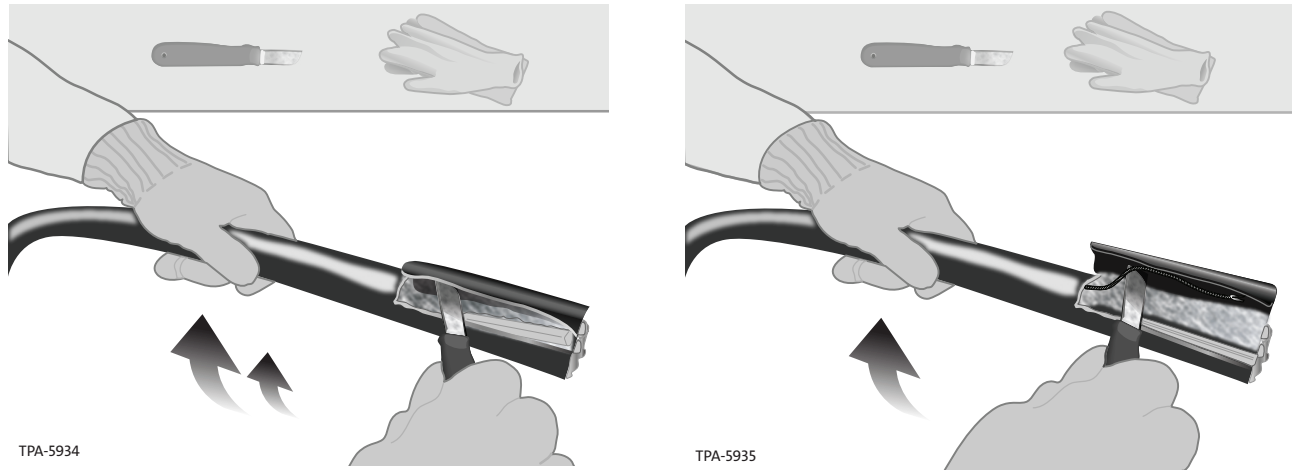


Figure 13

Step 4: Remove outer jacket using needle-nose pliers to reveal the water-blocking tape and subunits (Figure 14).

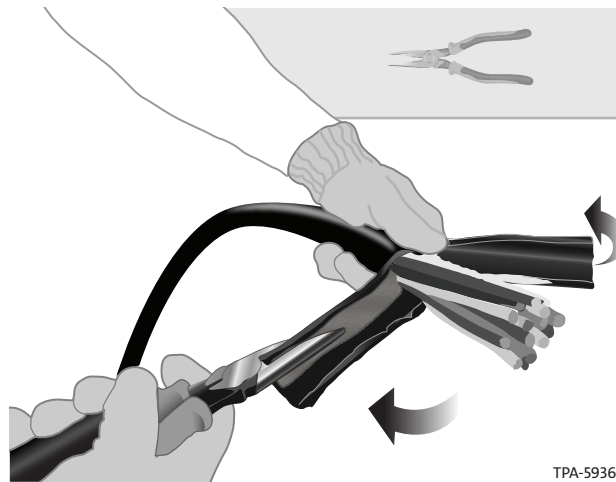


Figure 14

Step 5: Locate both rip cords between jacket and water-blocking tape (Figure 15).

Step 6: Wrap rip cord (one at a time) around a screwdriver wrapped with friction tape and pull cord to the tape mark (Figure 16).

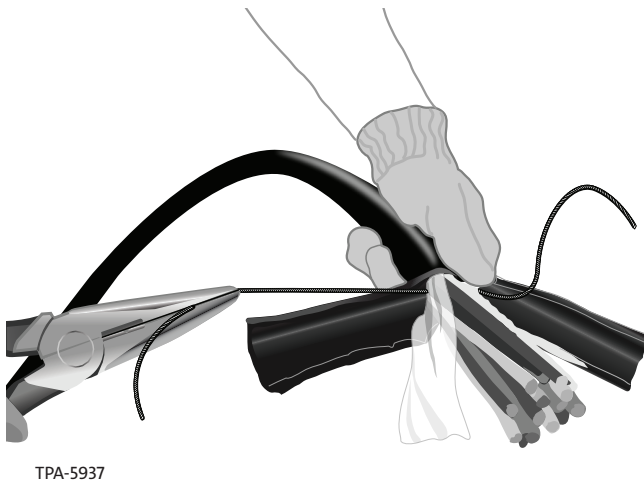


Figure 15

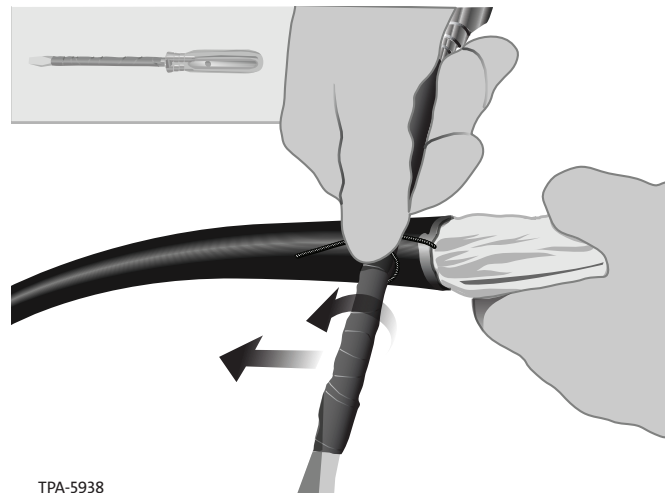


Figure 16

Step 7: Pull the outer jacket open to the tape mark (Figure 17). Ring cut as before about half-way through the GRP rods and PE jacket. Bend the jacket back.

Step 8: After jacket is bent back, cut off the jacket and GRP rods (Figure 18). Then remove water-blocking tape with scissors.

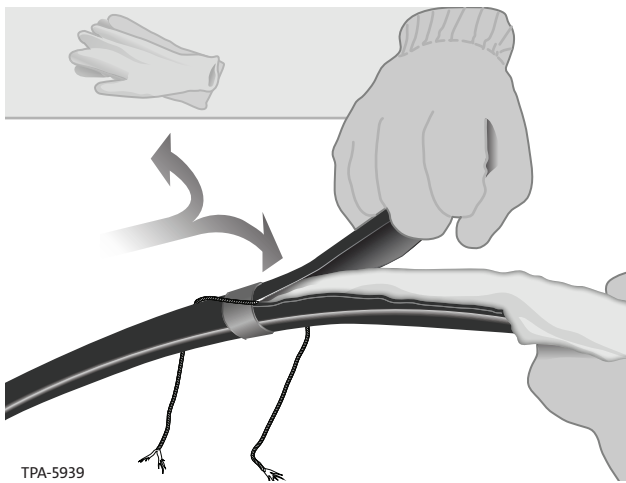


Figure 17

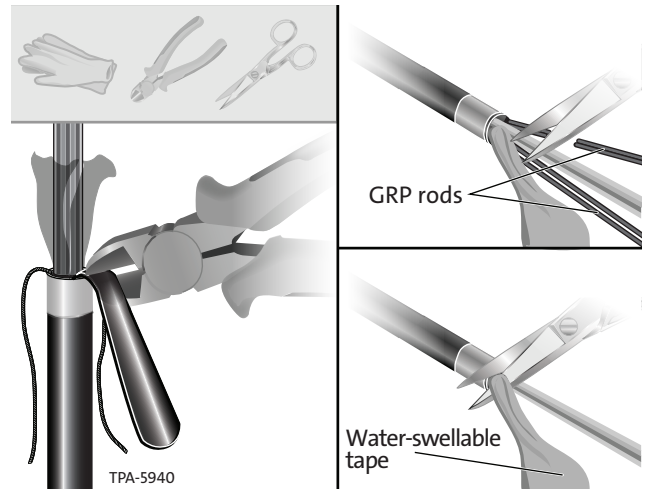


Figure 18

Step 9: Figure 19 shows the open cable with color-coded subunits.

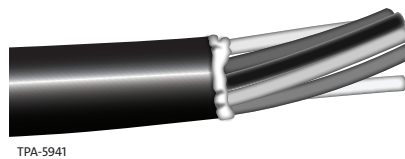


Figure 19

6. Accessing 288-Fiber Subunits

Step 1: Peel subunit with fingernail to expose ribbons (Figure 20).

Step 2: Continue to peel subunit jacket away from ribbons as indicated in Figure 21.

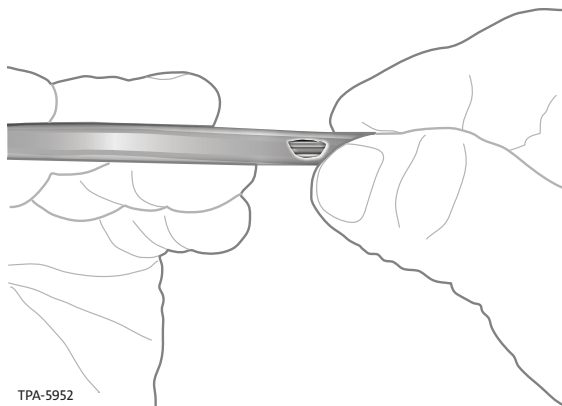


Figure 20

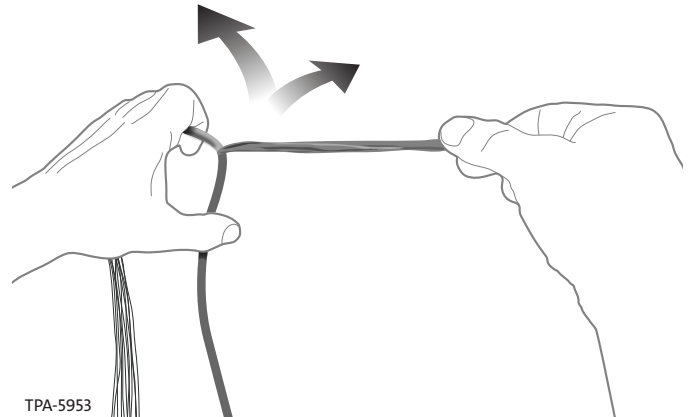


Figure 21

7. Accessing 24-Fiber Ribbons

Split 24-fiber ribbons into 12-fiber ribbons by hand. Refer to [SRP 004-098](#) for ribbon splitting.

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