

FIBER OPTIC CONNECTOR CLEANING SOLUTIONS



Fiber Optic Cleaning Guide

The Importance of Cleaning Good Cleaning Practices Multi-fiber Cleaner Instructions Single Fiber Cleaner Instructions Cassette Cleaner Instructions Wet-to-Dry Cleaner Instructions	3 3 4 4 5 5	
IBC [™] Brand Cleaners	6	
 IBC[™] Brand Cleaners for Single Fiber Single Fiber Cleaning Tools for 1.25mm Connectors Single Fiber Cleaning Tools for 2.5mm Connectors Single Fiber Cleaning Tools for Specialty Connectors IBC[™] Brand Cleaners for Multi-fiber Multi-fiber Cleaning Tools for MT Based Connectors Multi-fiber Cleaning Adapters 	6 7 7 8 9	
IPCIM Brand Classing Fluid		
IBC [™] Brand Cleaning Fluid Eliminator™ Cleaning Fluid	9	
	9 10	
Eliminator™ Cleaning Fluid		
Eliminator™ Cleaning Fluid Lensed Based Cleaners Multi-fiber Cleaning Tools for PRIZM [®] MT Based Connectors	10 10	
Eliminator™ Cleaning Fluid Lensed Based Cleaners Multi-fiber Cleaning Tools for PRIZM [®] MT Based Connectors NEOCLEAN PZ Refillable Cassette Cleaner	10 10 11	
Eliminator™ Cleaning Fluid Lensed Based Cleaners Multi-fiber Cleaning Tools for PRIZM® MT Based Connectors NEOCLEAN PZ Refillable Cassette Cleaner Cassette Cleaners OPTIPOP R Refillable Cassette Cleaners	10 10 11 12 12	

The Importance of Cleaning

A clean connector is extremely important in the reliability of any optical network infrastructure. Connector end faces containing even small amounts of debris (skin oils, dust, lotions, water residue, etc.) not only suffer from power degradation but also an increased likelihood of permanent damage when mated. Good cleaning practices, proper training, and use of reliable cleaning tools will aid in the following:

1. Prevent signal degradation



3. Reduce lasting effects of contamination





Contaminated

endface

Initial clean endface

Mated 5x dirty then cleaned (Results in severe permanent damage)

Good Cleaning Practices: Inspect-Clean-Inspect

- 1. Always inspect both connectors before mating.
- 2. Mating dirty connectors may:
 - Cross contaminate both connectors
 - Scratch and pit the ferrule end face
- 3. Inspecting and cleaning before mating will:
 - Prevent permanent damage to connectors
 - Reduce trouble shooting time
 - Reduce material costs
 - Improve signal quality
- 4. Make keeping fiber optic connectors clean a priority
 - Develop inspection and cleaning procedures
 - Train your team regularly on how to inspect and clean your connectors

2. Prevent residue cross contamination









(Before Mating)

Connector **A** (After Mating)

Connector **B** (After Mating)



Multi-fiber Cleaner Instructions

Cleaning cable assemblies in bulkhead adapters:





Cleaning unmated cable assemblies:



Insert tip of cleaner into adapter



Push the cleaner forward inside the adapter until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete



Open the cover of the guide cap



Insert connector into the guide cap



Push the cleaner forward towards the connector end face until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete

Single Fiber Cleaner Instructions

Cleaning cable assemblies in bulkhead adapters:



Remove guide cap from cleaner

Cleaning unmated cable assemblies:



Open the cover of the guide cap



Insert tip of cleaner into adapter



Insert connector into the guide cap



Push the cleaner forward inside the adapter until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete



Push the cleaner forward towards the connector end face until you hear a click, indicating the cleaning process is complete

Cassette Cleaner Instructions

Cleaning unmated cable assemblies:



Depress lever to expose cleaning slot and cloth



With cleaning cloth exposed, slide connector end face in the direction of the arrow



Keep connector perpendicular to cleaning surface

Wet-to-Dry Clean

Dry cleaning procedures are very effective at removing common sources of contamination. A wet-to-dry cleaning process may assist in removing stubborn debris and/or may reduce contamination caused by static found in dry environments. For detailed Wet-to-Dry cleaning instructions, please refer to US Conec AE Note 1824.

IBC[™] Cleaner Wet-to-Dry Instructions



Spray a small amount of cleaning solvent on an optical grade wipe



Lightly touch the cleaning ribbon/thread to the wet area of the wipe. Do not soak the ribbon/thread. Excessive cleaning solvent will require additional dry cleans



Follow standard cleaning procedure for connector type and cleaner used. A second push will provide a dry clean

Cassette Cleaner Wet-to-Dry Instructions



Press the lever of the cleaning cassette to advance to a new cleaning cloth



Spray a very small amount of cleaning solvent on one end of the cleaning cloth. Do not soak the cloth. Excessive cleaning solvent will require additional dry cleans



Place the connector on the wet area of the cloth and wipe from the wet area to the dry area

IBC[™] Brand Single Fiber Cleaning Tools

The US Conec IBC[™] Brand of single fiber cleaners can be used to effectively clean various single fiber connectors such as MDC, LC Duplex, LC and SC both residing in an adapter or faceplate and unmated. They feature a novel dry cleaning strand to gently sweep and lift away dust and debris from the connector end face that eliminates the need to use solvents for an effective clean. A simple pushing motion to engage the tool, an audible CLICK to alert the operator that the tool is fully engaged, a dust cap attached by a lanyard to prevent losing it, over 525 cleaning engagements per tool and the effectiveness of the cleaner to remove such contaminants as graphite, hand lotions, skin oils and Arizona road dust are just a few of the features of the US Conec's IBC brand of single fiber cleaning tools. All IBC brand single fiber cleaners are RoHS compliant.

The IBC [™] Brand Cleaners are effective at removing the following contaminates:						
Arizona Road Dust (ISO 12103-1) Skin Oil Residue Salt Water Residue						
Alcohol Residue	Residue • Vegetable Residue • Hand Lotion					
Distilled Water Residue Graphite • Graphite • T-shirt Lint						

IBC[™] Brand Cleaning Tools for 1.25mm Based Connectors

	Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	Additional Information
- NY manage	9393	LC	LC, MU	The most popular single fiber cleaner for LC, MU and other 1.25mm based optical connectors
	24366	LC PLUS	LC	Unique nozzle design cleans connector end faces through bulkhead adapters and when connectors are accessible. Over 775 cleans per cleaner
	22046	MDC	MDC	Dual ferrule endface cleaner for VSFF MDC connectors. Cleans 525 MDC connectors (1,050+ ferrule endfaces)
STOC MENT	12910	H125	LC, MU	Cleans harsh environment 1.25 mm based connector systems - ARINC 800, ODC series, MXL38999, LuxCis series, MIL PRF 64266 [NGCON], Neutrik opticalCON
	22277	QM125	Q-ODC-2 Mini	Cleans harsh environment 1.25mm based connector systems
	13965	Zi125	LC, MU	Compact size; includes retractable zipcord
1100 ma	14303	LC ²	LC	Dual ferrule endface cleaner for LC duplex connectors. Cleans 525+ LC duplex connectors (1,050+ ferrule endfaces)
	14649	ZiA125	LC , MU	Cleans harsh environment 1.25 mm based connector systems - ARINC 800, ODC series, MXL38999, LuxCis series, MIL PRF 64266 [NGCON], Neutrik opticalCON; includes retractable zipcord, Compact size

	Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	Additional Information
- TOP	9392	SC	SC, ST, FC, E2000	The most popular single fiber cleaner for SC, FC, ST and other 2.5mm based optical connectors
	24367	SC PLUS	SC	Unique nozzle design cleans connector end faces through bulkhead adapters and when connectors are accessible. Over 775 cleans per cleaner
Quia, Har	9394	нс	OptiTap®	Cleans OptiTap [®] and OptiTap [®] compatible connectors. Used in FTTx applications
	13310	M250	SC, ST, FC, TFOCA	1.8 mm cleaning region
	13964	Zi25	SC, ST, FC, E2000	Compact size; includes retractable zipcord

IBC[™] Brand Cleaning Tools for 2.5mm Based Connectors

IBC[™] Brand Cleaning Tools for Specialty Connectors

	Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	Additional Information
Drot man	12926	M20	SMPTE 304M, SMPTE 358M, MIL PRF 28876	Cleans harsh environment 2.0 mm based con- nector systems
CIVIC manage	13309	M16	M38999	Cleans harsh environment 1.6 mm based con- nector systems
	14829	GA16	M38999	Cleans harsh environment 1.6 mm based connector systems; Cleans through Glenair M38999 test adapters; compact size; includes retractable zipcord
	15523	G1000	Glenair Mighty Mouse 20 series	Compact size; can be used to clean MIL/AERO 1.0 mm connectors; includes retractable zipcord

IBC[™] Brand Multi-fiber Cleaning Tools

When the application calls for cleaning multi-fiber connectors, US Conec offers a variety of cleaners for the job. The IBC[™] Brand of multi-fiber cleaning tools is designed for cleaning the MT and TMT based connector systems loaded in a bulkhead adapter, on the card edge, on a backplane and can even be used to clean unmated cable assemblies using the alignment cap. The design of the IBC Brand of multi-fiber cleaning tools allows it to clean both the female [no guide pins] and male [with guide pins] connectors. These cleaners will provide over 525 cleaning engagements per tool and will clean both flat and angled ferrules. The US Conec multi-fiber cleaners feature a nozzle that is keyed for precise alignment of the cleaning tip to the fiber array. All IBC brand multi-fiber cleaners are RoHS compliant.

The IBC™ Brand Cleaners are effective at removing the following contaminates:						
Arizona Road Dust (ISO 12103-1) Skin Oil Residue Salt Water Residue						
Alcohol Residue	Vegetable Residue	Hand Lotion				
Distilled Water Residue	• Graphite	• T-shirt Lint				

IBC[™] Brand Cleaning Tools for MT Based Connectors

 Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	Additional Information
7104	MPO II	МРО	Cleans flat and angled MT ferrules
17669	MTP®-16	MTP®-16, TIA-604-5 compliant MPO connectors only	Cleans flat and angled MT-16™ ferrules
23121	ММС	ММС	Cleans MMC connectors/TMT ferrules
24903	MMC-16	MMC-16	Cleans MMC-16 connectors/TMT-16 ferrules
8037	HBMT	Molex HBMT™, 1x8 ARRAY, 1x6 ARRAY, 1x3 Circular MT, MPO	Additional special adapters available
9959	HBMT EN	Molex HBMT™, 1x8 ARRAY, 1x6 ARRAY, 1x3 Circular MT, MPO	Additional special adapters available; extended nozzle length of 224mm
15639	OptiTip® II	OptiTip®	Cleans OptiTip [®] connectors. Requires attached lanyard of adapters
15549	HQMT	Q-ODC-12/24	Cleans MT-based harsh environment connectors
 15546	MT38 II	MT based D38999	Requires special adapters

Multi-fiber Cleaning Adapters

	Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	US Conec Cleaner Used	Additional Information
	7907	ARRAY 1 x 6	Molex ARRAY6 connections	8037	Cleans plug and socket Molex ARRAY6 connections; Clean ferrules 1, 3, and 5 then flip and clean ferrules 2, 4, and 6
	8035	HBMT Card Edge	Molex HBMT card edge connections	8037	Cleans plug and socket Molex HBMT card edge connections
	8097	HBMT Backplane	Molex HBMT backplane connections	8037	Cleans plug and socket Molex HBMT backplane connections
¢	8802	Circular 1 x 3 Receptacle	Molex 1 x 3 circular connections	8037	Cleans receptacle on Molex 1 x 3 circular connections
	8803	Circular 1 x 3 Connector	Molex 1 x 3 circular connections	8037	Cleans connector on Molex 1 x 3 circular connections
	13463	MT38999 Quad	MT ferrules in Quad MT D38999 connectors	15546	Will align cleaner part number onto protruding MT ferrules in Quad MT D38999 connectors from Amphenol Aerospace
	13464	MT 38999 Single	MT ferrules in Single MT D38999 connectors	15546	Will align cleaner part number onto protruding MT ferrules in Single MT D38999 connectors from Amphenol Aerospace

IBC[™] Brand Eliminator[™] Cleaning Fluid

US Conec's IBC[™] Brand Eliminator[™] Cleaning Fluid is designed specifically for fiber optic connector endface cleaning. It is a non-flammable, low odor cleaning fluid that helps to dissolve the stubborn debris found on some optical connector endfaces. The fluid also eliminates static-born debris common in dry environments.

Eliminator[™] Cleaning Fluid is easy to apply and quick to dry, leaving no residue like alcohol and other similar cleaners. The cleaning fluid does not have a shelf life and is safe for any shipping method, including air transportation. Eliminator[™] Cleaning Fluid can also be used for cleaning fibers in preparation for fusion splicing or other connectorization applications.

Eliminator™ Cleaning Fluid

 Part Number	Size	Additional Information
21098	3 oz can	Contains fluid for more than 650 individual cleans

Cleaning Tools for PRIZM® MT Based Connectors

The PRIZM[®] MT cleaning tool is designed specifically for use with US Conec's PRIZM[®] MT lensed ferrule technology. The simple, one-push style with guide cap cleans bulkhead-mounted MXC receptacles and/or cabled MXC plugs. US Conec also offers a version that can be used to clean the PRIZM[®] MT in an MTP[®] format. The cleaners will provide over 150 cleaning engagements per tool.

PRIZM[®] MT Cleaning Tools

 Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	Additional Information
 15990	MXC®	MXC [®] plug, MXC [®] receptacle, MXC [®] back plane	Adapter available for MXC [®] back plane connectors
16899	PRIZM® MTP®	MTP [®] connector with PRIZM [®] MT ferrules	Cleans unmated cables and cables loaded in a bulkhead adapter

PRIZM[®] MT Cleaning Tool Adapters

	Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	US Conec Cleaner Used	Additional Information
''''' '	16824	MXC®	MXC [®] back plane	15990	Cleans blind mate MXC [®] external plugs when not installed in the backplane
	18904	MXC®	MXC [®] back plane	15990	Cleans blind mate MXC [®] external plugs when installed in the backplane

NEOCLEAN PZ Refillable Cassette Cleaner

The NEOCLEAN PZ is a cassette style fiber optic cleaner system designed specifically for the PRIZM[®] LightTurn[®] connector. This refillable cassette cleaner uses a microfiber fabric to remove harmful contaminates off of the ferrule end face. The anti-static cleaning material used in the cassette produces a pristine optical window and minimizes contaminant attraction. The cleaning material is pre-washed making it excellent for use in any production environment, including clean rooms. The NEOCLEAN PZ cassette cleaning tool will accommodate both bare ribbon and jacketed PRIZM[®] LightTurn[®] cable assemblies. The cleaning tool and refill cassette will provide over 500 cleaning engagements.



Placing PRIZM[®] LightTurn[®] connector into cleaner



Cleaning PRIZM® LightTurn® connector

NEOCLEAN PZ Refillable Cassette Cleaner

	US Conec Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	NTT-AT Part Number	Additional Information
And and a second se	14554	NEOCLEAN-PZ Cassette	PRIZM [®] LightTurn [®]	ATC-NE-PZ	Cleans bare ferrules, ribbon assemblies and jacketed assemblies
	14555	NEOCLEAN-PZ Refill	-	ATC-NE-PZS	5 pack

OPTIPOP R Refillable Cassette Cleaners

The OPTIPOP R is a fiber optic cleaning cassette that can be refilled to help reduce the cost per clean, making it a great cleaner to use in production facilities, data center installations and other applications where unmated fiber optic connectors are used. This cleaner offers multiple versions for cleaning various types of connector end faces from single fiber like the SC and LC to multi-fiber such as the MTP[®] Brand, MPO and MTRJ connectors. The anti-static cloth material used in these cassettes produces a pristine fiber end face and minimizes contaminant attraction. The cleaning fabric is pre-washed and produces less than 70 pieces per CFM of particles that are > 1mm in size, making this an excellent cleaning cassette for use in any production setting including clean rooms. A great feature of this cassette is that all versions utilize the same replacement reel part number. The replacement reels are easy to install and offer 400+ cleanings per reel.



OPTIPOP R Refillable Cassette Cleaner

OPTIPOP R Refillable Cassette Cleaners

 US Conec Part Number	Model	Cleans Connector Types	Number of Slots	NTT-AT Reference
6338	Single Slot	SC, ST, FC, E2000, LC, MU, Female MPO, MTRJ, Female MMC/TMT	One	ATC-RE-01
6437	Two Slots	LC, MU	Two	ATC-RE-02
6339	MPO Male	Male MPO with guide pins and male MMC/TMT with guide pins	One	ATC-RE-03
6340	MTRJ	Male MTRJ with guide pins	One	ATC-RE-04
8057	OptiTap®	OptiTap®	One	ATC-RE-03W
6232	Refill	(Used for all OPTIPOP R cassettes; 6 pack)	-	ATC-RS-01

CLETOP Refillable Cassette Cleaners

The CLETOP and CLETOP-S are refillable cassette style fiber optic connector end face cleaners. They offer a low cost per clean, making them a good fit for factory settings. The CLETOP cleaners come in multiple versions and can be used to clean single fiber and multi-fiber connector end faces, depending on the version chosen. CLETOP cleaners feature an anti-static cloth material that minimizes contaminant attraction while creating a debris-free connector end face. The refills come in either cassettes or reels and the refill type used is dependent upon the version of cleaner being used. Refills offer more than 400 cleanings each and are easy to install.

	US Conec Part Number	Model	Tape Color	Cleans Connector Types	Tape or Cartridge	NTT-AT Part Number	Additional Information
1 1947	14703	CLETOP Type A	Blue	SC, SC2, FC, ST, DIN, D4, E2000	Таре	14100501	Uses refill part number 14709 or 14710
	15052	CLETOP Type A	White	SC, SC2, FC, ST, DIN, D4, E2000	Таре	14100511	Uses refill part number 14709 or 14710
	14704	CLETOP Type B	Blue	MU, LC, MT, MPO, BIC, MMC	Таре	14100601	Uses refill part number 14709 or 14710
	15053	CLETOP Type B	White	MU, LC, MT, MPO, BIC, MMC	Таре	14100611	Uses refill part number 14709 or 14710
	14706	CLETOP Type MPO	White	MTP [®] /MPO (Male and Female), MMC	Таре	14100201	Uses refill part number 14709 or 14710
	14707	CLETOP-S Type A	Blue	SC, SC2, FC, ST, DIN, D4, E2000	Cartridge	14110501	Uses refill part number 14711 or 14712
-	14708	CLETOP-S Type B	Blue	MU, LC, MT, MPO, BIC, MMC	Cartridge	14110601	Uses refill part number 14711 or 14712
	15051	CLETOP-S Type B	White	MU, LC, MT, MPO, BIC, MMC	Cartridge	14110611	Uses refill part number 14711 or 14712

CLETOP Refillable Cassette Cleaners

CLETOP Replacement Tape & Cartridges

	US Conec Part Number	Model	Tape or Cartridge	Tape Color	NTT-AT Part Number
۲	14709	CLETOP Refill	Таре	Blue	14100700
	14710	CLETOP Refill	Таре	White	14100710
	14711	CLETOP-S Refill	Cartridge	Blue	14110700
· · · ·	14712	CLETOP-S Refill	Cartridge	White	14110710

Stick Cleaners

US Conec's line of stick and pipe cleaners offers a solution for those hard to reach areas where an IBC[™] Brand Cleaner nor a cassette style cleaner cannot be used. The sticks and pipes come in multiple sizes and can accommodate small form factor duplex and/or single-fiber connectors, transceiver receptacles and lenses. They are suitable for both field and factory use.

NEOCLEAN S Stick Cleaners

US Conec Part Number	Size	Sticks per Case	Sticks per Sleeve	NTT-AT Part Number	Additional Information
24981	1.25 mm	200	10	ATC-NS-125	Notched for length customization
24982	2.5 mm	200	10	ATC-NS-250	Notched for length customization

CLETOP Stick Cleaners

 US Conec Part Number	Size	Units per Case	NTT-AT Part Number	Additional Information
14713	2.5 mm	200	14100400	-
14715	2.0 mm	200	14100402	_
14716	2.0 mm 2.5 mm	100	14100403	Double-ended



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