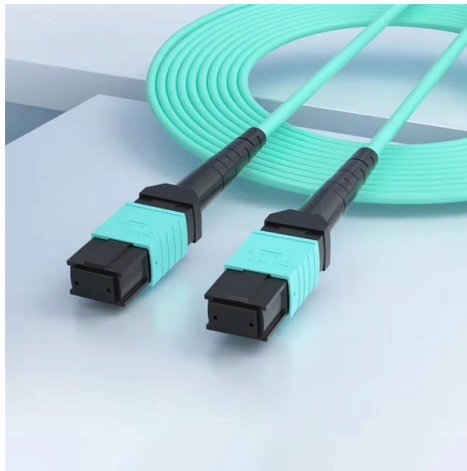


# Air-blown optical cable duct



## Overview

Leviton Air Blown Fiber Systems offer solutions for internal and external applications with their market leading BLOLITE™ and MICRBLO™.

## Key Takeaways

Air-blown optical cable ducts use compressed air to install fiber optic microcables through pre-installed ducts, enabling fast, flexible, and scalable network deployment. Overview Air-blown optical cable ducts, also known as microduct systems, are protective conduits designed to house fiber optic cables. The ducts are typically buried or installed in existing infrastructure, providing a secure environment for the cables while allowing future network expansion without major civil works.

These systems are particularly useful in FTTx networks, campuses, and data centers, where flexibility and staged deployment are critical.

## Installation Method

The installation process, called blowing or jetting, involves feeding a fiber optic microcable into the duct while using compressed air to propel it along the duct path. A small pushing force is applied at the cable inlet, and the high-speed airflow reduces friction, allowing the cable to "float" inside the duct. This method can handle long continuous lengths, multiple bends, and undulations, making it more efficient than traditional pulling methods.

Typical installation speeds range from 150 to 500 feet per minute, depending on duct design and route complexity.



## Components

An air-blown fiber system generally includes: Microducts: Flexible HDPE tubes with low-friction linings, often bundled in 7, 12, or 24 tubes for multiple pathways. Blowing apparatus: Generates compressed air and provides mechanical feed assistance. Optical fiber microcables: Lightweight, small-diameter cables designed for air-blown installation.

Distribution and termination cabinets: Facilitate branching, splicing, and network management.

## Advantages

Flexibility: Cables can be installed after ducts are in place, allowing staged deployment and easy upgrades. Reduced installation time and labor: Air-blown systems are faster than traditional pulling, especially in complex routes. Scalability: Additional fibers can be added without disturbing existing infrastructure.

Minimized optical loss: Fewer splices and interconnections improve system performance. Space efficiency: Microducts and microcables reduce duct congestion and allow high fiber density in small diameters. Applications Air-blown optical cable ducts are ideal for: Urban and suburban FTTx networks Campus and enterprise networks Underground or hard-to-access areas Environments requiring frequent network expansion or upgrades By combining microduct technology with air-blown installation, network operators can achieve efficient, low-stress, and future-proof fiber deployments.

## Article Content

### Air Blown Optical Fiber Cable

Leviton Air Blown Fiber Systems offer solutions for internal and external applications with their market leading BLOLITE™ and MICRBLO™. The use of Air Blown Fiber Systems gives complete freedom

### Air-Assisted Installation Considerations

Placing optical fiber cables in duct systems using air-assisted installation techniques presents different installation requirements than traditional pulling. In return, these techniques enable installation of

### Installation of Optical Fiber Cable by Blowing/Jetting

Cable blowing is the process of installation of optical fiber cable into a pre-installed duct. Compressed air is injected in the duct inlet after few hundred meters of cable is pushed into the duct.

### Air Blown Fiber Systems – Lightera

Specifically designed for exceptional air-blown installation performance, these can help to lower air blown fiber optic cable deployment costs while increasing capacity and fiber density in limited spaces.

Pulling and blowing a cable in a duct

So, it is not a surprise that the optical fibre cables, originally for pulling in duct, were mechanically reinforced and were taking also advantage of the loose tube design offering a significant fibre

Blown Fiber Installation: Essential Guide & Expert Tips

Blown fiber involves inserting fiber optic cables into pre-installed micro ducts using compressed air. This method is highly efficient for covering long

Introduction to Air Blown Optical Cable

Air Blown Optical Cable, also known as microduct cable or air-assisted cable, is a specialized type of optical fiber cable that utilizes

Fiber Optic Cable Blowing Procedure: Full Guide (2024)

Learn the fiber optic cable blowing procedure with our detailed guide, covering essential steps, equipment, and best practices for efficient installation.

Fiber Blowing Solutions: A New, Efficient and Flexible

These main ducting pipes can contain up to 19 microducts, enabling flexible and scalable network design. A specially coated, "blowable" optical fiber

Pulling and blowing a cable in a duct

The installation of optical fibre cable in duct is becoming the most popular installation method in the FTTH networks; from pulling to air jetting the network builder has the choice but the trend to reduce

Fiber Optic Cables | Corning

With 2 billion kilometers of fiber optic cables installed around the globe, Corning continues to lead the industry in product quality and innovation.

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Outdoor Fiber Optic Cable | Outside Plant Fiber (OSP) Cable

Applications Duct Cables Duct Cables Ducts (or conduits) offer a highly protective environment for fiber-optic cables. They are typically buried outside, and then the cables are air-blown, jetted, pulled, or

Air Blown Micro Cable Technology, Advantages & Custom

An air blown micro cable is engineered for minimal weight and diameter while protecting optical fibres during high-speed blowing. The typical design places 2 to 432 fibres inside a single

Outdoor Fiber Optic Cable: Installation & Selection Guide

This document serves as a guide for outdoor fiber optic cable selection and installation for professionals in the telecommunications industry. It begins by highlighting the need for outdoor

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