

How to calculate pigtail test return loss



Overview

Measured in decibels (dB), return loss is calculated by comparing the input (or incident) power to the reflected power using the following formula: $\text{Return Loss} = 10 \cdot \log(\text{incident power} / \text{reflected power})$ in +dB. The result is always a positive number, and a higher value is better. Return loss is the ratio of signal power injected from a source compared to the amount that is returned or reflected back toward the source. It is a critical performance parameter in both copper twisted pair and fiber optic cabling systems, because it can interfere with the transmitted signal and. In the test report for a fiber cable, you may often see some data related to fiber insertion loss (IL) and return loss (RL), but do you know what insertion loss and return loss actually mean?

How do the values of IL and RL impact the quality of the fiber cable?

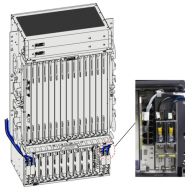
Are higher values better, or lower. Reflectance (which has also been called "back reflection" or optical return loss) of a connection is the amount of light that is reflected back up the fiber toward the source by light reflections off the interface of the polished end surface of the mated connectors and air.

Reflectance occurs at point discontinuities, for example connector interfaces, splice interfaces, etc. An Optical Power Meter and Laser Light Source will be used to measure power loss on each completed ring or distribution span to verify continuity between fibers (no fibers incorrectly spliced). To ensure the proper performance of an optical transmission system, various parameters—such as attenuation and optical return loss (ORL)—must be within the acceptable tolerance levels of both the transmission and receiving equipment.

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Learn how to perform return loss transceiver measurement with real test setups, specs, and troubleshooting steps for SFP, QSFP, and fiber links.



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r testing. These guidelines include building the proper loss budget based on installed components, determining the necessary tests to be performed, using the correct test equipment refer-encing ...



In order to calculate the reflectance or return loss, you need to know the magnitude of the test signal and the split ratio of the coupler, including the excess loss of the ...



Return loss is the result of back reflections, and excessive back reflections can induce noise on the signal leading to increased data transmission errors. There are many sources of return loss in a fiber ...



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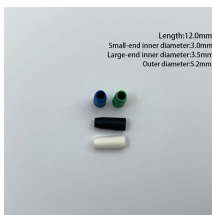
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Learn about causes of return loss in optical fiber systems and copper cabling systems. Get return loss testing procedures and the formula for calculating return loss.



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The optical characteristics of fiber pigtailed/patchcords contain insertion loss and return loss. To ensure long-term stable & low loss fiber connection, besides basic measurement for insertion loss & return ...



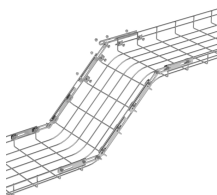
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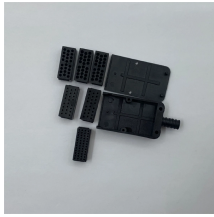
In order to calculate the reflectance or return loss, you need to know the magnitude of the test signal and the split ratio of the coupler, including the excess loss of the coupler.



Measurements for pigtail splice loss and reflectance will be taken using the OTDR's "two-point loss" measurement tool. Any deviation or issue regarding pigtail testing will need to be addressed by an ...



The measurement methods are applied depending on the device under test (DUT) condition, level of return loss, measurement distance, and measurement resolution. This paper will focus on the return ...



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In this comprehensive guide, we will discuss these two parameters, their significance in fiber optic connectors, and the recommended reference ...



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