

Core Tube Blocking Procedure for Central Core Optical Fiber Cable

Introduction

These instructions describe the core tube blocking procedure for central core optical fiber cables. This procedure applies to both filled and dry core cables. OFS recommends GE RTV 108 silicone rubber adhesive sealant for use with this core tube blocking procedure.

Procedure

1. Prepare the cable for splicing as required by the closure instructions.
2. If the cable contains filling compound, use a cotton swab to remove about 2 inches of filling compound from the inside of the core tube and around the fibers or ribbons.
3. Trim the tip of the sealant nozzle as required.
4. Insert the nozzle into the core tube and inject about 2 inches of sealant inside the core tube (Figure 1). Apply the sealant completely around the fibers or ribbon stack and form a bead of sealant at the outside edge of the core tube. The sealant will obtain a tack-free cure in about 20 minutes and a full cure in 24 hours.
5. Proceed with the closure assembly. After the cable has been secured to the closure, check the condition of the core tube plug to confirm that it has not been disturbed. If necessary, apply additional sealant inside the core tube and around the fibers or ribbon stack.

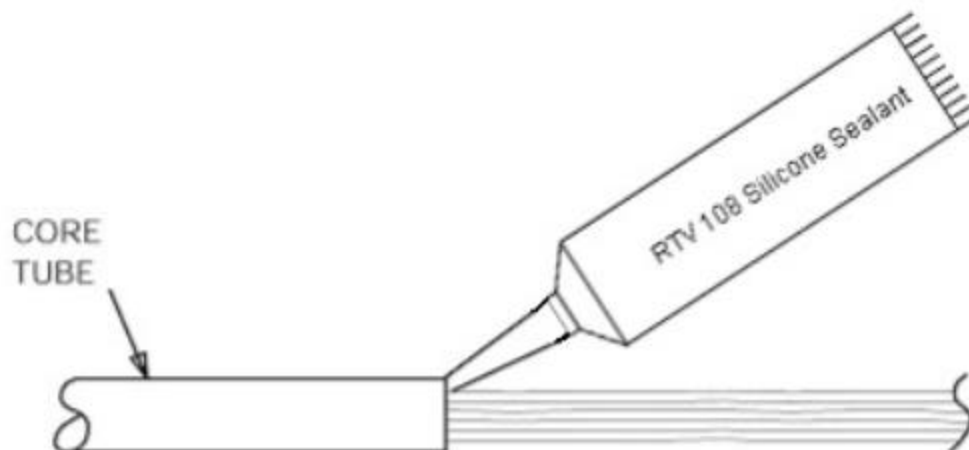


Figure 1 – Inject about 2 inches of sealant into the core tube.