BUILDING A FTTX NETWORK ON COLORADO'S WESTERN SLOPE

CHALLENGE

Deeply Digital needed a cost-effective, scalable solution to deploy an FTTx network for its sister company, Clearnetworx, that could meet current and future demands across the western slope of Colorado.

SOLUTION

By implementing AFL's LMHD-Series OSP Heavy Duty MicroCore® Cable, Deeply Digital streamlined construction with a lightweight, versatile solution suitable for both aerial and underground installations.

RESULTS

Deployment speeds increased by 10%, make-ready costs dropped by 20%, and Clearnetworx gained a higher-quality network with fewer butt splices and enhanced scalability.

► CHALLENGE

Located on Colorado's western slope, Deeply Digital faced the challenge of building a high-performance FTTx network for Clearnetworx, a sister company experiencing rapid growth. They needed a cost-effective solution that would increase deployment speed and ensure the network could scale as fiber and capacity demands grew. The solution also needed to streamline the supply chain, operate in both underground and aerial environments, reduce splicing and cable weight, all while maximizing the flexibility of the infrastructure.

Deeply Digital's primary challenge was finding a universal cable that could seamlessly transition between multiple installation methods – lashed aerially, pulled in a duct, and air jetted into a microduct. These options would help improve deployment speed while enhancing scalability. The solution needed to allow for a reduced number of butt splices and simplify construction. Additionally, the solution needed to minimize

cable weight on poles, increase flexibility and capacity in the conduit networks, and enable faster deployments, allowing customers to be connected more quickly on Clearnetworx's rapidly expanding FTTx network.

SOLUTION

AFL's LMHD-Series OSP Heavy Duty MicroCore® Cable provided the perfect solution. Its versatile design allowed Deeply Digital to deploy a single type of cable for both underground and aerial applications, significantly reducing the number of splices required and lowering cable weight on poles. With the cable's 600 lb. load rating, Deeply Digital was able to deploy it for both aerial and underground installations, thus leveraging its jetting, lashing and pulling capabilities to enhance efficiency across varying terrains. The versatility of AFL's LMHD cable simplified and reduced inventory, improved efficiency and minimized make-ready costs by 20%.

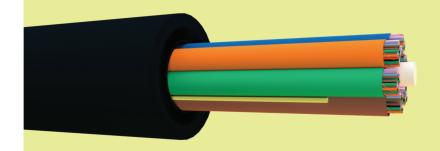


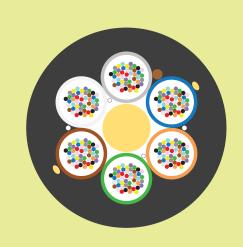
Its lightweight design, small-diameter and flexibility also made it easier to work within conduit networks, leaving room for additional cables as capacity demands grew. Because of its ability to be air-jetted into micro-ducts and deployed quickly for conduit over-ride installations, this ensured that future network expansions could be achieved with minimal investment, making the solution both practical and cost-effective.

Moreover, the LMHD-Series accelerated deployment timelines. Deeply Digital reported a 10% increase in deployment speed. The ability to deploy the same cable in multiple ways improved workflow consistency, reduced training requirements and enhanced overall network performance.

AFL COMPONENTS USED:

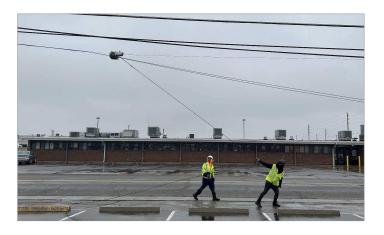
► LMHD-Series OSP MicroCore® Cable in fiber counts of 12, 24, 48, 72, 96 and 144





▶ RESULTS

Deeply Digital remains a trusted partner in the planning and execution of Clearnetworx's FTTx network. Thanks to faster deployment speeds and reduced overall costs, AFL's LMHD fiber cable has become an essential component of Deeply Digital's strategy, playing a pivotal role in their current achievements and future growth alongside Clearnetworx.



▶ ABOUT AFL

Founded in 1984, AFL is an international manufacturer providing end-to-end solutions to the energy, service provider, enterprise, hyperscale and industrial markets. The company's products are in use in over 130 countries and include fiber optic cable and hardware, transmission and substation accessories, outside plant equipment, connectivity, test and inspection equipment, fusion splicers and training. AFL also offers a wide variety of services supporting data center, enterprise, wireless and outside plant applications. For more information, visit www.AFLglobal.com.

▶ ABOUT DEEPLY DIGITAL

Deeply Digital is a locally owned and operated fiber optic, and low-voltage cabling contractor located in Montrose, CO. They consult, construct, and manage future-proof solutions for municipalities and Internet service providers tailored to the communities they serve. For more information, visit the <u>Deeply Digital website</u>.

▶ ABOUT CLEARNETWORX

Clearnetworx is an industry leading, locally-operated Internet Service Provider based out of Montrose, CO. The company was founded in 2012 to solve Internet connectivity challenges in the Montrose area and quickly became the region's first Gigabit fiber Internet provider. For more information, visit the Clearnetworx website.