SAFER™

SUSTAINABLE | ACCESSIBLE | FLEXIBLE | EXPANDABLE | RELIABLE

AFL

Technology continues to evolve every day. Right now, fiber deployments are growing at a phenomenal rate. But this is just the beginning.

New technologies are constantly enabling new usage cases, which are shaping our everyday lives. Future technologies will demand a robust fiber network for unimaginable opportunities.

To unlock the potential of these current and future applications and ensure generational network longevity, network operators must deploy a SAFER™ access network.

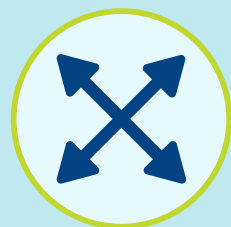## 5 Key Characteristics of a SAFER Access Network

Sustainability | Accessibility | Flexibility | Expandability | Reliability

Sustainability

A network must be designed so that its installation and operation minimize adverse environmental impacts, and with the capability to support its users' sustainability goals.

Switchblade® Fiber Containment Vault

Switchblade enhances sustainability and efficiency in transportation and supply chains as its folding design reduces shipping costs and storage space, thus decreasing the number of trucks needed, energy usage and emissions.
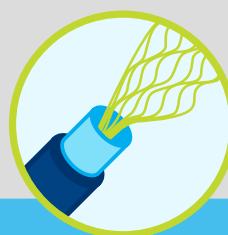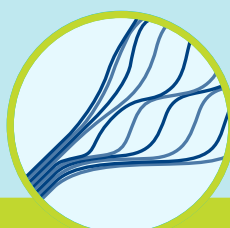
Wrapping Tube Cable (WTC) with SpiderWeb Ribbon® (SWR®) Technology

This combination helps minimize energy consumption during equipment installation. With SWR technology, WTC can fit more fiber in a smaller diameter, allowing operators the ability to use existing pathways, saving time, energy and costs by avoiding digging and boring for new pathways.
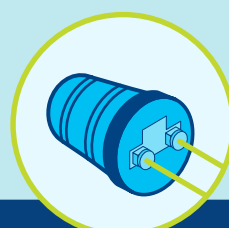
Accessibility

A network must be accessible so technicians can make these network changes in the field.

SWR Technology

It's important that manufacturers develop solutions that are simple and easy to use for a network to be accessible. SWR technology allows technicians to readily pull out and splice any number of fibers, not just multiples of 12, which simplifies installation and engagement.

89%

Decrease in the amount of time it takes to splice the same amount of fiber when used with the Fujikura 90R fusion splicer.

*based on an AFL internal study

Apex® Fiber Optic Splice Closure

For further ease in the field, the Apex standard splice tray design means technicians only need one type of tray in the field. It's also easily re-enterable and re-sealable.

Flexibility

Networks must also have the flexibility to accommodate a network's growth and adapt to changes.
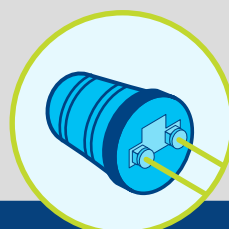
Apex + SWR Technology

The flexible network must have the ability to make future connections. Apex Sealed Splice Closure combined with WTC and SWR technology allows for more fibers in the same or smaller size handhole, which provides the network operator more options on placing that handhole.
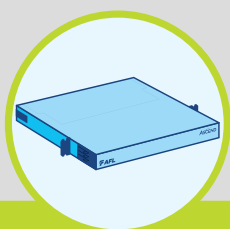
ASCEND® High Density Platform

A network that can be easily redesigned and reconfigured to accommodate new development is crucial. ASCEND modular platform allows the operator to redesign inside the hub to accommodate more internal connections and different numbers and types of external connections.

Expandability

Networks must have the ability to handle increased traffic in the future.

<5% total cost increase for deploying 2x the amount of fiber

*based on an AFL internal study and a 2019 Fiber to the Home Council Europe report

WTC

Deploying more fiber is key to maximizing fiber capacity. WTC with SWR technology allows operators to install more fiber in the same or smaller space without increasing construction costs.
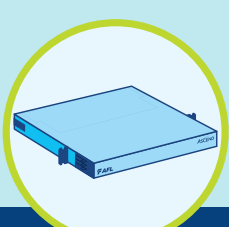
ASCEND High-Density Platform

Technicians can plan for increased capacity with ASCEND modular platform as it can accept new modules, convert from simplex to duplex to MPO connectivity and more.
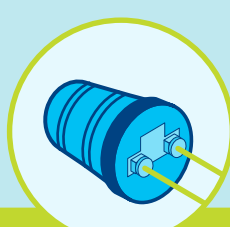
Apex + WTC

Technicians can achieve increased fiber density without increasing construction costs when using Apex Sealed Splice Closure coupled with WTC. This combination enables maximum splicing capability in a handhole as it can manage additional fibers and handle new connections.

Reliability

A network must be able to endure and perform through a wide range of environments and conditions, for many technological and even human generations.

To ensure your network's reliability, we offer:

Product Testing | Unparalleled Customer Support | Proven Track Record | Post-Sale Support