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Application Note Essential Tools for the Fiber Optic Technician – First Response

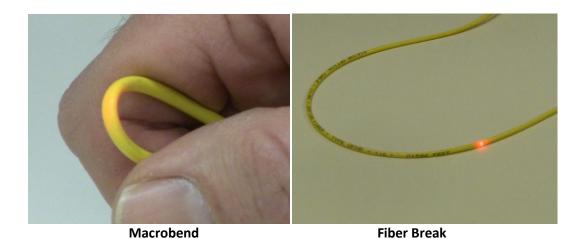
Introduction

When the fiber optic technician is tasked with troubleshooting a fiber link that is not operational, they need the basic tools to quickly isolate and identify the problem. Both the 180XL visual fault locator (VFL) and the GRP450/460 optical power meter (OPM) are essential and easy to use tools that will enable the first responder to efficiently isolate the fault and restore services.

Typical Scenario

When the technician arrives at the fiber service they can use a GRP450/460 OPM to quickly determine if the power at the optical network terminal is within the prescribed tolerances. Optical data levels can be measured at 1310nm/1490nm and video at 1500nm (GRP450/460-04 is used for high power CATV systems).

If no power is measured the technician knows that the fiber is cut or severely kinked. The 180XL VFL can then be connected to the fiber and the technician will be able to potentially visually locate the fault location.



Summary

The 180XL VFL and the GRP450/460 OPM are tools that every front line technician needs to be able to efficiently troubleshoot fiber installations. Their ease of use, rugged construction and small form factor combine to provide the technician with the reliable tools they need for the most demanding of conditions.