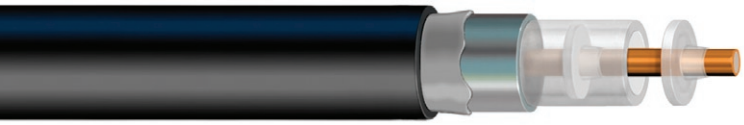
MC² BY COMMSCOPE

Introduction

MC² trunk and distribution cables have recently joined the CommScope worldwide family of telecommunications products. The manufacture of MC² by CommScope assures legacy users of a continuous supply of this product. It is important to note that prior to joining the CommScope family, MC² was manufactured using technologies that varied from those used at CommScope. Merging the manufacture of MC² into the CommScope manufacturing processes necessitated the introduction of several improvements to the MC² manufacturing model, which resulted in a few subtle changes to the MC² finished product. It is the intention of this paper to address these changes and to assure legacy users that even with these changes they can expect to receive a product that is equal or better to that which they have become accustomed. MC² cables manufactured by CommScope will use the same tools, the same connectors, and with very few exceptions, the same techniques in preparation, connectorization and installation.



MC² CJ
Jacketed with MigraHeal® Flooding

Jacketing Material

Legacy MC² cables were manufactured using a Linear Low Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) material. CommScope manufactures its trunk and distribution cables using a Medium Density Polyethylene (MDPE) material. All MC² cables manufactured by CommScope will be manufactured using the MDPE jacketing material. MDPE provides superior resistance against installation damage and environmental influences during the course of the cable's life. The minor difference that legacy users of MC² products may notice is that the jacket is tougher, making it more resistant to cutting.

Flooding Compound

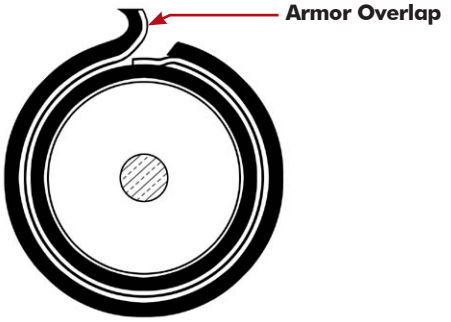
The legacy flooding compound for burial jacketed MC² cables, polyisobutylene (PIB), has been replaced with CommScope's own MigraHeal® flooding compound. MigraHeal has proven superior to PIB in sealing the cable and preventing water migration into its interior when installed in the ground. MigraHeal has a higher viscosity but cold flows at room temperature and is tackier than PIB. Legacy users should take note that MC² cables containing MigraHeal will require a cleaning solution to completely remove the compound from the cable in preparation for connectorization. This is a normal procedure for all current users of CommScope flooded cables. There are many industry approved citrus-based cleaning solutions available that will quickly remove the flooding compound. CommScope and the connector manufacturers strongly recommend that all flooding compound be removed from the cable before installing connectors to prevent frequency suck-outs and roll-offs.

***TIP:** Place a rag and some citrus-based solvent in a plastic bag for quick and convenient floodant removal.*

Please note that non-approved cleaning solutions should NEVER be used on CommScope cables. Both the cable's jacket and dielectric are formulated from petroleum-based materials that can be quickly degraded by contact with inappropriate cleaning solutions such as gasoline, WD-40, or any petroleum-based solution. If any questions arise as to whether the cleaning process currently being used is safe and acceptable please contact CommScope.

Armored Cable

Legacy MC² armored cables were manufactured using non-bonded armor. This allowed the jacket to float freely over the armor beneath it. CommScope's standard manufacturing process for armored cables is to bond the jacket to the armor. This eliminates a water migration route between the armor and the jacket and it promotes a tighter cable bend radius. All MC² cables manufactured by CommScope will be manufactured with the cable's outer jacket bonded to the armor. Legacy users will find that MC² cables manufactured by CommScope have the jacket firmly attached to the armor forming a single unit. The jacket and armor are removed by cutting through the jacket at the armor overlap and peeling the two back together.



Additionally, CommScope floods armor cables with MigraHeal®, which has superior properties to the asphaltic compound used in legacy armored MC² . Asphaltic tar will continue to be available for aerial cables upon request, but will not be used in armor constructions.

Messenger Cable

Legacy MC² messenger cables were manufactured using a web profile to connect the cable to the messenger that is of a different geometry than that used by CommScope. The web on an MC² messenger cable was equal in thickness and height. CommScope's design features a web that is thinner than its height which is easier to cut when required. All MC² messenger cables manufactured by CommScope will be manufactured using this standard CommScope web design. The web design change is subtle and there will be very little noticeable difference to legacy users in application or performance from that to which they are accustomed.

Conclusion

CommScope is implementing each of the above improvements for the purpose of successfully merging the manufacture of MC² with that of its worldwide manufacturing processes. These changes will insure that all MC² products manufactured by CommScope meet or exceed the consistently high standards to which all CommScope products must perform. By assuming responsibility for the manufacture of MC², CommScope brings to this product all the latest in technological expertise currently found in the manufacture of its other telecommunications products. Under the CommScope name, legacy users will continue to receive the familiar MC² products for upgrades, line extensions and maintenance, while receiving the very best in CommScope quality, delivery, and service. Should any questions or concerns about this product's use arise, CommScope's technical experts stand ready to assist. Contact us at 1-866-333-3272, or dbrc@commscope.com, or by scheduling an on-site visit.

For more information, please contact the
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