

Optimizing Logistics for Efficient Fiber Trunk Installation in a Hyperscale High Performance Computing Environment

A high performance computing center approached CABLEExpress® to address the logistical challenges of installing thousands of fiber trunk cables. The customer required efficient inventory management, rapid deployment strategies, and a ready-to-deploy system to meet urgent project deadlines.



Challenge



Limited Turnaround Time (TAT)

The high performance computing center was bound by a strict timeline and needed a solution to source, manage, and deploy fiber trunks as quickly as possible.



Inventory Management

Coordinating the deployment of thousands of fiber trunks for the HPC center involved meticulous planning and precise inventory management.



Seamless and Efficient Logistics

Streamlining the ordering, packaging, and labeling processes was essential to minimize delays and errors.



Approach



Pod-based Ordering

To ensure efficient inventory management, the CABLEExpress team created a streamlined ordering process.

Orders were organized into Pods, each containing the fiber trunks and patch cabling needed to cable a specific number of racks across two rows.



Minimal Packaging and Thorough Labeling

The CABLEExpress team streamlined installation by using minimal packaging, with an easy-to-follow matrix. The fiber trunks and cabling for each rack and pod were placed in large, labeled cabinet bags. Every cabinet bag was then packaged into its respective row bin.

To comply with the data center's strict "no-cardboard" policy due to potential optics contamination, creative packaging techniques were employed. This eliminated the need for cardboard, ensuring safe and waste-free unpacking.



Outcome



Detailed organization & labeled inventory **ensured a simple installation path**, reducing installation time significantly.



The Pod ordering system meant that the customer could place orders by just using a Pod number, **simplifying the logistics process** for the HPC.



Effective project management supported by minimized packaging and reduced cleanup **saved over 100 man hours**.



Over 100,000 ft of fiber trunks were utilized, meeting and exceeding the project's lead time expectations.