Smart Sensing Solutions Since 1954

Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides


Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Glass vs Plastic Optical Fibers

Plastic Optical Fibers are similar to glass fibers as they work the same way - they move light from one end to another. But they are suited for use in different applications as well as made from different materials.

Glass fibers will give a stong signal, but plastic fibers have several other benefits to consider. They are less expensive and have greater flexibility. They are resistant to bending, stretching, shock, and vibration.


Optical fibers direct light from one location to another.

Plastic optical fibers are also lighter in weight. They generally are sold with a cutting device that allows them to be trimmed to a desired length. They have excellent toughness and durability. They are waterproof, moisture-proof, and magnetic-free.

Compared to Glass fibers, Plastic fibers can really take a beating.

## Bend Radius

The Bend Radius is the minimum radius a fiber can be bent without being damaged. The smaller the bend radius, the greater is the material flexibility. Most fibers can be bent up to 25 mm (R25) without risk of damage, but the special High Flex fibers can be bent up to 10 mm (or as specified).


## Construction

Core - Thin plastic center of the fiber through which light travels.
Jacket - Layer around plastic fiber to protect from damage and moisture.
Multi-core High-Flex plastic fiber differ from conventional plastic fibers in having multiple independent cores. This configuration allows a bending radius as small as 2 mm . They can be bent with no reduction of light transmission. They can be threaded through machinery without the problems associated with extreme vibrations or pulling.


## Coaxial - For Reflective Mode only.

The center of fiber core transmits; the ring of cores around the center receive. Received cores around the transmitted fiber core can receive the light from different directions thus increasing accuracy of detection.


| PLASTIC FIBER OPTIC SPECIFICATINS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Item |  | Acceptance Criterion and / or [Test Condition] | Item |  |  |  |
|  |  | Unit | Min. | Typ. | Max. |
| Maximum Rating | Storage Temperature |  | No Physical Deterioration [ in a Dry Atmosphere ] | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | - 55 | - | $+70$ |
|  | Operation Temperature | No Deterioration in Optical Properties* [ in a Dry Atmosphere ] | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | - 55 | - | + 70 |
|  | Operation Temperature in a Moist Atmosphere | No Deterioration in Optical Properties** [ under $95 \% \mathrm{RH}$ ] | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | - | - | + 60 |
| Mechanical Characteristics | Repeated Bending Endurance | Loss Increment $=<1 \mathrm{~dB}$ <br> [ in Conformity to the JIS C 6861 ] | Times | 10,000 | - | - |
|  | Tensile Strength | [Tensile Force at 5澎 Elongation; in Conformity to the JIS C 6861 ] | N | 70 | - | - |
| Material | Core | Optical Fiber: Polymetyl Methacrylate Resin |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jacket | Protective Jacket: Fluorinated Polymer |  |  |  |  |

All tests are carried out under temperature of $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ unless otherwise specified.

* Attenuation increase shall be within $10 \%$ after 1,000 hours.
** Attenuation increase shall be within $10 \%$ after 1,000 hours, except that due to absorbed water.
The specification is subject to change without notice.
The information contained herein is presented as a guide for the product selection. Please contact our business department for the issue of an official specification sheet.

High Temp Resistant Available soon!


## Fiber Sensing Modes:

## Sensing Modes: Reflective or Through-Beam

Plastic optical fibers use the same photoelectric sensing modes as sensors (diffuse reflective, through-beam, retroreflective). The two types of fiber-optic assemblies that are used with these sensing modes are bifurcated (reflective) and individual (through-beam).

## Reflective

## Reflective

Fiber optic reflective mode combines the emitter and the receiver into one assembly. Reflective mode fibers (also called bifurcated) are used for both retroreflective and diffuse reflective sensing. When an object is in front of the sensing tip of the reflective cable, light from the emitter reflects off the object and back into the receiver and detection is achieved.

Optical Proximity Mode


## Retroreflective Mode



## Through-Beam

## Through-Beam

Fiber optic through-beam mode requires two assemblies. One is attached to the Light Source of the remote sensor and is used to guide light to the sensing location. The other is attached to the Receiver of the sensor. Sensing is achieved when the light beam that goes from the Light Source to the Receiver is completed (light on) or interrupted (dark on).

Note: Infrared light is not used since plastic fibers tend to absorb light from IR LEDs.


## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Reflective Threaded

## M6 Threaded Straight - Core Size Z



Part Number PFD-Z-78T6


## M6 Threaded Straight - Core Size Q

Part Number PFD-Q-78T6


Core Size $\varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 15 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## M6 Threaded Straight - Coaxial



## M6 Threaded Right Angle - Core Size Z



Part Number FPFD-Z-78RT6
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 2 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$
High Flex


## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Reflective Threaded

## M4 Threaded Straight - Core Size Z



Part Number PFD-Z-78T4
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 25 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |

M4 Threaded 70mm Needle Head - Core Size Z


Part Number PFD-Z-78T70 Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$

Part Number PFD-Z-120T70 Length 3m,120in

Needle Length 70 mm
Core Size $\quad \varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 25 mm


## M4 Threaded Straight - Core Size Q



## M4 Threaded Straight - Coaxial



## M4 Threaded Right Angle - Coaxial



Part Number PFD-CZ-78RT4
Emitter Core 1x $\varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$
Receiver Core 9x Ø0.25mm
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.3 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 15 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Reflective Threaded

## M3 Threaded Straight - Core Size Q



Part Number PFD-Q-78T3
Core Size $\varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 15 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## M3 Threaded Straight - Core Size Y

Part Number PFD-Y-78T3


Core Size $\varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.00 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 10 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Reflective Specialty

## Light Array 10.5mm with $45^{\circ}$ Angle Intergraded Bracket

Part Number PFD-LA10-78R


## Light Array 3mm with Intergraded Bracket

Core Size $9 \times \varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.3 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 15 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## V-Axis Convergent Proximity View 8mm



Part Number PFD-CV8-78
Focal Point 8 mm
Core Size $\quad \varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.3 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 15 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Liquid Level Optical Detection



Part Number PFD-LLO312-78
Fits Tube Sizes $\varnothing 3-12 \mathrm{~mm}$
Core Size $\varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 10 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Liquid Level Mechanical Detection



## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Through-Beam - Threaded

## M6 Threaded Straight - Core Size Z

Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-Z-78T6
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 25mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


M4 Threaded Straight - Core Size Z
Sold two per package.
Part Number PF-Z-78T4
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 25 mm
Length 2m, 78in

With smaller threaded tip M2.6


## M4 Threaded 70mm Needle Head - Core Size Z

Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-Z-78T70 Needle Length 70 mm

Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket Ø2.2mm

Bend Radius 25 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


M4 Threaded Straight - Core Size Q


## M4 Threaded Right - Core Size Z



Part Number FPF-Z-78RT4
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 2 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$
High Flex

## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Through-Beam - Threaded

## M3 Threaded Straight - Core Size Z

Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-Z-78T3
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 25mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## M3 Threaded Right Angle - Core Size Q

Sold two per package.
Part Number PF-Q-78T3


Core Size $\varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 15 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## M3 Threaded 35 Needle - Core Size Q

Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-Q-78T35
Needle Length 35 mm
Core Size $\varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 25mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## M3 Threaded 70 Needle - Core Size Q

Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-Q-78T70 Needle Length 70 mm

Core Size $\varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 25mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## M3 Threaded Straight - Core Size Y

Part Number PF-Y-78T3
Core Size $\varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 10 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$

Sold two per package.


## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Through-Beam - Specialty

## Slot Head 5mm Gap



Part Number PF-G-41 Slot Gap 5 mm

Core Size $\quad \varnothing 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 1.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 25 mm
Length $1 \mathrm{~m}, 41 \mathrm{in}$
Sold one per package.


M4 Threaded Straight - Internal Extended Range Lens
Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-ZLR-78T4
Extended Range
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 2 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Slip-On Threaded Barrel Head



Part Number LF-H-36
Length $0.9 \mathrm{~m}, 36 \mathrm{in}$
Part Number LF-H-72
Length $1.8 \mathrm{~m}, 72 \mathrm{in}$
Extended Range
Core Size $\varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 25 mm

Sold one per package.


Side View Rectangular Head With Long Range Lens
Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-SV-78
Extended Range
Core Size $\quad \varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 25 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


Side View Rectangular Head With Lens
Sold one per package.


Part Number F-S-72R
Length $1.8 \mathrm{~m}, 72 \mathrm{in}$
Part Number F-S-120R
Length 3m,120in
Extended Range
Core Size $\quad \varnothing 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$

Bend Radius 25 mm


## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Through-Beam Array

Array fibers split the beam of light into a two-dimensional area of detection (rather than just a single beam) allowing the sensor to detect obstructions along the length of the array. This analog sensitivity is ideal for detecting full or partial objects, oddly shaped, or inconsistently sized or positioned objects. Also good for detecting objects with gaps or spaces, or for edge and diameter detection. Array fibers can do the job that would otherwise need to be done with costly multiple sensor pairs.

Arrays come with one transmitter and one receiver. With an intergraded bracket and a variety of shapes and sizes, array fibers can make a complicated application simple.


Slot Array 12mm Gap - Size 5mm


| Part Number | PF-G1220-78 |
| ---: | :--- |
| Slot Gap | 12 mm |
| View Window | 5 mm |
| View Gap | 0.066 mm |
| Core Size | $16 \times \varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Outside Jacket | $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Bend Radius | 10 mm |
| Length | $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$ |



Light Array - Size 11 mm
Sold two per package.


Part Number PF-LA11-78
View Window 11mm
View Gap 0.44 mm
Core Size 16x $\varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$
Outside Jacket $\varnothing 2.2 \mathrm{~mm}$
Bend Radius 5 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Light Array - Size 40 mm

Sold two per package.
Part Number PF-LA40-78

| View Window 40 mm |
| ---: |
| View Gap 0.93 mm |


| Core Size $34 \mathrm{x} \varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| ---: |
| Outside Jacket $\varnothing 3 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

Bend Radius 10 mm
Length $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$


## Light Array - Size 100mm

Sold two per package.


| Part Number | PF-LA100-78 |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| View Window | 100 mm |
| View Gap | 2.69 mm |
|  |  |
| Core Size | $34 \times \varnothing 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Outside Jacket | $\varnothing 3 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Bend Radius | 10 mm |
| Length | $2 \mathrm{~m}, 78 \mathrm{in}$ |



## Plastic Fiber Optic Light Guides

## Plastic Fiber Accessories



GLA-1
1/4in X 1 in
Slip-on Plastic Lens


UAC-12
Slip-on Long Range Lens


FMB-2
( 5.1 mm diam.)
Miniature Glass Fiber Optic Mounting Bracket


GLA-2
M4 Threaded Long Range


PLA-M4
M4 Threaded, Spot Focus 1in Focal Point.


FMB-3
(3.1mm diam.)

Plastic Fiber Optic Mounting Bracket


HLA-1
3/8in X 1 in Threaded Slip-on Plastic Lens Assembly


PLA-M3
M3 Threaded Spot Focus Lens 1-8mm Focal Point


PFC-1
Plastic Fiber Cutter

