Nexans Cabling Solutions

Cable storage and handling

The following requirements and recommendations are applicable to both LAN copper and fibre cables.

Please note: The Nexans warranty may be invalidated if the cables have not been properly stored or handled according to Nexans Cabling Solutions (NCS) requirements.

Indoor cable storage requirements

- Indoor LAN copper and OF cables are not waterproof and their jacket is not UV resistant.
- In no circumstances shall any indoor cable boxes or reels be stored outside or in a harsh environment.
- Indoor cables have to be stored in a dry and UV protected location (room or container).
  N.B. Watertight containers located outside may suffer from condensation and therefore cannot be assumed to be “dry” or to have low humidity.
- Select a site for storage with no risk of excessive humidity, falling objects, chemical spills (oil, grease, etc.) open flames or excessive heat.
- The data sheet of the cable provides information on temperature ranges for ambient installation and/or operation and/or storage. It is important that those specifications are observed.
- As well as temperature, consideration must be given for moisture as well as other contamination such as flooding.
  NCS’s policy on cable exposure to water etc can be found on line: CLICK HERE

Note: Storing cable on pallets may help to keep cable reels dry in the event of a flood.

Cable handling requirements

- The flanges of reels shall not be interleaved.
• Reels must not be lifted by their flanges – as below

• When it is required to rewind the cable on to another reel, the pulling force applied to the cable must be limited to
  - 100N for all LAN copper cables except for Cat.5 U/UTP cables for which the force shall be limited to 80N
  - the maximum pulling force provided on the relevant data sheet for OF cables

• Should cable be rewound on another reel, the diameter of the new reel shall be compatible with the minimum bending radius of the cable and the original cable label details be copied to the new reel. The new reel shall also be in good condition so as not to cause damage to the cable sheath during the rewinding process.

Outdoor cable storage requirements
The following requirements are only applicable to outdoor (or indoor/outdoor) OF cables and to industrial copper LAN cables.

• Ends of the cables shall be sealed during storage (Heat shrink cable end caps are recommended).
• The data sheet of the cable provides ranges of temperature for ambient installation and/or operation and/or storage. It is important that those specifications are observed.

Recommendations (Optical Fibre)
• All Optical fibre reels including part used should be stored upright.

Laying the reel on its side may cause damage to the reel flange and/or cause the OF cable layers to shift - This may cause cable to snag during de-reeling.
• If Optical Fibre cable is to be stored for longer than approximately four weeks then it is recommended that cable ends are appropriately sealed. (Heat shrink cable end caps are recommended).

• Where reels are supplied with protective material fitted over the cable, the protection should remain in place until the cable is installed.
  If the protection is removed prior to installation (for inspection purposes for example) then it must be re-fitted as originally supplied before the reel is placed back in storage or onward shipped.

• Storage temperature range is specified for each cable and must be respected.

**Recommendations (All cables)**

• Reels should be stored in areas with flat firm surfaces.

• Use appropriate devices to secure reels to prevent reel movement during storage.

• Avoid storage areas that are susceptible to flooding, or that could damage the cable, such as sharp, uneven terrain.

• When rolling / moving reels do not “kick” the cables. Ensure that the route has no objects or uneven terrain that could damage the cable when the reel is being rolled.

• Where it is necessary to lift reels and the cable reel is too heavy to move manually, the reel must be moved upright by lifting the cable with a fork lift or reel mover. The forks must be placed under the reel with the forks always perpendicular to the reel flange.

• Never drop a cable reel from any height during transportation or use. Dropping a reel could affect its structural integrity and cause de-reeling issues – it may also damage the product.

  When unloading from a vehicle, use either the tail-lift / elevator (if fitted) or a suitable mechanical aid such as a forklift truck.

  Never let reels drop from the vehicle to the ground.
• Before de-reeling cable, the reel should be visually inspected for possible damage caused during storage.
• It is recommended to record the data provided on the labeling tags of all the drums/reels/boxes in case of any subsequent issues.
• Nexans recommend that cable reels should be stored in a safe, locked location.

Health & Safety
When manually handling a reel, ALWAYS make sure correct manual handling techniques are used and that consideration to mechanical lifting aids is given.

General
Where local requirements for cable storage & handling and/or Health & Safety are more stringent than the above, those requirements must also be followed.