

*The Latest Generation Building Block Technology* **Clearview Black** 

By: Paul Kmit Clearfield Product Marketing Manager As fiber continues to be deployed more frequently and deeper in the network, there is constant pressure to develop products with higher density to achieve a smaller footprint. For inside plant environments, high density solutions save floor space which is always a goal whether you're in a telephone office, head end, data center or customer premise facility. In the outside plant, smaller footprints help reduce the increasingly cluttered landscape of boxes on busy city streets and in community neighborhoods. Clearfield has created yet another space-saving, high density fiber delivery device – the latest generation Clearview Cassette; Clearview Black.

**The Clearview Black Cassette** is Clearfield's next building-block technology and retains the same cost saving features of Clearfield's current generation of cassettes, including modularity and scalability in increments of 12 fibers using industry standard SC and LC SM/MM connectors. In addition, critical design elements of fiber access, bend-radius protection and route-path diversity have been maintained while occupying nearly 50% less overall size. The smaller packaging allows Clearview Black to be integrated with other new Clearfield solutions contributing to smaller overall products for both inside and outside plant networks. Clearview Black uses a tool free, snap-in-place mounting feature. With more and more non-specialized technicians being employed in the workforce, a scalable platform that provides the ability to grow as you go without any installation tools is increasingly valuable.

The Clearview Black cassette continues the long standing tradition of solving the needs of multiple application environments. Configurations are available that support patch and splice, patch only, MPO and optical component scenarios. This is an important factor to consider knowing that many different engineering configurations can be met using a single platform. A common platform used in multiple applications helps with technician training, making them ready to perform their work regardless of the installation environment. This saves time during initial installation, deployment to turn up new services or in critical repair situations.

## Cost Savings through Patch and Splice

Clearfield Patch and Splice style cassettes have been proven to drive down deployment costs and save valuable space. When used in an outdoor FDH cabinet for example, patch and splice cassettes eliminate the cost of providing a stub cable for the feeder and distribution cables, typically 100 feet in length. Besides stub cable cost savings, material costs associated with a splice closure, splice trays and a hand-hole to store the closure are averted. Clearview Patch and Splice cassettes include splice chips embedded within the cassette along with a factory loaded, terminated and tested 12-fiber assembly. The splicing operation remains the same for the craftperson; it is just performed on the cassette rather than on a separate tray. If the splice tray is eliminated, the space required for the splice tray is also eliminated which allows Clearfield solutions using Patch and Splice cassettes to be smaller. This space can be reclaimed and used for other fiber management elements such as slack storage, route path diversity, increased densities and a smaller overall footprint.

## **Ribbonizing made easy**

A new element of the Clearview Black Patch and Splice cassette is a ribbonizing tool. The ribbonizing tool efficiently organizes and prepares loose tube fibers to facilitate mass fusion splicing. Incorporating mass fusion splicing practices saves installation time and improves consistency and project reliability compared to performing single fiber fusion splicing. The ribbonizing tool is basic in nature and demonstrates Clearfield's continuous drive to take a procedure that some feel is cumbersome and difficult and simplify it using an inexpensive, straightforward, easy-to-use field device. By providing a quick and easy method for ribbonizing loose tube fibers, space savings is achieved by allowing a single mass fusion splice protection sleeve in the Black Cassette rather than 12 protection sleeves.

The Clearview Black Cassette fulfills the need in the marketplace to deploy fiber in a smaller package, demonstrated by a design that is up to 50% smaller than products on the market today. At the same time, added features such as adding fiber ports without the need for tools and quick, ribbonizing devices further contribute to faster customer turn up, higher reliability and reduced deployment costs, regardless of the installation environment.