THE FUTURE IS ON®

LEVITON®

CrossTalk

Your Source for Industry News & Insight

Why Go GLOBAL?

The Global Solutions Provider Advantage

When taking steps to install or upgrade your network infrastructure, the benefits of working with a global company with capabilities spanning continents are not always clear. At first glance, the offerings from smaller regional businesses can look attractive, meeting only the exact regional standards and requirements you need at the moment. The global manufacturing difference becomes more apparent depending on the complexity of the network architecture, the degree to which you consider a network as mission critical, and other future-facing challenges that global manufacturers are equipped to handle. From Day 2 network maintenance to infrastructure standardization and expansion across multinational business units, global manufacturers unlock easy, efficient network maintenance and scaling.

Going global sets your organization's network up for the long term, allowing you to maintain system stability, attain high performance across units' systems, and get the best return on your infrastructure investment.

How? Let's break it down.

Globalized solutions providers have refined their processes to produce a standardized, high-quality product across multiple facilities, with region-required variations produced and delivered efficiently. Global solutions allow multinational corporations to use the same foundational network infrastructure across business units, with the ability to quickly receive region-specific replacement components as needed.

LEVITON POLL

What fiber type would you be installing today to plan for future growth.

OM3 — 5%
OM4 — 20%
OM5 — 17%
OS2 — 58%
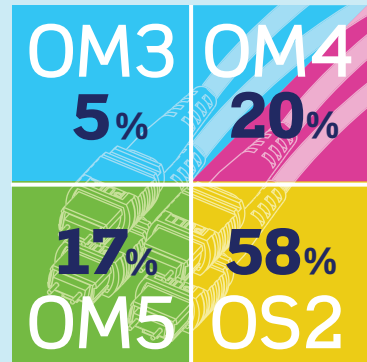
From a June 2024 Leviton poll of 170 network professionals.

Why Go Global? The Global Solutions Provider Advantage
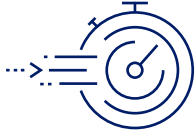
Global providers offer common spec components across international facilities, empowering you to rapidly transfer cables regardless of flame ratings to support key systems in a pinch. Basing system frameworks off of common spec components unlocks the minimum number of orders for maximum value; instead of placing orders for specifically-designed components that support various differentiated systems, you're placing one order for one framework.
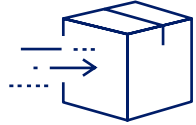
Global solutions providers also offer a built-in redundancy that alleviates supply chain concerns. Producing the same high-quality products across international lines empowers you to avoid bottlenecks and supply chain disruption by shipping from another facility. While project start dates may shift, finish dates rarely do; and this multinational network of built-in backups offers assurance that orders are delivered as promised.

Administering the same quality solutions on a multinational scale requires ironclad processes, time-tested over decades of consistent growth and refinement.

As a global network infrastructure provider with decades of experience, we know the industry, have processes that produce high-quality products, and have expanded over time to provide the same seamless service globally. We design and manufacture our products in house, and as a private company, we focus our efforts on investing in growth instead of reporting to shareholders. From order placement to fulfillment and support, you'll be working with the same company, beholden only to its commitments to quality, efficiency, and customer satisfaction.

Whether you're looking to upgrade a single unit's network or create a multinational system framework, Leviton Network Solutions has the experience, the capability, and the drive to make it happen – and deliver the best possible return on your infrastructure investment (ROii).

Interested in our global system offerings? Visit **leviton.com/opt-x** and **leviton.com/millennium** to learn more about our global fiber and copper systems.

What is Cat 6A FDT Shielded Cabling?
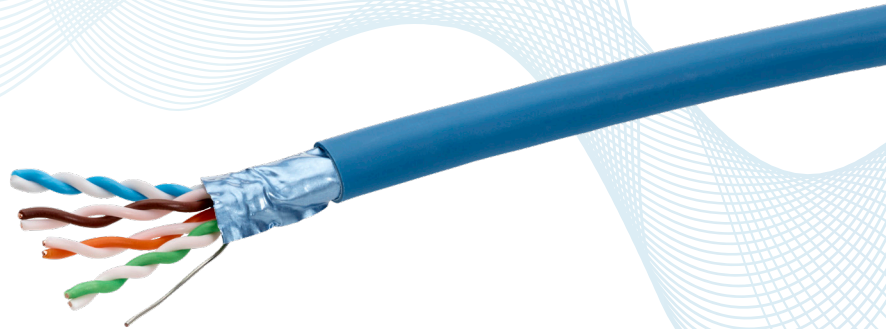
Leviton's new FDT Shielded System goes beyond prior Cat 6A options to add unprecedented value

What is an FDT cable, and how is it differentiated from other Cat 6A cabling? An all-new shielded cable that uses Leviton's Foil-reduced Diameter Technology (FDT) and proprietary Precision Twist Technology, FDT cabling is the smallest outside diameter F/UTP Cat 6A-rated cable on the market.

Our FDT cables:
- Are lighter and easier to store than other market options
- Provide alien crosstalk suppression and signal integrity protection
- Are available in worldwide fire safety ratings, including plenum, CPR, riser, and LSZH

At Leviton, we're dedicated to crafting solutions that maximize your return on infrastructure investment (ROii). **So how will our new FDT cabling solutions deliver greater ROii for you?**

- Fillerless design reduces termination time and jobsite waste
- Easy retrofits, as FDT cabling can easily reuse existing pathways
- Cost savings from using smaller trays and conduits in new builds
- Consistent, high-quality performance with a compact design
- Allow you to seamlessly scale network infrastructure

For a more in-depth look at our new Cat 6A FDT Shielded Cabling, visit leviton.com/fdt-cable.

Unlocking Net Zero:
Leviton's Journey to a Carbon Neutral 2030

In the fight against climate change, we know that every metric ton of carbon emissions matters. That's why Leviton has fully embraced the ambition of the Paris Agreement, aiming to reduce our carbon footprint across all facets of our operations.

We've formalized our commitment to sustainability with our CN2030 program, a commitment to action that informs our operations company-wide. Our CN2030 initiative sets milestones for all of our business units to hit carbon neutrality before 2030, and drives change through these key action categories:

CN2030
Carbon Neutral by 2030

- Reducing Carbon & Energy Consumption
- Product Innovation
- Minimizing Jobsite Waste
- Maximizing Recycling
- Water Stewardship

Last year, we took several steps to advance our goal of being carbon neutral across our business units by 2030. For three years, we have partnered with industry-leading consulting agency Sphera to independently track our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions against reduction targets; and we are proud to announce that the results align with (and in some ways, exceed) our goals!

- Company-wide **carbon emissions are down 29%** from our 2021 baseline
- **Network Solutions becomes the first business unit** to achieve carbon neutrality in 2023, with emissions down 55% from the 2021 baseline
- Two of our Lighting and Controls sites, JCC (UK) and our Portland, Oregon facility, have **achieved carbon neutrality seven years ahead of schedule**
- As a result of transitioning away from fossil fuels to nuclear-generated power, Leviton's New Holland, Pennsylvania factory **reduced their emissions by 5,646 tCO_2e** in 2023
- Company wide, we adopted an efficient forecasting and logistics program that **reduced our air freight emissions by more than 50%**; from 3,998 tCO_2e in 2022 to 1,702 tCO_2e in 2023

However promising these early results are, completing the CN2030 program is not the end of our commitment to sustainability – it's the beginning.

Attaining net zero status by 2050 is our north star, a goal that will bring us fully into accordance with the ideals of the Paris Agreement and empower us to contribute further to a sustainable future.

We intend to accomplish this by continuing to expand upon the ideas underlying our CN2030 program, as well as:

- Reducing job site waste with our Sustainably Smart Packaging
- Supporting our supply chain partners as they decarbonize
- Advancing global renewable energy products

As we proceed, we'll continue to release annual sustainability reports that expound upon our strategy and impact. For more on our accomplishments in 2023, our push for carbon neutrality in 2030, and our plans to attain net zero in 2050, download the **Leviton 2023 Sustainability Report**. We encourage you to follow our journey year-to-year, and consider how you too can contribute to a more sustainable future.


NEWS YOU CAN USE

INDUSTRY

Dell'Oro Group has noted a shift in data center switch market spending brought on by widespread adoption of AI and resultant back-end workload requirements. With these new networks accelerating transitions to higher speeds, **the majority of switch ports deployed in AI back-end networks are likely to be 800 Gbps by 2025 and 1.6 Tbps by 2027**

PRODUCT
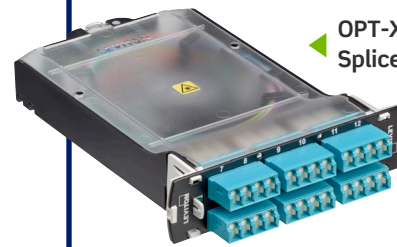
OPT-X™ SDX Splice Modules

SDX Shuttered LC Adapter Plates
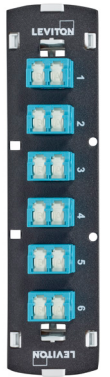
We've introduced new solutions for enterprise fiber networks. SDX Splice Modules eliminate the need for individual splice trays within a fiber enclosure and provide better organization and slack management of fibers. And SDX Shuttered LC Adapter Plates eliminate the need for dust plugs, reducing waste and speeding up deployment.

The new solutions are part of the OPT-X SDX Premises Fiber System, a globally available end-to-end system that includes Leviton premises distribution and loose tube fiber cable. Learn more at **Leviton.com/SDX**.

YESTERDAY'S NEWS

1988 – About 40 years ago, the Electronics Industry Association (EIA) merged with the US Telecom Suppliers Association (USTSA), founding the Telecommunications Industry Assocation (TIA). This merger was done with the goal of establishing standards for fiber optics.
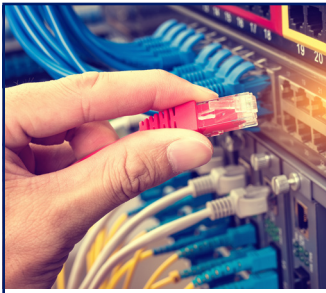
TECH TIPS
Identifying Counterfeit Cable

Counterfeit cables are a growing problem in the global marketplace for networking solutions. It is important to avoid the traps set by low-end manufacturers and sellers who present deceptive products. Counterfeit and non-compliant cable can result in a variety of risks, including costly repairs, legal issues, property damage, and even loss of life. But how can you equip yourself to recognize the signs of counterfeit and non-compliant cable?

The bottom line: if the price seems too good to be true, it probably is. Sellers of counterfeit cables are relying on the attractiveness of the low price to dupe buyers into a path they will later regret. But abnormally-low pricing isn't the only major signifier of a sellers' illegitimacy, so you'll need to keep an eye out for these common tells:

8 Ways To Recognize Counterfeit/Non-Compliant Cables

1. Very low price, well below market norms

2. Low performance materials substituted for jacket and insulation

3. Poor printing and typographical errors

4. Lighter weight: boxes of cable with copper-clad aluminum weigh considerably less than solid copper cable

5. No spec sheet available

6. Private-labeled, unfamiliar brands from offshore manufacturers

7. Supplied only through website or local storefront distributors

8. No information on factory location or country of origin

Leviton joins with the many other members of the CCCA in committing to provide quality solutions. We encourage buyers to be careful and buy from reliable brands and distributors to assure long-term reliability of their networks. The CCCA offers a free app to help identify non-compliant and counterfeit data cable. If you find yourself questioning whether a cable is counterfeit, use the CCCA CableCheck mobile app or go to **cccassoc.org** for help.

ASK THE EXPERTS
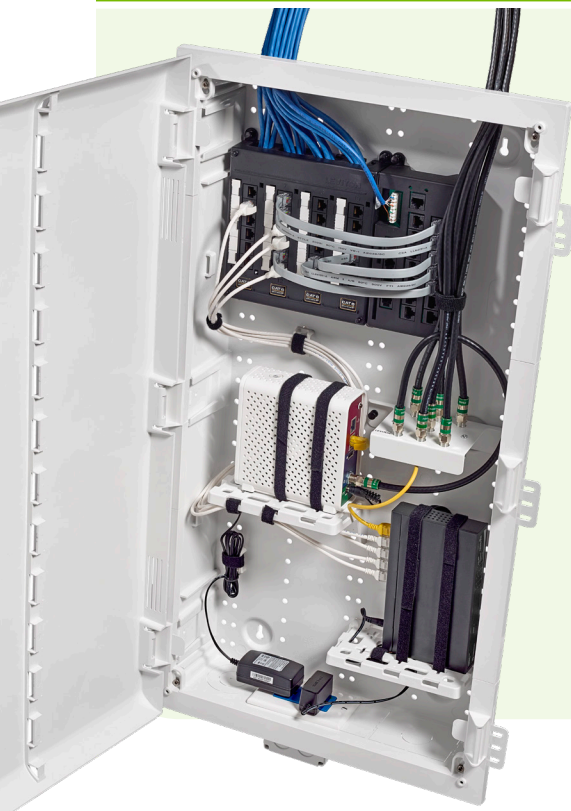
Q: How do I fit everything in my STRUCTURED MEDIA™ Center?

A: Arrange components within the STRUCTURED MEDIA Center (SMC) horizontally or vertically as space allows; the choice of connected devices will often determine component placement. Here are a few guidelines we recommend following when planning for and setting up the SMC for the first time:

- Select the ideal SMC size based on the application, consider larger or dual SMC installations
- Install the most cable-intense components at the top of the SMC
- Device placement should allow for easy looping of cables, avoiding sharp angles and maintaining cable minimum bend radius
- Always install the AC Power Module at the bottom of the SMC
- Take time to organize when wiring the SMC, a clear and precise layout will make future changes easy

If you have further questions, such as how to install home cabling or the Leviton SMC, check out our **Residential Installer Guide**!

Questions? Comments? Ideas?

We want to hear from you! Email: crosstalk@leviton.com