

Clearfield® FastPass™ Approach Puts Time on Your Side with In-Cassette Splicing as FDH Deployments Accelerate

Innovative FastPass Fiber Distribution system cuts install time required for homes passed by 50 percent

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- <u>Clearfield, Inc.</u> (NASDAQ:CLFD), the specialist in fiber management for communication service providers, today announced the FastPass™ approach using <u>in-cassette splicing</u>. Community broadband operators can reap significant benefits in ramping Homes Passed deployment plans based on market demand and competitive market forces. The <u>FastPass approach utilizing in-cassette splicing</u> significantly reduces Fiber Distribution Hub (FDH) cabinet costs and speeds installation times allowing for double the number of fiber homes passed in the same amount of time versus legacy install methods. These time savings benefit any operator required to meet strict deployment deadline requirements associated with federal and state broadband funding programs.

"The need to reduce the time required for fiber homes passed is becoming mission critical for broadband providers across the country," said Jeff Heynen, Vice President, Broadband Access and Home Networking at Dell'Oro Group. "Fiber deployments are a land grab right now and whoever gets to the consumer first wins. Clearfield's FastPass approach challenges the status quo of FDH cabinet installation methods and provides a way for broadband operators to jump to the front of the line for their customers."

"As fiber broadband deployments rise with federal infrastructure funding, the ability to deploy fiber faster, and at a lower cost, is a clear competitive advantage for any operator," said Kevin Morgan, Chief Marketing Officer at Clearfield. "Industry observers predict more homes will be passed with fiber in the next five years than has been deployed to date, and Clearfield is committed to helping our customers deploy fiber first as they enter new markets, start new builds, and look to close the digital divide for everyone."

Splicing within the Clearview Cassette is unique: the splicing function is not performed on a separate splice tray but is contained on the cassette itself. The cassette can be easily removed from the cabinet and travel whatever distance is required to reach the splice trailer. The splicing operation remains the same, it's just performed on the cassette rather than on a separate tray. This eliminates the need for the cable stub, splice trays, the splice closure and the vault needed to store the splice closure and cable stub slack, saving more than \$1,000 per FDH cabinet deployed.

Clearfield is hosting an ISE webinar, "It's Just a Matter of Time: How to Maximize your FDH Deployment Savings Using Clearfield's FastPass™ Approach," on April 20, 2022, at 1:00 pm CST. To register, please visit: ISE Webinar: It is just a matter of time: How to maximize your FDH deployment savings using Clearfield's FastPass™ approach (isemag.com)

More information on Clearfield's FastPass™ is available at www.SeeClearfield.com.

About Clearfield, Inc.

Clearfield, Inc. (NASDAQ: CLFD) designs, manufactures, and distributes fiber optic management, protection, and delivery products for communications networks. Our "fiber to anywhere" platform serves the unique requirements of leading incumbent local exchange carriers (traditional carriers), competitive local exchange carriers (alternative carriers), and MSO/cable TV companies, while also catering to the broadband needs of the utility/municipality, enterprise, data center and military markets. Headquartered in Minneapolis, MN, Clearfield deploys more than a million fiber ports each year. For more information, visit www.SeeClearfield.com.

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