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LocalTalk: Description of Cable System Hardware

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Overview

The cables and connectors in the LocalTalk Cable System incorporate a locking mini-3 (AppleTalk) connector. The connector assembly has a small latching pin as part of the male connector shield sleeve that mates to a receptacle in the female connector housing. Insertion of the connector latches the pin; the male connector sleeve must be pulled back to extract the pin, freeing the connector. The latching connector is engineered to have a shear pull force of no less than 6 pounds, preventing the accidental loosening of the connectors.

Compatibility

The cables are compatible with earlier connectors, except that there is no latching action if any old-to-new connection is made (either new male to old female, or new female to old male).

Custom Cable Assembly

Because of the added complexity of the new connector assembly, customers are not required to construct the actual connector as before. Instead, the new cable assembly will consist of simply splicing cables together with a new "splice box".

1. The user will take a short 6- to 8-inch cable section (which has a latching connector on one end and the wires stripped in "pig-tail" fashion in the other) and place the stripped end into the splice box housing.
2. The next step is to strip the end of the plenum cable and place it in the other side of the splice box.
3. Closing the box forces the wires between two insulation displacement fasteners, making a wire-to-wire connection and at the same time ensuring

a positive cable shield attachment, acting as a secure strain relief.

Cable/Connector Kits

LocalTalk Locking Cable Kit-10 meter

LocalTalk Locking Connector Kit-din8

LocalTalk Locking Connector Kit-DB9

LocalTalk Locking Cable Kit-25 meter

AppleTalk Custom Wiring Kit: Includes 100 meters (300 feet) of plenum cable, 26 cable and connector assemblies, and 4 cable extenders.

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