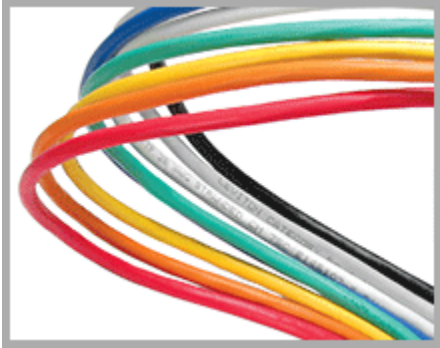


## What Happens When Indoor-Rated Cable Gets Wet?

Indoor-rated communications cable is constructed to operate in dry conditions. Where wet conditions exist (or may plausibly be expected to exist at a future date) industry codes and standards require the installation of outside plant (OSP) or indoor/outdoor-rated cables. When indoor-rated cable becomes wet, you should consider it permanently damaged and remove it from the site. Wet cable cannot be dried out. Water permeates the jacket material and permanently affects the data transmission characteristics of the cable.



Water damage to fiber optic cables results in high attenuation, and degradation of the data signal. In copper cables, the initial indication of water damage is also high attenuation, but the cable quickly degrades further, resulting in eventual near-end crosstalk (NEXT) and Return Loss (RL) failures, rendering the cable completely useless for data communications.

Water damage applies to **COPPER** cables with the following jacket markings:

CMX	CM	CMP	FT4
CMG	CMR	FT1	FT6

Water damage applies to **FIBER OPTIC** cables with the following jacket markings:

OFC	OFN	OFNR	OFNP	FT4
OFNG	OFNR	OFNP	OFNP	FT6

Resource:

[http://www.leviton.com/OA\\_HTML/SectionDisplay.jsp?section=61619&minisite=10251](http://www.leviton.com/OA_HTML/SectionDisplay.jsp?section=61619&minisite=10251)