HD Flex Fiber Cabling System – FAQ

What is a split tray?

With all other high-density fiber enclosures, the trays that house the cassettes span the entire width of the enclosure. When fully populated, the trays are difficult to slide in and out when trying to make changes. On top of that, it is likely that moving the tray will cause network traffic on the adjacent fibers to be disrupted.

The HD Flex Fiber Cabling System uses a split tray.
This is a tray that spans only one half of the width of the enclosure. Even when fully populated, the split tray is easy to access and helps eliminate disruption of adjacent links. Split trays also support A/B redundant links, or support a multimode deployment on one side and a singlemode deployment on the other.

If you prefer to use trays that span the full width of the enclosure, Panduit does provide an install clip that locks the split trays together.

What is a HD Flex patch panel?

A HD Flex patch panel is a more than a typical patch panel. It more closely resembles a HD Flex enclosure but it does not have moveable trays or integrated cable management. HD Flex patch panels are best used in applications that are fairly static, for example, a patch field at the top of a cabinet in top-of-rack architectures.

How many fibers can HD Flex enclosures and patch panels support?

Please see the table below. A FAP is a Fiber Adapter Panel.

	Enclosure Height		
	1 RU	2 RU	4 RU
12-fiber MPO to 6 Duplex LC	144	288	576
6 port 12-fiber MPO FAP	384	768	3,456

Can one use HD Flex components with Opticom™ components?

Components from the HD Flex Fiber Optic Cabling System and the Opticom system are not directly interoperable. However, for legacy applications, a conversion bracket is available that allows using 6-port HD Flex cassettes in certain Opticom enclosures.

What is a *12-port cassette*?

A typical high-density cassette has 6 duplex LC ports across the front. A 12-port cassette, doubles the number of duplex LC ports making the cassette twice as wide as a typical cassette. A 12-port cassette is more efficient when supporting 40G/100G breakout applications and with re-using dark fiber when deploying networks with parallel optics.

What is *convertibility*?

The HD Flex Fiber Cabling System is capable of supporting either, or both, 6-port cassettes and 12-port cassettes. This is accomplished by either removing, or inserting, a removable center rail resides in the middle of the split try. With the center rail installed, the split tray accommodates two, 6-port cassettes. With the center rail removed, the split tray accommodates 0ne, 12-port cassette.

Center Rail
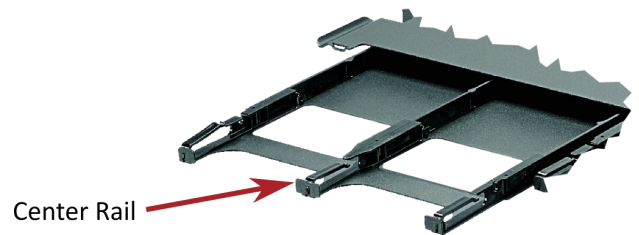
Can the HD Flex Fiber Cabling System support field termination, or is it for pre-terminated installations?

The HD Flex Fiber Cabling System supports both pre-terminated and field-terminated deployments. On the right is an example of the splice cassette which supports field fusion splicing.
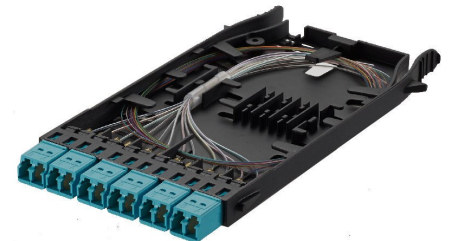
Is special overhead cable raceways needed?

No. The HD Flex Fiber Cabling system can be used with any raceway, cable pathway, or cable managers.

How do you support labeling?

The inside of the doors on the front of both the enclosures and patch the optional front cable managers used with the panels are silkscreened with white rectangular-like areas. The rectangular-like areas are delineated to accommodate both 6-port and 12-port cassettes. One can use their favorite method to print labels that can be affixed to the panel or one can write directly on the white rectangles. Panduit offers labels and labeling software.

What is meant by a *flip-able* cassette?

When deploying a fiber network using Method B, there must be an array flip somewhere in the system. This means, that somewhere in the permanent infrastructure, the signal being carried by fiber 1 at the start of the link is moved to the location of fiber 12; fiber 2 is moved to fiber 11, and so on.

To make this easy, the HD Flex's Method B cassette is flip-able, meaning at one end of the link, it is installed in the "END 1" position and a the other end of the link, it is installed in the "END 2" position. This is done by installing the Method B cassette right-side up, or upside down. There is only one part number for both types of Method B cassettes.

This is not required for Method A cassettes.

Does the HD Flex system only support the PanMPO multi-fiber connector?

Non-PanMPO connectors can be used with the HD Flex Fiber Cabling System. However, the PanMPO is the best parallel fiber connector at offering revolutionary features such as the ability to easily and quickly change gender and polarity.

When is the HD Flex Fiber Cabling System available?

The HD Flex Fiber Cabling System is in production. Please contact your local Panduit distributer for delivery.

How can I get a sample?

Contact your local Panduit sales representative or distributor. The one nearest to you can be found on our web site, www.panduit.com.