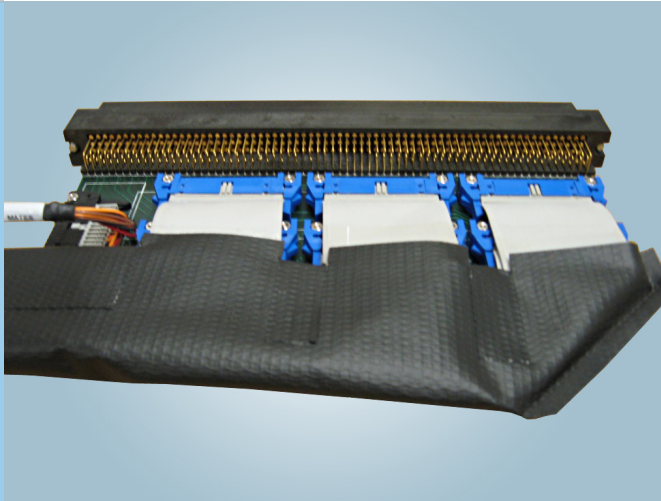




Cable Management



Product:

Custom Z-Wrap® Covers

Problem:

An equipment manufacture experienced flat ribbon cable abrasion within electronics racks when large circuit card connectors were installed and removed. Connector spacing was extremely tight and the thick ribbon cables that were folded back onto itself to facilitate a directional change were being chaffed. An extremely thin, sacrificial, protective cover was needed to eliminate the cable damage. The solution was required to protect new assemblies as well as be a retrofit to in-service units in the field. The problem was further complicated by the fact that the ribbon cable stack branched into three cable groups that turned 90° degrees as it entered the circuit card mating area and the jacket had to be a one-piece design.

Solution:

A custom die cut variant of a Zippertubing standard product (Z-Wrap®) was developed to create a one piece, wrap around, adhesive closed jacket that fit the triad breakout configuration and could be installed after the ribbon cables were terminated to the circuit board with no tooling. The product used was a very thin (.010" thick), yet rugged PVC impregnated Polyester fabric material with a special plasticizer resistant transfer adhesive applied at all overlap flap areas. The customer simply wrapped the product around his cables, peeled back the adhesive release liners and stuck the overlap flaps in place. The adhesive closure offered a very flexible, low profile closure that could be adjusted as required to create a snug fitting protective jacket. The customized breakout jacket was used in conjunction with standard Z-Wrap® jacketing to protect the entire ribbon cable stack as it meandered throughout the rack assembly.

Material:

A customized end fitting version of Zippertubing's Z-Wrap® along with standard straight run Z-Wrap® jacketing. Z-Wrap® is a .010" thick PVC impregnated Polyester fabric using a special plasticizer resistant transfer adhesive closure. It's designed to be an inexpensive, lightweight and thin jacketing for cable management and minor abrasion problems.

Conclusion:

Zippertubing's diverse standard product line and willingness to create customized variants solved this customer's complex problem in a very short period of time and in a cost effective way.