

Dark Fiber

What is Dark Fiber?

Dark fiber refers to optical fiber infrastructure that is currently in place but unused or unlit. The diameter of a human hair, optical fiber strands transport information (data) in the form of light pulses. The “dark” reference in dark fiber means that no electronics are currently installed and, therefore, light pulses are not being transmitted over that fiber.

When constructing fiber networks, service providers typically install more fiber strands than what is initially required in order to future-proof their network investment. They can then lease excess dark fiber strands to companies or other service providers so that they can create their own, privately-operated optical fiber networks.

Dark fiber networks can be configured in multiple ways, including dark fiber rings, point-to-point or point-to-multipoint connections. Dark fiber provides high levels of performance, a highly secure network and virtually unlimited bandwidth.

Why Dark Fiber?

- Dark Fiber is an ideal solution for organizations that have high capacity bandwidth needs and in-house expertise to manage it.
- Dark fiber supports companies that are growing quickly and need to rapidly scale bandwidth.
- When bandwidth upgrades are needed, companies can change out interfaces without the need to coordinate with a service provider or fret the term liability on a leased circuit.

FirstLight’s Dark Fiber solution offers:

- Secure, scalable, fully dedicated private physical network infrastructure
- Flexibility – adheres to changing bandwidth needs to grow network capacity
- Cost savings and predictability; predictable monthly costs, low incremental costs per bit
- Customization – Implement the dark fiber network that best meets your organization’s needs
- Strong Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for performance, availability and restoration timeframes

