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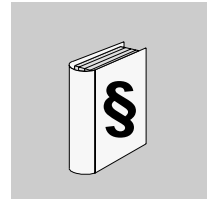


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Safety Information



Important Information

NOTICE

Read these instructions carefully, and look at the equipment to become familiar with the device before trying to install, operate, or maintain it. The following special messages may appear throughout this documentation or on the equipment to warn of potential hazards or to call attention to information that clarifies or simplifies a procedure.



The addition of this symbol to a Danger or Warning safety label indicates that an electrical hazard exists, which will result in personal injury if the instructions are not followed.



This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

DANGER

DANGER indicates an imminently hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, **will result** in death or serious injury.

WARNING

WARNING indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, **can result** in death, serious injury, or equipment damage.

 **CAUTION**

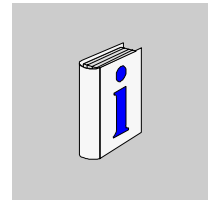
CAUTION indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, **can result** in injury or equipment damage.

PLEASE NOTE

Electrical equipment should be installed, operated, serviced, and maintained only by qualified personnel. No responsibility is assumed by Schneider Electric for any consequences arising out of the use of this material.

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About the Book



At a Glance

Document Scope This manual is intended for the design engineer, cable system installer and network manager involved with a Modicon Remote I/O (RIO) network. The manual describes:

- design, installation, test, and maintenance procedures for the RIO network
- required media hardware—e.g., cables, taps, connectors, fiber optic options, tools—and approved optional hardware for special situations and environments
- RIO communication processing devices used with the Quantum Automation Series CPUs and the 984 family of PLCs
- recommended installation and maintenance tests for the RIO network

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Remote I/O Networks—A Communications Overview



At a Glance

Overview

This chapter provides an overview of remote I/O (RIO) networks.

What's in this Chapter?

This chapter contains the following topics:

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RIO Network Communications

Overview

Modicon's RIO network is a high speed (1.544 Mbit/s) local area network (LAN) that uses commercially available coaxial cable and CATV media technology. RIO supports:

- Discrete and register data to input and output module communications
 - ASCII message transmissions to and from certain RIO drop adapters
-

Data Transfer Consistency

PLCs service their drop adapters at the beginning and end of logic segments when Ladder programming is used, or, for IEC, before and after all sections have been executed. Most data transfers between head and remote drop take less than 1 ms. A CRC 16 message frame check assures that RIO messages will arrive reliably and completely error-checked at the proper destination node.

How Messages are Transmitted

A message initiated by the RIO head processor travels along the network's cable system and is received by all RIO adapters. The RIO adapter with the address specified in the message can then transmit a response message back to the RIO head within a specific time period. If the drop adapter does not respond, the same message is sent again. The process of resending the message after no response is called a *retry*.

If the adapter does not respond to several retries, the drop is declared dead. On each successive scan of the PLC, the RIO head attempts to re-establish communications with the adapter—only one attempt per scan will be made to communicate with a dead drop until the adapter is successfully brought back up.

Predictable Speeds for Time-critical Applications

As a high speed LAN, RIO must support applications that are very time-critical. In this respect, RIO has several advantages over other proprietary PLC communication methods. These advantages include:

- HDLC protocol implementation makes the RIO data transfer speed very predictable
 - The PLC services each node using a consistent communications method—the I/O drops are always updated in a determinate time period that can be calculated based on the number of segments or sections in the user logic program
 - Only one node transmits at a given time, so message collisions do not occur—each node is able to transmit on the network in a determinate time period
 - RIO has high data integrity due to the frame check sequence and error checking at the physical protocol layer
-

Processing Nodes on the RIO Network

Overview

The RIO network supports communications between a PLC and one or more drops of I/O modules dispersed throughout your local area—e.g., your manufacturing or processing facility. All messages on the RIO network are initiated by a master node called the *RIO head* or *processor*. All other nodes on the network communicate with the RIO head via *RIO adapters* located at the drops. The network is proprietary, and Schneider Electric processing nodes must be used throughout the RIO network.

RIO Processors

RIO is fundamentally a single-master network, and the RIO processor is the master node. The RIO processor is located at the PLC at the head-end of the RIO network. Depending on the type of PLC you are using, the RIO processor can be implemented in hardware as an option module that mounts beside the PLC or as a board built into the PLC.

PLC Type	RIO Processor	Dynamic Range	Max. RIO Drops
984A	S908 chassis module	35 dB	32
984B	S908 chassis module	35 dB	32
984X	On the S929 Processor	35 dB	6
AT-984	On host-based PLC card	32 dB	6
MC-984	On host-based PLC card	32 dB	6
Q-984	On host-based PLC card	32 dB	6
984-485E/K	S908 slot mount module	35 dB	6
984-685E	S908 slot mount module with AS-E908-016 Executive	35 dB	15
	S908 slot mount module with AS-E908-131 Executive	35 dB	31
984-785E/K/D	S908 slot mount module with AS-E908-016 Executive	35 dB	15
	S908 slot mount module with AS-E908-131 Executive	35 dB	31
Quantum	140CRP931 or 140CRP932 Quantum module	35 dB	31

RIO Adapters An adapter module resides at each remote drop on the RIO network. The type of adapter used depends on:

- the type of RIO processor at the head-end of the network
- the series of I/O modules at the drop
- whether or not ASCII devices are being supported at the drop
- whether the drop adapter will support one or two RIO cables

Drop Adapter	Head Processor	I/O at the Drop	ASCII Ports	RIO Cable Ports
140CRA93100	140CRP93100	Quantum	N/A	1
140CRA93200	140CRP93200	Quantum	N/A	2
AS-J890-001/101	S908 or CRP93X	800	0	1
AS-J890-002/102	S908 or CRP93X	800	0	2
AS-J892-001/101	S908 or CRP93X	800	2	1
AS-J892-002/102	S908 or CRP93X	800	2	2
AS-P890-000	S908 or CRP93X	800	0	1
ASP890300	S908 or CRP93X	800	2	2
AS-P892-000	S908 or CRP93X	800	2	1

Field Adapter Kits Field adapter kits are also available to convert the P451 and most P453 adapters to the S908 RIO protocol. This conversion allows the Quantum CPUs, the 984 controllers, and the host-based CPUs to support installed drops of 200 Series I/O.

Kit	New RIO Adapter	RIO Ports	ASCII Ports	Power Supply
AS-J290-010	AS-P453-581	1	0	50 Hz
	AS-P453-681	1	0	60 Hz
	AS-P453-582	1	2	50 Hz
	AS-P453-682	1	2	60 Hz
AS-J290-020	AS-P453-591	2	0	50 Hz
	AS-P453-691	2	0	60 Hz
	AS-P453-592	2	2	50 Hz
	AS-P453-692	2	2	60 Hz
AS-J291-010	AS-P451-581	1	0	50 Hz
	AS-P451-681	1	0	60 Hz

RIO Drop Addressing

Overview

Each RIO drop adapter on the network must be assigned a unique address number. The RIO processor uses this *drop address* to send I/O module data or ASCII message data to the proper adapter. The physical location of an adapter on the network has no bearing on its address or on the data throughput, making the RIO network a true bus architecture.

Setting Drop Addresses

RIO drop adapters have switches on them that are used to set the unique RIO drop addresses and ASCII port addresses (if ASCII devices are supported at the drops). DIP switches are used on the 984 type adapters, and rotary switches are used on Quantum adapters. Consult the hardware documentation for location of the switches and appropriate settings.

RIO Network Cable System

Overview	The RIO processor at the controller head-end is connected to an adapter at each of the remote drops via a network cable system.
Trunk Cable	Starting at the RIO processor and running the entire length of the network are one (linear) or two (dual or redundant) <i>trunk</i> cable(s). Taps are installed along the length of the trunk cable(s), and a drop cable is run from a tap to a drop adapter. The trunk cable may be an approved flexible or semirigid coaxial type. See <i>RIO Network Hardware Components</i> , p. 67 for more details.
Taps	The taps connect the drop adapter at each drop to the trunk cable via a drop cable, providing each adapter with a portion of the signal that is on the trunk. The taps also isolate each drop adapter from all other drop adapters on the network so that they won't interfere with each other.
Drop Cable	Extending from a tap to an adapter is a drop cable. The drop cable connects to the tap with an F connector, and it connects to the adapter with either an F connector or a BNC connector, depending on the type of RIO adapter at the drop (see <i>Planning RIO Drops</i> , p. 61). The drop cable may be an approved coaxial type, as specified in <i>RIO Network Hardware Components</i> , p. 67.
Splitters	Splitters are used to create a branch in the network cable trunk. They provide isolation between the branches and allow the cable to be laid out in two directions. One trunk splitter is allowed in a network. Hot Standby systems are allowed a second splitter to connect the two RIO heads.

Terminating the Cable System

A proper impedance match is maintained across the network with 75 Ω terminators. You must install a 75 Ω terminator:

- in the unused trunk port of the last tap on the network to terminate the trunk cable
- in any open drop cable ports on taps that have been installed for future system expansion
- in-line on cables running from the primary and standby controllers to the splitter in a Hot Standby system; this allows you to disconnect one of the two Hot Standby controllers while the other one maintains primary control

Terminators are present inside most drop adapters to automatically terminate each drop connection—the exceptions are some older J890/J892 Adapters and the 410 and 3240 Motion Control products:

RIO Adapters that Do Not Have Internal Termination	
RIO Drop Adapters	
AS-J890-001	AS-J892-001
AS-J890-002	AS-J890-002
410 Motion Controllers	
110-230	110-231
110-232	110-233
3240 Motion Controllers	
100-265-815	
100-265-816	
100-265-825	

The devices listed above require an in-line terminator (part number 60-0513-000) installed in the drop cable.

Note: The J890/J892-10x Adapters contain internal termination.

When a drop cable without in-line termination gets disconnected from an adapter while the network is running, the possibility of network errors and data transfer delays is introduced. When internally terminated adapters are installed, you may want to consider designing mechanical self-termination into your drop cables, particularly if a time-critical application is being run on the network. For more details on this and other aspects of cable system termination, see *Tap Connections and Locations, p. 48*.

RIO Network Node Part Number Summary

RIO Devices The following table shows RIO device types.

RIO Device Type		One RIO Port	Two RIO Ports
Head Processor	in a 16K 984A chassis (standard)	Px-984A-816*	
	in a 32K 984A chassis (standard)	Px-984A-832*	Px-984A-932*
	in a 32K 984B chassis (standard)	Px-984B-832*	Px-984B-932*
	in a 64K 984B chassis (standard)	Px-984B-864*	Px-984B-964*
	in a 128K 984B chassis (standard)	Px-984B-828*	Px-984B-928*
	in a 984X chassis (standard)	S929-001	
	on an AT-984 (standard)	AM-0984-AT0	
	on an MC-984 (standard)	AM-0984-MC0	
	on a Q984 for MicroVAX II (standard)	AM-0984-Q20	
	on a 984-485E (standard)	PC-E984-485	
	on a 984-48K (standard)	PC-K984-485	
	option module for 984-685E and 984-785E/K/D	AS-S908-110	
	option module for Quantum all CPUs	140CRP93100	140CRP93200
Drop Adapter	for 800 Series I/O	AS-J890-101 ASP890300	AS-J890-102 ASP890300
	for 800 Series I/O with two ASCII ports	AS-J892-101 ASP890300	AS-J892-102 ASP890300
	for 800 Series I/O with built-in P/S	AS-P890-000 ASP890300	ASP890300
	for 800 Series I/O with two ASCII ports, built in P/S	ASP890300	ASP890300
	for 800 Series I/O with ASCII, built in P/S	AS-P892-000 ASP890300	ASP890300
	J291 conversion for 200 Series I/O	AS-P451-581/-681	
	J290 conversion for 200 Series I/O with ASCII without ASCII	AS-P453-582/-682 AS-P453-581/-681	AS-P453-592/-692 AS-P453-591/-691
	for Quantum I/O	140CRA93100	140CRA93200

*These part numbers are for the entire chassis mount PLC system, including the chassis itself; x = 1 for a four-card chassis; and x = 5 for a seven-card chassis.

Planning and Designing an RIO Cable System

2

At a Glance

Overview

This chapter provides information on planning and designing an RIO cable system.

What's in this Chapter?

This chapter contains the following topics:

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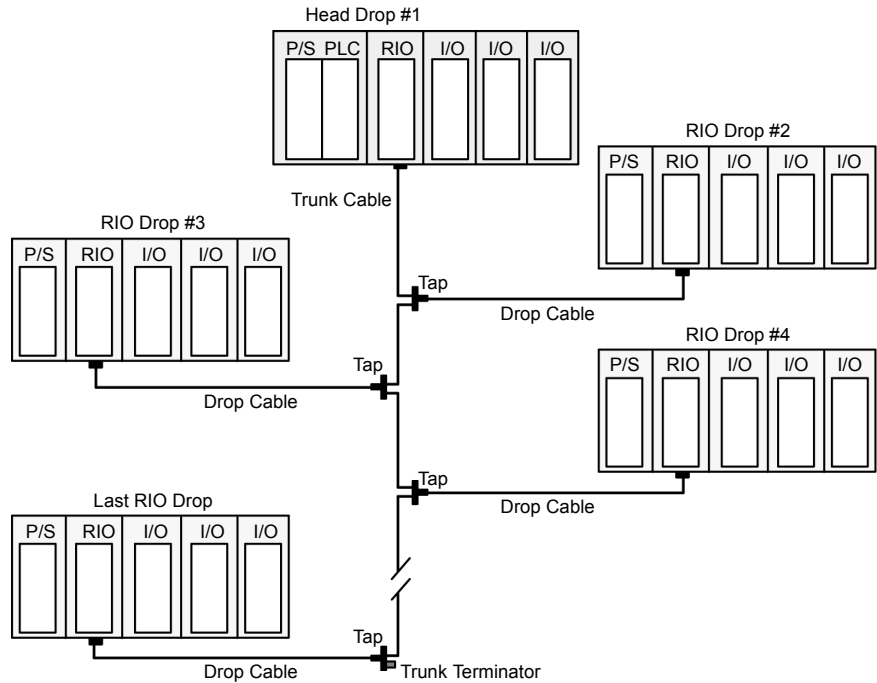
Linear Cable Topologies

Overview

There are many possible topologies that may be used for RIO networks. The most common RIO networks use one or two coaxial trunk cables with taps that connect via coaxial drop cables to a series of remote I/O drops. At the head-end of a trunk cable is the PLC with an RIO processor, and at each remote drop is an RIO adapter. These topologies are linear—they do not use any branches or loops in the cable layouts.

Standard Single-cable RIO Cable Systems

A single-cable linear topology, as shown in the following illustration, is the simplest and most commonly used RIO cable system:

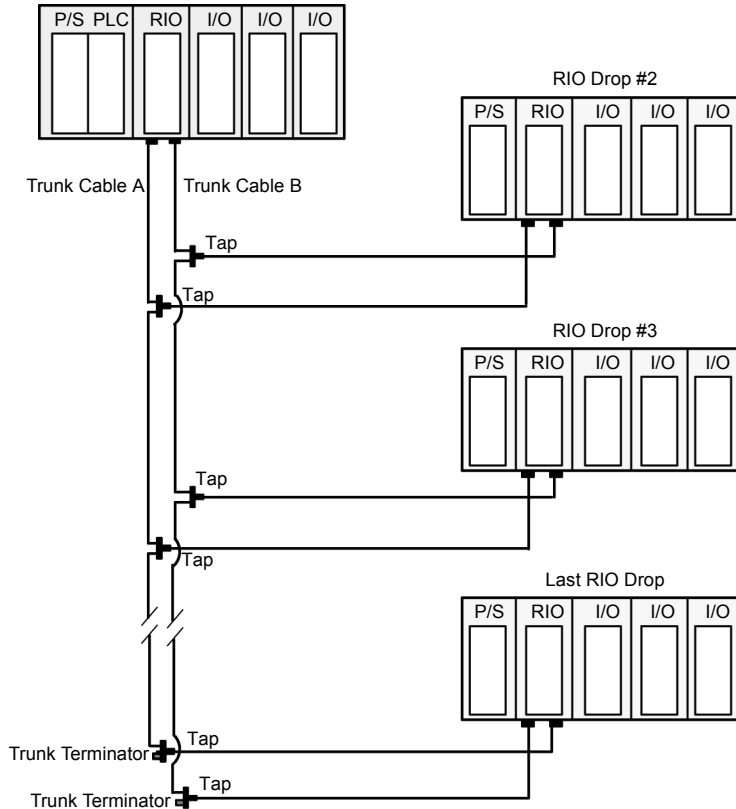


Note: Because this example uses local I/O at the head, the first remote drop in the network is I/O mapped as drop #2. If the PLC you are using does not support local I/O—e.g., the 984A/B PLCs—then the first drop in the RIO network can be mapped as drop #1.

Note: Quantums use drop #1 for local I/O. When upgrading from a 984A, B, or X PLC to a Quantum Automation Series PLC, the first drop in the RIO network will need to be changed to a drop number other than #1.

Redundant RIO Cable Systems

If both the head processor and the drop adapters have two cable ports, then redundant linear cables can be run. A redundant topology provides two parallel paths to the same remote I/O drops. It allows you to increase the communications integrity on an RIO network, allowing the network to operate even when one cable system is damaged or malfunctioning.

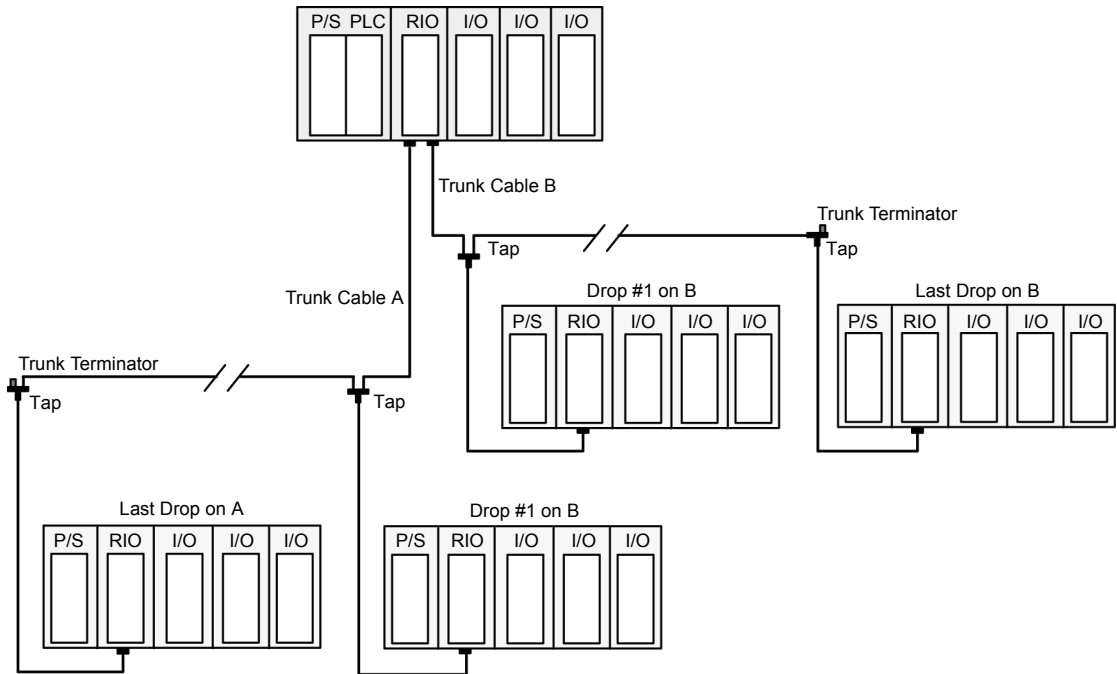


The two cables are treated as two separate networks, and each cable is an independent system running from the same RIO processor node to the same remote I/O drops. If a break occurs in cable A or cable B, an LED goes ON at the RIO head processor. The condition is also logged in words 179 ... 277 of the status table: these status words can be accessed via the STAT instruction (see *Modicon Ladder Logic Block Library User Guide*, 840 USE 101 00).

A redundant cable topology requires two RIO cable ports on the RIO processor and on all the RIO drop adapters.

Dual Cable Systems

If your RIO processor has two cable ports, then two linear cables can be run along separate routes to different sets of remote drops. A dual cable system can be used to extend the total length of the cable system. This topology allows you to use the full dynamic range in both directions, thus allowing the cable system's total length to be extended. This topology requires a dual cable port at the RIO processor and a single cable port at each of the RIO drop adapters.



The lengths of the trunk cables and the number of drops from each do not need to be balanced in a dual cable system. In most respects, the two lines can be installed as if they were two independent cable systems, with two special considerations:

- The total number of drops on both lines must not exceed the maximum number of drops supported by the PLC

- Each drop on the two trunks must have a unique RIO network address

Note: RIO statistics using the STAT block will not provide the true status of each drop because the drops will only be attached to one of the two RIO ports at the head processor. Also, an error LED will be ON at the RIO processor.

Note:

- The maximum length of the trunk cable is determined by the specified attenuation of the cable type and the number of other cable hardware components along the network
- The minimum length permitted for a drop cable is 8.5 ft. (2.6 m)—a shorter drop cable can create tap reflections that can cause errors in the drop adapter
- the maximum coaxial drop cable length is 164 ft. (50 m)—it can be expanded with a fiber optic link
- A minimum spacing of 8.5 ft. (2.6 m) must be maintained between taps. Each unused port in a tap needs to be terminated with a Modicon 52-0402-000 Tap Port Terminator.

Part Numbers

Part numbers for basic components and tools that may be used in linear topology coaxial cable networks are listed here to familiarize readers. Specific trunk and drop cable selection is determined using information contained in this guide. Semirigid cable components are not listed.

Description	Part Number
RG-6 Coaxial Cable	97-5750-000 (1000 ft)
RG-6 F Connector	MA-0329-001 (cassette/10)
RG-6 Cable Stripper	490RIO00400
RG-6 Connector Crimper	60-0544-000
RG-6 Cable Cutter	60-0558-000
RG-11 Coaxial Cable	97-5951-000 (1000 ft)
RG-11 F Connector	490RIO00211 (package/6)
RG-11 Cable Stripper	490RIO0S411
RG-11 Connector Compression Tool	490RIO0C411
RG-11 Cable Cutter	60-0558-000
Tap	MA-0185-100
Trunk Terminator	52-0422-000
Unused Tap Port Terminator	52-0402-000

Hot Standby Cable Topologies

Overview

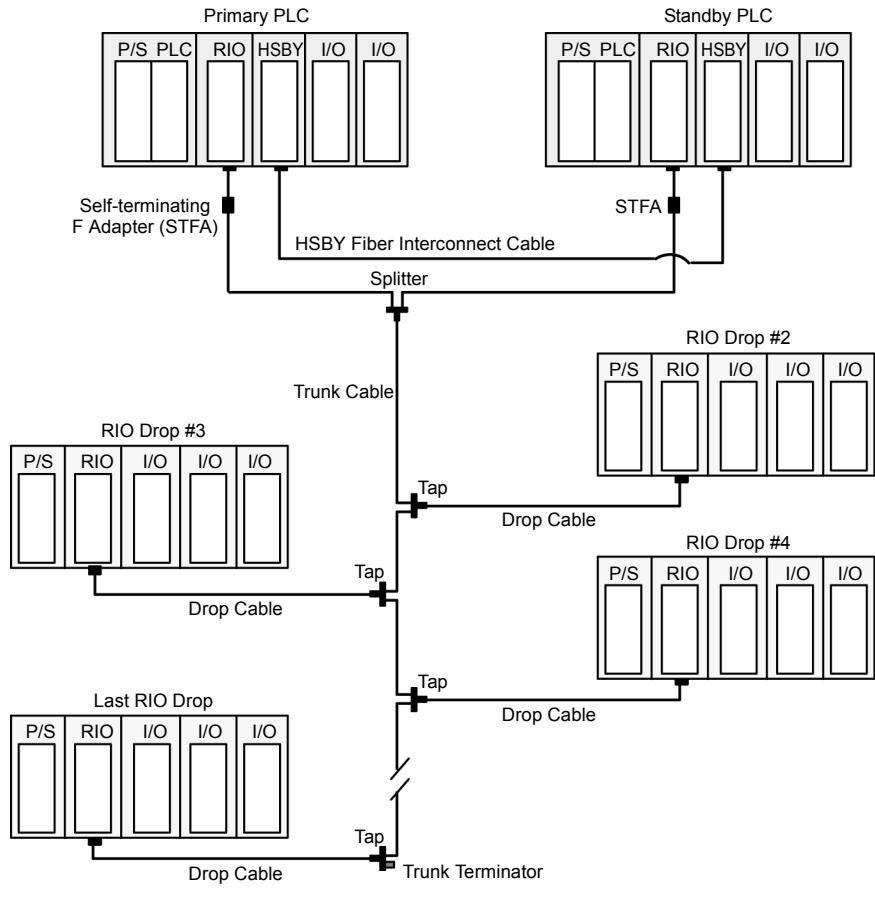
A Hot Standby (HSBY) system is comprised of two identically configured PLCs with RIO processors and HSBY modules. The RIO heads are connected via an MA-0186-X00 splitter so that either can support the same cable system. One of the PLCs acts as the **primary** controller that communicates with the RIO network. The other PLC is the **standby** controller that maintains current state data updated from the primary controller via the HSBY module. In the event of a primary PLC failure, control responsibilities are switched over to the standby device.

Related Documentation

See the *Hot Standby Planning and Installation Guide*, part number 840USE10600, for information regarding kits to implement Quantum Hot Standby operation, as well as information on the coaxial cable components.

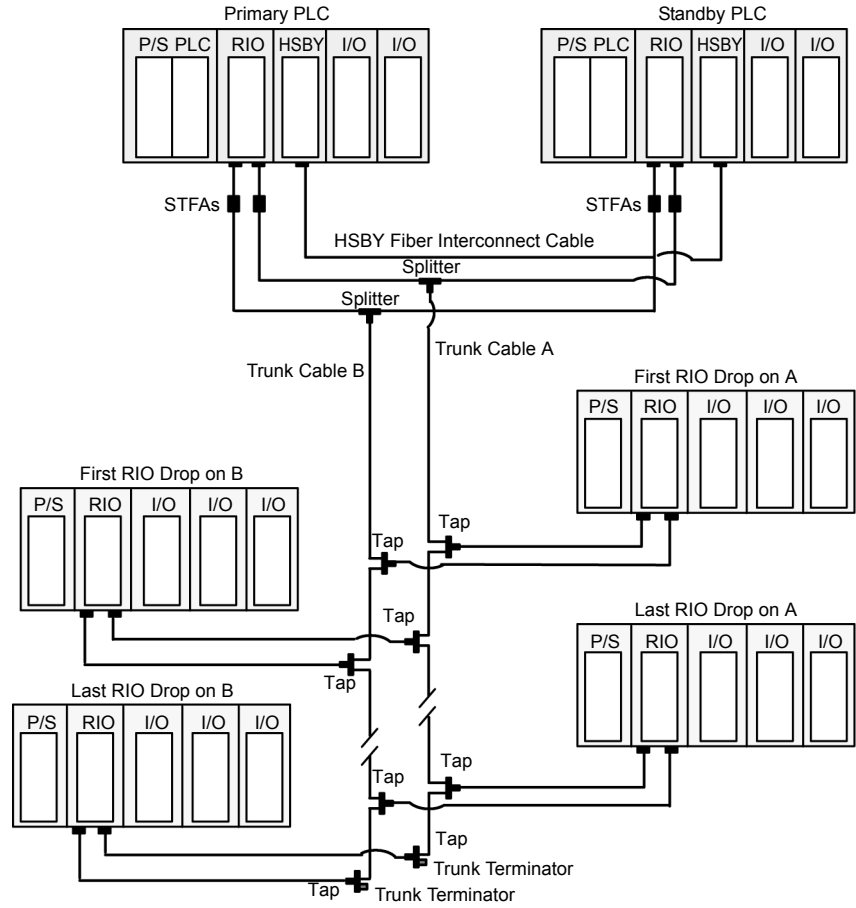
Single-cable Hot Standby System

The following is an illustration of the single-cable Hot Standby (HSBY) system.



Redundant Hot Standby Cable Systems

Using redundant cabling in a Hot Standby system creates a very powerful system with backup both at the controller head-end and along the RIO network. This topology requires the use of RIO head processors and drop adapters with two RIO cable ports, and it requires the use of two splitters.



**Hot Standby
Coaxial Cable
Interconnection
Lengths**

Self Terminating Adapters (STFA) are mounted 18 in. from a HSBY RIO head. Allowable distance between an STFA and the MA-0186-X00 combiner splitter is 8-100 ft.

Note: Because Hot Standby system RIO heads communicate between themselves to verify connectivity, MA-0186-X00 splitters must be used as RIO head combiners. The MA-0331-000 splitters cannot be used due to their high port isolation quality.

Crimp-on STFA's are not available for RG-11 quad shield cable. To provide self termination when using RG-11 coax, a 52-0370-000 F to BNC self terminator and a 52-0614-000 adapter may be installed. See *Network Terminators*, p. 83 for RG-6 and RG-11 self terminator information. See *Providing Line Termination on the Drop Cable*, p. 118 for further information on terminator products and use.

Part Numbers

Part numbers for basic components and tools that may be used in Hot Standby topology coaxial cable networks are the same as those listed in *Linear Cable Topologies*, p. 20. Trunk and drop cable types must be determined.

If Hot Standby kits (e.g., 140CHS32000 for Quantum) are not purchased, additional individual coaxial cable components for Hot Standby implementation that may be used are:

Part Number	Description
MA-0186-100	Splitter (required)
52-0411-000	Crimp On Adapter for RG-6 quad shield cable
52-0720-000	Self-terminating F to F adapter (check for availability)
52-0370-000	Self-terminating F to BNC adapter
52-0614-000	BNC to F adapter

Trunk Splitter Use

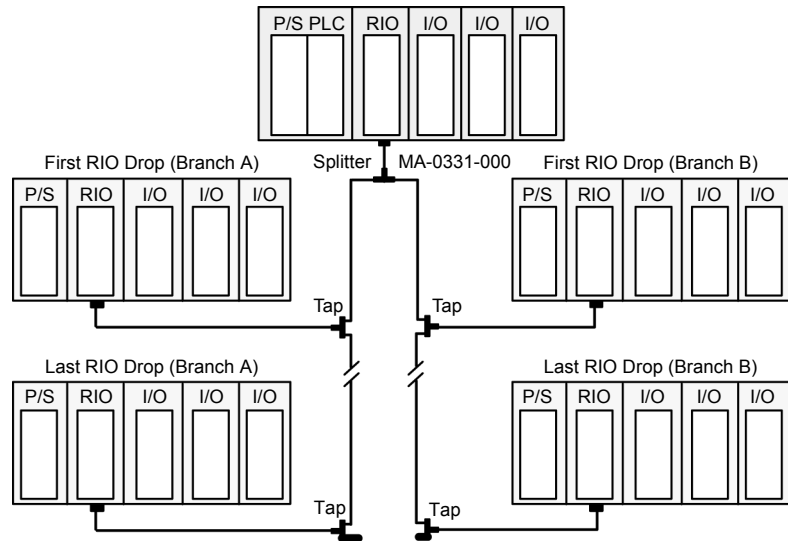
Overview


The following are examples of trunk splitter use in standalone and Hot Standby systems.

Using a Trunk Splitter in a Standalone System

Using a single MA-0331-000 splitter as a branching device on the trunk is permitted. The original requirement when using the MA-0186-X00 as a trunk splitter was that the trunk extensions when running from it need to be balanced to prevent signal reflections. The MA-0331-000 splitter has higher port to port isolation so the balance requirement is not as important, but it should be observed as close as is practical.

The distance between an RIO head and the MA-0331-000 trunk splitter may be between 8.5 and 100 ft.

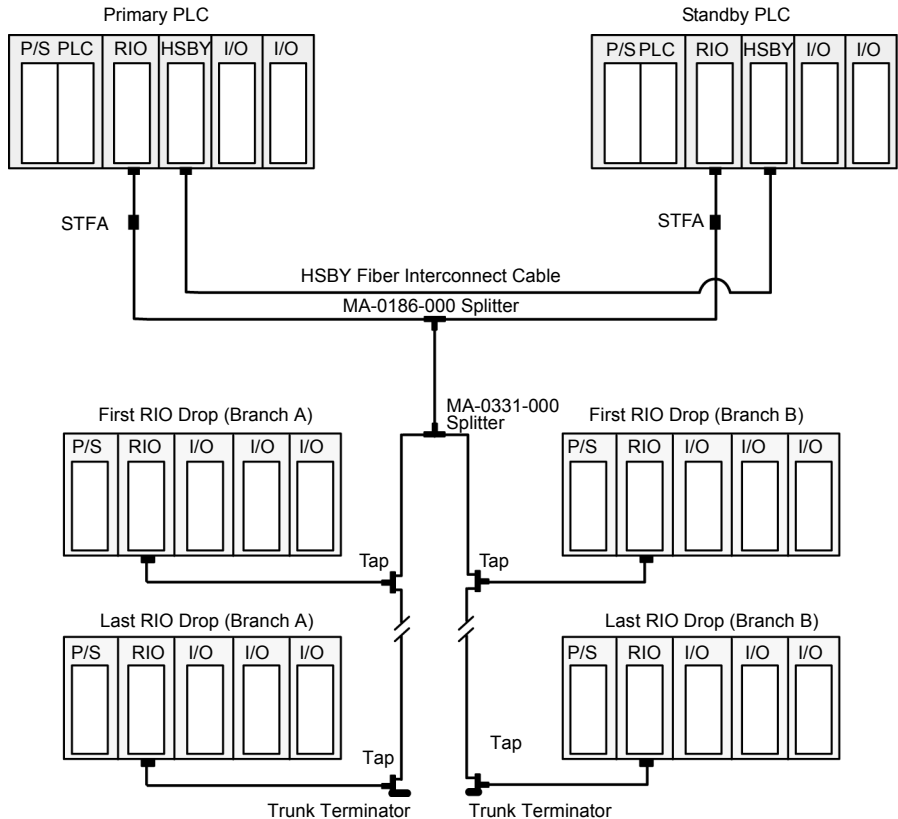



	CAUTION
	Possible equipment failure
	The use of more than one splitter as a branching device on the RIO network is <i>never</i> permitted.
	Failure to follow this instruction can result in injury or equipment damage.

Using a Trunk Splitter in a Hot Standby System

Using a single MA-0331-000 splitter as a branching device on the trunk in a Hot Standby system is allowed. As in standalone systems, the original requirement when using the MA-0186-X00 as a trunk splitter was that the trunk extensions running from it need to be balanced to prevent signal reflections. The MA-0331-000 splitter has higher port to port isolation so the balance requirement is not as important, although it should be observed as close as is practical.

When an MA-0331-000 trunk splitter is used in the Hot Standby network, the minimum distance between it and the MA-0186-X00 combiner splitter is 8 ft. Overall distance from the RIO head to the MA-0331-000 trunk splitter should not exceed 100 ft.



	CAUTION
	Possible Equipment Failure The use of more than one splitter as a branching device on an RIO network is <i>never</i> permitted. Failure to follow this instruction can result in injury or equipment damage.

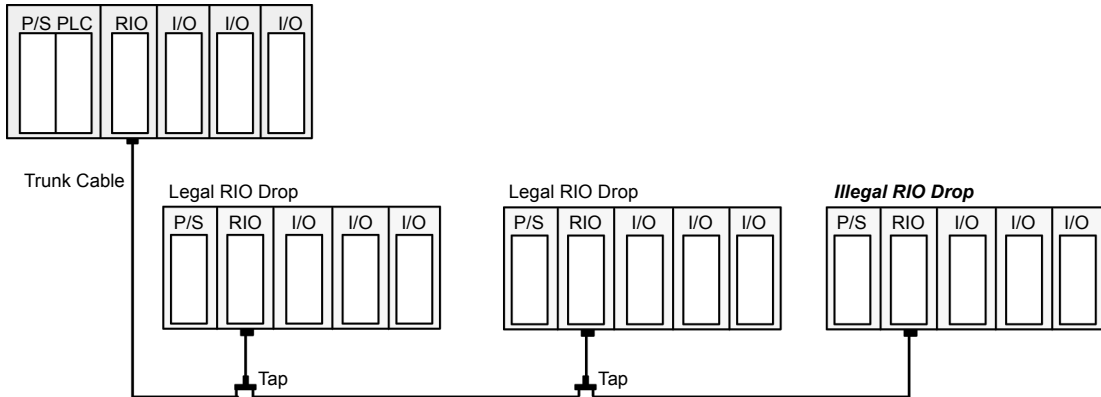
Illegal Coaxial Cable Topologies

Overview

The following are several examples of coaxial cable design topologies that are either not recommended or not permitted on an RIO network.

Illegal Trunk Cable Termination

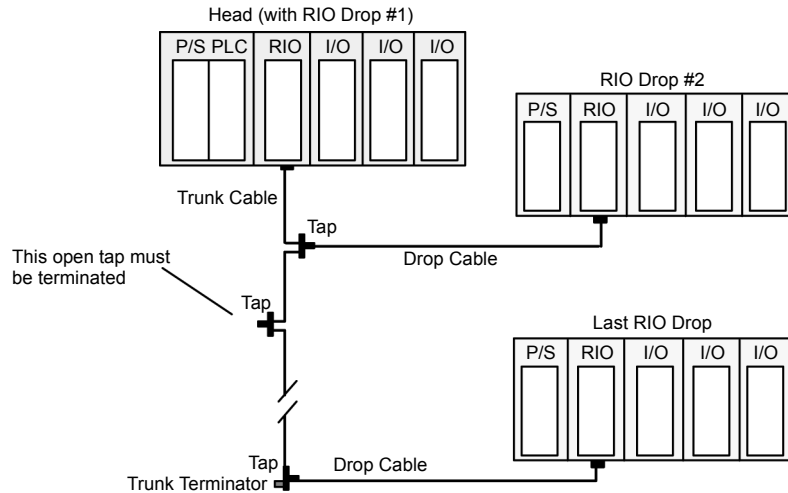
Remote drops cannot be connected directly to the trunk cable—i.e., a remote drop cannot be used to terminate the trunk:



All remote drops on an RIO network must be connected to a trunk cable via a tap and a drop cable, and the last tap on a trunk cable must be terminated with a 75 Ω Modicon 52-0422-000 Trunk Terminator.

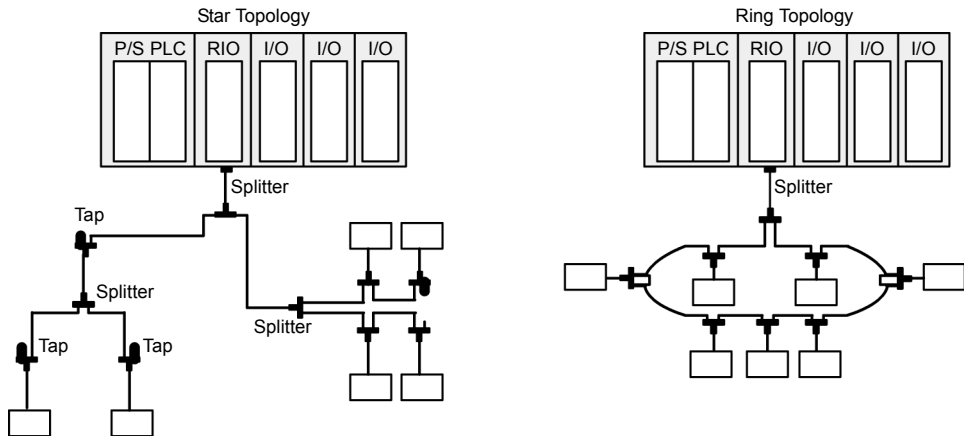
Open Taps

If a tap is inserted on the trunk for future use and does not currently have a drop cable connected to it, it must be terminated with a Modicon 52-0402-000 Tap Port Terminator.



Illegal Trunk Cable Connections

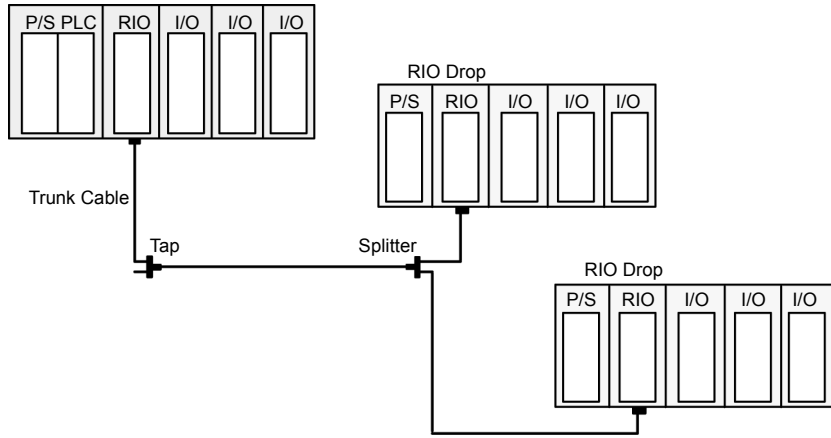
Star topologies, which use multiple splitters and multiple terminators on trunk and drop cables, and ring topologies, which form a loop of trunk cable with no terminator, are not permitted in cable systems consisting of coaxial cable only:



Note: These kinds of topologies are also not permissible when fiber optic cable is used. See *Using Fiber Optics in an RIO System*, p. 34.

**Illegal Drop
Cable
Connections**

Branching is not permitted on a coaxial drop cable:



Note: Branching is permissible when fiber optic cable is used. See *Using Fiber Optics in an RIO System*, p. 34.

Using Fiber Optics in an RIO System

Overview

490NRP954 Fiber Optic Repeaters can be introduced in an RIO cable topology to allow you to transition from coaxial to fiber cable then back again to coax at one or more of the remote drops on any RIO network. Fiber optics allow you to:

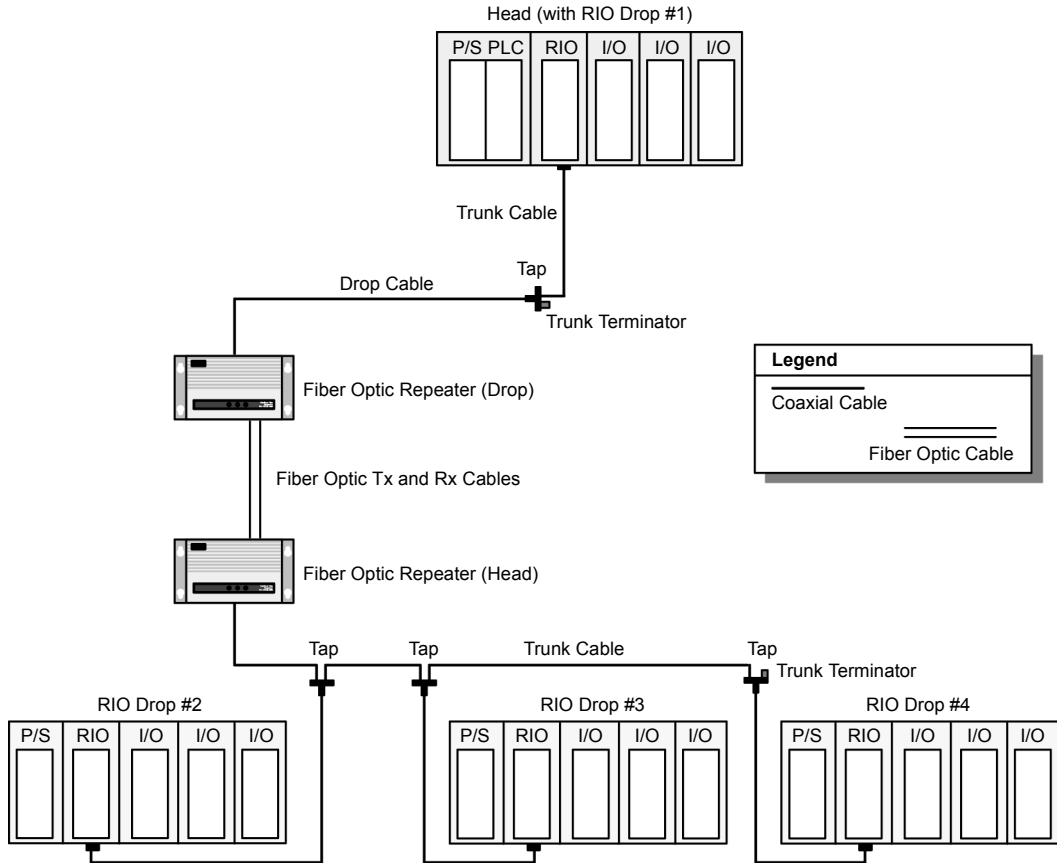
- extend the total length of the RIO installation
- significantly improve the noise immunity characteristics of the installation
- create topologies that would be illegal if built with coaxial cable alone

Note: The coaxial cable running into a fiber optic repeater is a *drop* cable—i.e., coming off a tap from the trunk cable. The coaxial cable coming out of a fiber optic repeater is a *trunk* cable—i.e., taps must be connected to it to support the drops and it must be properly terminated at the end of the run.

The RIO port on a fiber optic repeater has the same electrical specifications and restrictions as a head RIO processor with a pre-amp—e.g., the RIO signal output from the fiber link back onto the coaxial cable has a dynamic range of 35 dB.

**Point-to-point
Topology with
Fiber Optics**

The following illustration shows two segments of RIO coaxial cable connected point-to-point by two 490NRP954 Fiber Optic Repeaters. The fiber link may be run over much longer distances than a coaxial drop cable, and through harsh environments with noise immunity that cannot be achieved with copper wire.

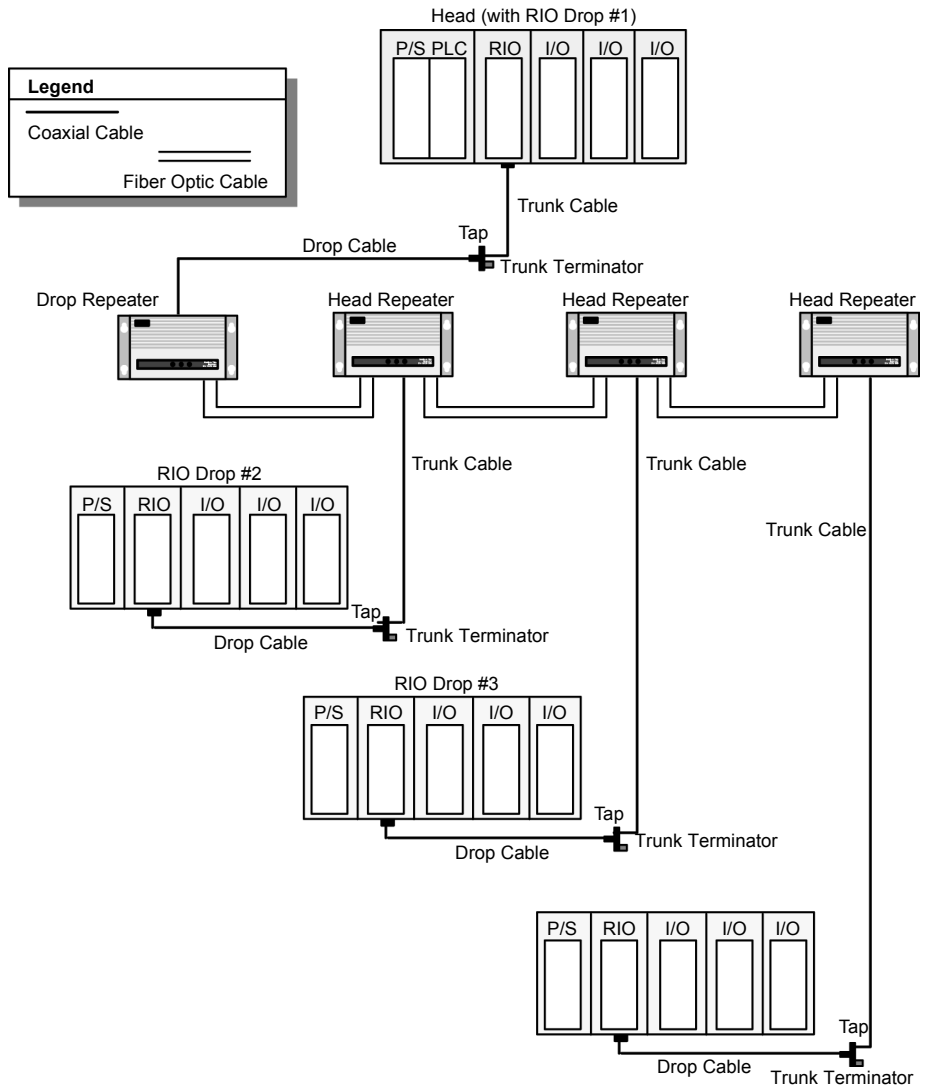


The distance between the two repeaters is limited by the maximum allowable attenuation of the fiber optic cable used in the installation. Fiber attenuation is calculated separately from coaxial cable attenuation (see *Attenuation Considerations in an Optical Path*, p. 56 for more details).

Note: The repeater that has a hard-wired (coaxial) connection to the head processor at the top of the RIO network is called the *drop* repeater. The repeater that has a coaxial cable connection to the RIO drops is called a *head* repeater.

Bus Topology with Fiber Optics

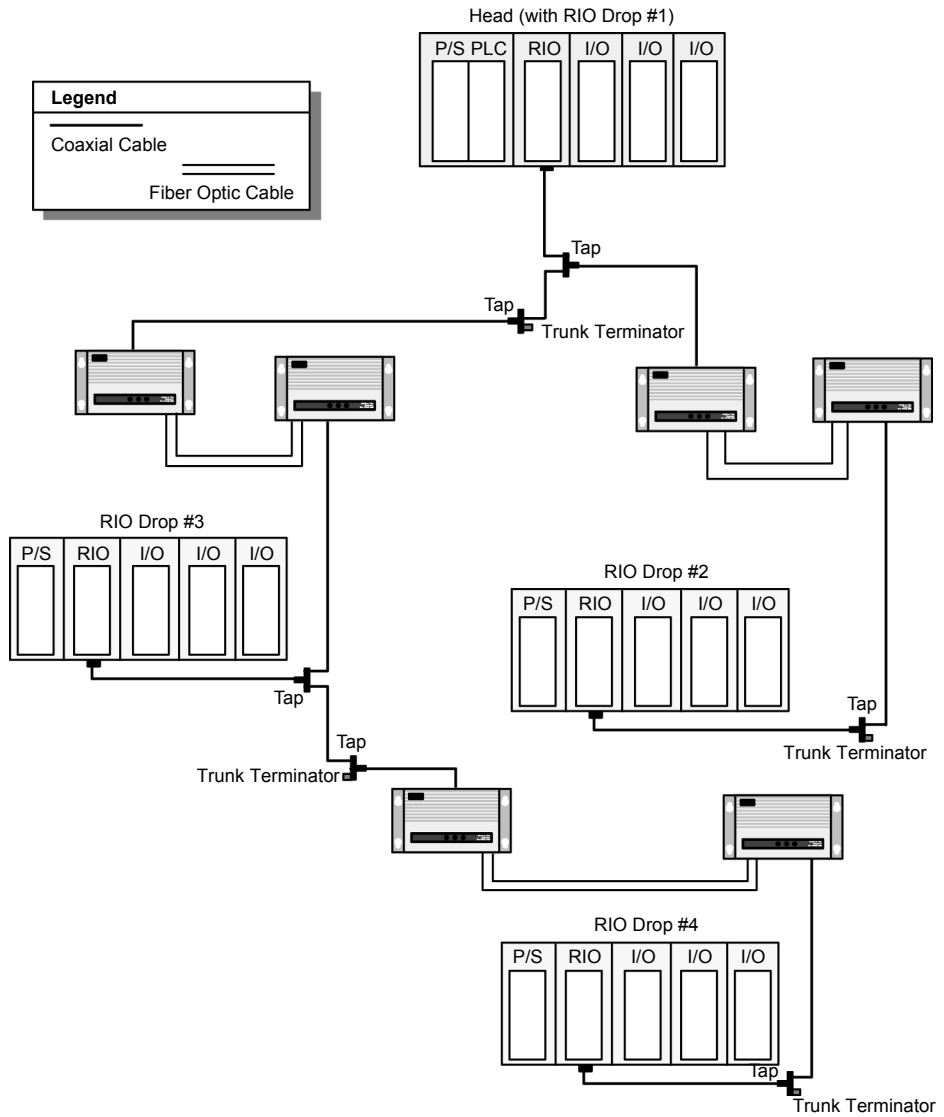
Additional fiber optic repeaters can be chained together to extend the length of the fiber link and increase the distance between drops on the RIO network.



Five chained repeaters can be linked in a bus topology. This number can be reduced by the total pulse width distortion (jitter) that occurs on the system.

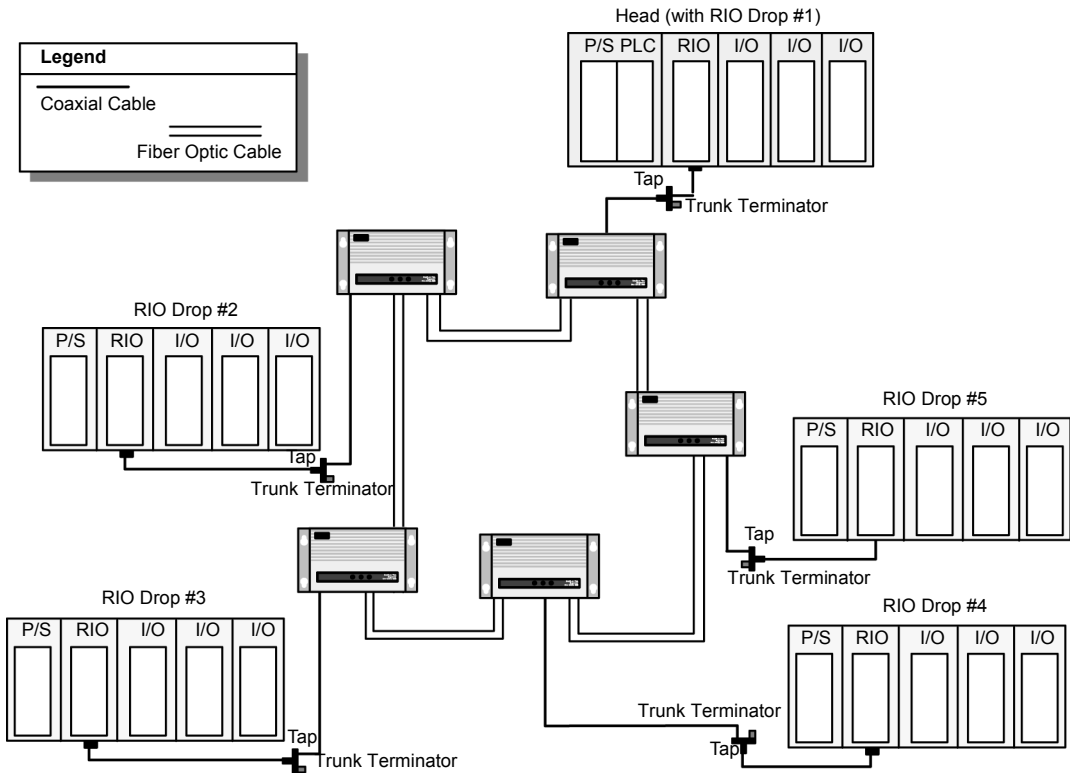
Tree Topologies with Fiber Optics

Tree topologies, which cannot be established with coaxial cable alone (see *Illegal Coaxial Cable Topologies*, p. 31), can be built legally using fiber optic repeaters. The following tree topology is legal on an RIO fiber optic link:



**Self-healing Ring
Fiber Optic
Topology**

The 490NRP954 Fiber Optic Repeaters have special features built into the signal timing that allow multiple repeaters to be interconnected in a closed-loop ring. The advantage of a ring topology is that if a break occurs anywhere in the ring, it will reconfigure the network so that communications can continue.



The RIO signal is sent down both legs of the ring by the drop repeater—simultaneously to the head repeaters. A feature is built into the repeaters so that when a signal is received on one of the Rx lines the other Rx channel is blanked—this prevents the same signal from being transmitted twice in the ring.

Note: A maximum of five 490NRP954 Fiber Optic Repeaters can be used in a ring.

Note: The maximum length of fiber cable that can be used in a self-healing ring is 10 km (32,809 ft.). The number of repeaters that can be in a ring configuration is five. This number may be reduced by the total pulse width distortion (jitter) that occurs on one system.

Note: No sense bit is sent in a self-healing ring topology, and fault detection can be accomplished only via visual inspection of the indicator lights on each repeater or physical status of the cable.

RIO System Design

Overview

When designing an RIO cable system, consider:

- whether you will route one or two cables to the remote drops
 - the node limitations—e.g., single-port or dual port, ASCII device support
 - the expansion capabilities of the PLCs—i.e., the maximum number of drops supported
 - the number of nodes—head processors and drop adapters
 - the locations and the environmental conditions in which these nodes must operate
-

Key Elements in a Cable System Plan

The following are the key elements in a cable system plan:

- The cable system must be dedicated to RIO—no other signals or power can be applied or transmitted on this network
- The attenuation between the head processor (or the last fiber optic repeater, if an optical link is used) and any drop adapter must not exceed 35 dB at 1.544 MHz (32 dB for the host-based 984 PLCs)
- minimum bend radiuses specified for the trunk and drop cables must not be exceeded
- expansion and contraction loops should be put into the cable system to allow for temperature changes
- band marked trunk cable is useful for determining tap placement
- the cable system should be single-point grounded within 20 ft. of the RIO processor—the central ground point may be a tap, a splitter, or a ground block
- the physical cable installation must be well supported, and cable pull strength must be considered; some manufacturers suggest that RG-6 and RG-11 cable be supported at least every 50 ft; contact the manufacturer to ensure that you do not exceed the strain limit of the cable.
- where rodents may be a problem, protect the cable installation by using conduit or a similar material
- precautions should be taken when the media components are installed in hostile environments where high temperatures or corrosives exist—consult cable manufacturers and/or CATV suppliers for other special products for harsh environments

Note: Document your decisions for the installer and for future reference by maintenance personnel. Use the forms provided in *Planning RIO Drops*, p. 61 to document the system.

**Planning for
System
Expansion**

The potential for system expansion should be considered in the initial design. It is less costly to provide for expansion in the original RIO network plan than to redesign the network later. If your PLC is able to support more RIO drops than your current plan requires, consider installing additional taps along the network trunk cable.

If, for instance, you intend to use a Quantum CPU, which could support up to 31 remote drops, and your current plan calls for only 10 remote drops, you can install as many as 21 extra taps for future expansion. Remember that the unused expansion taps need to be terminated (see *Network Terminators*, p. 83).

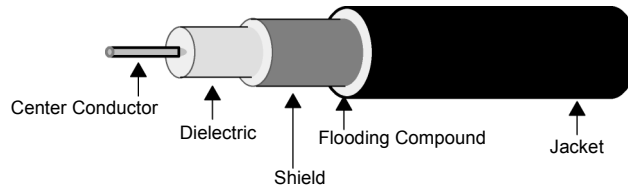
Choosing Coaxial Cables for an RIO Network

Overview

Your choice of cables for an RIO network is very important. Semirigid cable offers the highest performance trunk cable, but it requires professional installation. Flexible cable is simpler to install but has more signal loss—and thus causes more distance constraints. RG-11 flexible cable is generally recommended for use as the trunk, but RG-6 flexible cable may be used as a trunk cable on small networks. RG-6 is used most often as the drop cable.

Coaxial Cable Construction

In all cases, we recommend the use of high grade, well shielded industrial cable for trunk and drop cables on an RIO network. Physically, the cable is a single center conductor of copper, copper-plated aluminum, or copper-plated steel surrounded by an outer conductive material, called the shield. The center conductor and shield are separated by an insulating material called the dielectric. The most common dielectric material is polyethylene foam. The shield is usually made of aluminum foil and/or copper braid or some other type of metal braid. The foil provides 100% center conductor shielding. The shield may have an insulator surrounding it called the jacket. The most common jacket material is polyvinylchloride (PVC).



Better quality cables use multiple foil and braid shields:

Shield Type	Shield Effectiveness
Braid	Approximately 50 dB
Foil	Approximately 80 dB
Foil + Braid	Approximately 95 dB
Foil + Braid + Foil (tri-shield)	Approximately 105 dB
Foil + Braid + Foil + Braid (quad shield)	> 110 dB
Semirigid	> 120 dB

Flexible Cable

Two types of flexible cable can be used in Modicon RIO cable systems—RG-6 and RG-11.

RG-6 is a 5/16 in. flexible cable with moderate noise immunity and moderate signal loss. The loss varies among manufacturers and cable types. Most applications use RG-6 for drop cables; RG-6 can be used as the trunk cable on small networks.

Modicon 97-5750-000 RG-6 quad shield cable can be ordered on 1000 ft. rolls: Modicon also provides pre-assembled RG-6 drop cables in 50 ft. (AS-MBII-003) and 140 ft (AS-MBII-004) lengths.

RG-11 is a 3/8 in. flexible cable with good noise immunity and low signal loss. RG-11 cable is suitable for use as trunk cable in most industrial applications and may be used as drop cable in very high noise environments. Modicon 97-5951-000 RG-11 quad shield cable can be ordered on 1000 ft rolls.

Semirigid Cable

Semirigid cable construction is similar to that of flexible cable except that it uses a solid aluminum shield for 100% shield coverage. Semirigid cable has high noise immunity and very low signal loss, making it ideally suited for the main trunk cable when maximum distance and/or high noise immunity is needed. It is not generally used for drop cable because of its inflexibility. Semirigid cable is available in sizes that usually range from 1/2 ... 1 in. and up. Only large applications, or high noise environment applications, will need to use this type of cable.

Coaxial Cable Characteristics

Cable Bend Radius

All cables have a minimum allowable bend radius—i.e., a certain degree beyond which it cannot be bent—and a minimum support requirement. If the cable is bent more than the allowable bend radius or if the installation is not adequately supported, you can easily damage the center conductor, the dielectric, and the cable shield.

This damage can cause signal waveform reflections back into the cable system and distortions due to cable impedance alterations away from 75 Ω . The end result will be a series of transmission errors or a nonfunctioning cable system. The situation creates a high voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) on the system—high VSWR causes the transmitted signal to reflect back to the source.

When designing the cable system, consult the manufacturer's specifications on the cable bend radius. Design the routing of the cable so that when rounding corners with cable, the cable is not bent more than the specification and put this specification on the design drawings.

Cable Support

Most cable manufacturers recommended that RG-11 and RG-6 cable be supported at least every 50 ft (15 m). Consult the cable manufacturer for more detail about minimum support requirements for other types of cables.

Cable Pull Strength

Every cable has a maximum allowable pull strength. Any cable that must be pulled through wiring ducts or conduit should have its pull strength labeled on the design drawings. If cable is pulled beyond the maximum allowable limits, the cable will stretch or break causing an impedance mismatch. The stretch or break may not be apparent in a visual inspection—e.g., the dielectric inside the cable could become damaged or the center conductor could break. Cable pull strength ratings can be obtained from the cable manufacturer—they are also listed in the cable specifications in *RG-6 Cable*, p. 68, *RG-11 Cable*, p. 69, and *Semirigid Cable Connections*, p. 113.

Environmental Considerations

Cable components will degrade if subjected to extremes of temperature and humidity. Consult the manufacturer specifications on the cable components used in the RIO network to assure that they meet the requirements of the application.

Provide excess cable in each cable segment of your cable run to allow for temperature changes. Cable system components will expand and contract as a result of temperature variations. Several inches of excess cable should be provided to ensure that the cable will not be damaged by temperature changes. Consult the cable manufacturer for the expansion and contraction specifications.

Electrical Characteristics of Coaxial Media Components

Overview

The following electrical characteristics must be considered when choosing the media components for your network cable system. These characteristics determine the maximum length of the cable system and the number of nodes permitted on the network.

Impedance

Impedance is the AC resistance of a cable or network component to a signal. All RIO media components have a characteristic impedance of 75Ω , with a minimum tolerance of $\pm 3 \Omega$. Media components that can obtain a consistent impedance as close to 75Ω as possible yield better performance.

Attenuation

Attenuation is the amount of signal loss through media components. Cable and other media components express attenuation in decibels (dB). Lower attenuation of media components allows for higher signal strength and longer cable distances throughout the cable system.

Depending on the hardware used, RIO networks are limited to a maximum attenuation of 35 dB from the RIO head processor (or from the last fiber optic repeater in an optical link) to any drop adapter. Although all media components have attenuation values, the primary attenuation consideration is your coaxial cable selection. A cable's ability to carry a signal is mostly determined by the physical size of the cable. A larger cable can carry a signal farther than a smaller cable. Here are some rule-of-thumb cable loss figures:

Cable Type	Attenuation
1 in. semirigid	0.09 dB/100 ft @ 5 MHz
$\frac{1}{2}$ in. semirigid	0.14 dB/100 ft @ 5 MHz
RG-11	0.38 dB/100 ft @ 5 MHz
RG-6	0.38 dB/100 ft @ 2 MHz

Exact attenuation specifications for all approved cables are given in *RG-6 Cable*, p. 68, *RG-11 Cable*, p. 69, and *Semirigid Cable Connections*, p. 113.

Return Loss

Return loss is the measurement of reflected signal strength due to impedance mismatch. This measurement is expressed as a number of dB down from the original signal. Components with a higher return loss are better.

If every component of a network were exactly 75Ω , the return loss would be very high. In the real world this is impossible. Even the slightest impedance mismatch will cause a portion of the signal to be reflected. This reflection can subtract from or add to the originally transmitted signal, causing distortion of the original waveform.

Note: Return loss problems may be avoided by making all trunk and drop cable purchases from the same manufacturer and the same manufacturing batch. Ask the manufacturer to pretest the cable for impedance mismatch.

EMI/RFI Considerations in a Coaxial Cable Routing Plan

Overview

Electromagnetic interference (EMI) and radio frequency interference (RFI) sources can be avoided by using effectively shielded cable and by using the cable away from troublesome locations.

Guidelines for Interference Avoidance

- Avoid installation of RIO cables in trays or conduits that contain AC or DC power cable or power services
- Separate RIO cable from power cable or power sources; trunk cable runs should avoid panels, trays, and other enclosures that contain power wires.

Note: We recommend that a spacing of 12 ... 14 in./kV of power be maintained between the RIO cable installation and power cables.

- Make sure that any RIO cable power cable crossings are at right angles only
 - Do not route trunk cable into equipment cabinets or panels—trunk cable and taps should be mounted away from cabinets or panels in a separate enclosure (One satisfactory method is to install the trunk cable in the ceiling of the facility and mount the taps within an enclosure up in the ceiling. The drop cable can then be installed down to the node.)
 - Do not exceed the cable's minimum bend radius and pull strength
 - Install cable in steel conduit in high noise environments
-

Tap Connections and Locations

Overview

Each tap has three ports—a trunk-in port, a drop cable port, and a trunk-out port; the RIO cables connect to the tap ports via F connectors. The taps come mounted to a plastic block that is used to isolate them from ground. They must be surface mounted to a wall or an enclosure. Make sure that no tap in the RIO system is grounded or touched by a grounded metallic surface unless it is being used intentionally as the single grounding point for the entire system.

Using Band Marked Trunk Cable

Improper placement of taps can cause signal reflections and distortion of the signal waveform. Proper placement will keep these reflections to a minimum and avoid problems with waveform distortion. The preferred method of tap placement is on cable band markers.

Note: If taps are placed too close to each other (or too close to a splitter in a Hot Standby system), a cumulative reflection will result. To avoid this problem, install taps at least 8 ft 2 in. (2.5 m) away from one another.

Trunk cable with band markers applied at regular intervals should be purchased from the manufacturer. Intervals will vary based on the propagation of the cable. Modicon RG-11 trunk cable is band marked at 8.86 ft (2.7 m) intervals; RG-6 cable is not band marked. If you are not using Modicon RG-11 for trunk cable, you can instruct your cable manufacturer to apply marker at the required intervals. The cost to perform band marking is very small.

Tap Port Connections

An RG-11 cable can connect directly to a tap port F connector via a Modicon 490RIO00211 F Connector installed on the end of the cable (see *F Connectors for Coaxial Cables*, p. 78).

Quad shield RG-6 cable can be connected to a tap port F connector via a Modicon MA-0329-001 F Connector (see *F Connectors for Coaxial Cables*, p. 78).

Semirigid cable is more difficult to connect to the two (trunk-in and trunk-out) F connector ports on the tap. Because there is only a 1 in. space between the two ports, you may not be able to fit semirigid connectors directly on both ports. To avoid this problem, we recommend that you use high quality 90° right angle F adapters such as the Modicon 52-0480-000 Right Angle F Adapter (see *F Adapters for Semirigid Cable*, p. 80).


Optional Tap Enclosure Considerations

Although not required for overall network integrity, you may consider mounting the taps in separate enclosures away from the equipment panels. Potential performance improvements include:

- Avoiding panels, trays, and other enclosures that contain power wiring
- Protecting the network from disruptions caused by accidental trunk cable damage (drop cable damage usually does not disrupt the entire network)
- Performing wiring for future system expansion within panels to avoid rerouting the cable later
- Coiling any excess cable within the tap enclosure

Note: If excess cable is to be coiled within, the recommended enclosure dimensions are 2 ft (610 mm) long by 2 ft wide by 4 in. (102 mm) deep).

Where your overall system design permits it, you may consider locating the enclosures in the ceiling of the facility to further protect against mechanical damage to the trunk and taps.

	<p>CAUTION</p> <p>Possible Equipment Failure</p> <p>Do not mount a tap within a panel or enclosure that contains control equipment—the trunk and tap become susceptible to potential problems arising from power source noise, and the cable can be damaged due to movement by workers or by poor bend radiuses.</p> <p>Failure to follow this instruction can result in injury or equipment damage.</p>
---	---

Grounding and Surge Suppression

Overview

Choose a low impedance earth ground for your cable system, preferably factory ground. Use 10 gauge wire or larger to ground the cable system. Use a common single-point ground for the cable system and for all equipment associated with the system. A separate ground—e.g., a computer ground—may actually cause more noise because the RIO nodes will not be connected to it.

Earth Ground

A low impedance earth ground is necessary on RIO cable systems to assure safety for maintenance personnel and RIO users. The earth ground also provides a path to dissipate noise on the cable system. If the ground is poor or nonexistent, a hazardous shock problem may exist, the cable system will be susceptible to noise, and data transmission errors will occur. The cable system should be single-point grounded within 20 ft of the RIO processor—the central ground point may be a tap, a splitter, or a ground block.

Note: All nodes connected to the cable system must be grounded. Under no circumstances should ungrounded equipment be connected to the cable system. See *Modicon Quantum Automation Series Hardware Reference Guide, Appendix D: Power and Grounding Guidelines, 840 USE 100 00*.

Lightning Protection for RIO Cable Systems

Surge suppressors are recommended when a cable system is installed outdoors or in any environment where lightning protection is required. The surge suppressor must be grounded to work properly. An 8 gauge or larger diameter green or bare grounding wire is recommended. Depending on the site, installation of the suppressor can possibly introduce ground loops resulting in communication errors. Drop communication status can be monitored through the use of the STAT block mentioned in *The S908 Status Table* section of the *Monitoring Remote I/O System Status* chapter of *Modicon Ladder Logic Block Library User Guide, 840 USE 101 00*.

Terminating a Coaxial Cable System

Overview

Ideally, all connections on the RIO network are terminated in 75 Ω at all times. Depending on the criticality of your application, you may choose to disconnect a drop cable from a drop adapter for short-term maintenance. The trunk cable and any unused tap ports must remain terminated at all times.

Terminating the Trunk Cable

To prevent the build-up of a standing wave that can destroy communications integrity on the network, the trunk cable must be terminated at all times with a Modicon 52-0422-000 Trunk Terminator (see *Network Terminators*, p. 83). The trunk terminator is inserted in the trunk-out port of the last tap on the trunk cable. Do not terminate a trunk cable by connecting it directly to the drop adapter.

Terminating Unused Tap Ports

Unused taps may be installed along the trunk for future system expansion. These taps will not have drop cables connected to them, and they must be terminated at all times with Modicon 52-0402-000 Tap Port Terminators (see *Network Terminators*, p. 83).

Terminating the Drops

Open connections on a drop cable can subject the network to impedance mismatches and retries. Your application may be able to tolerate these errors for short-term maintenance—e.g., swapping a device in the drop—but if you intend to leave the drop cable disconnected from the drop adapter for a long time or if you are running a critical application elsewhere on the network, you should put a 75 Ω terminator on the drop cable. You can install a female F connector on the drop cable at the time you disconnect it, then install a Modicon 52-0402-000 Tap Port Terminator. The drop will always remain terminated as long as the cable is connected to the RIO drop adapter, even when the device is turned OFF or removed from the I/O rack (*exception: the adapter devices and Motion modules in RIO Network Cable System*, p. 16).

Optionally, you may design a mechanical terminator into all the drop cables—such as a Modicon 52-0411-000 Self-terminating F Adapter; this adds up-front cost to your system design but assures you of a completely balanced system at all times.

Designing a Coaxial Cable System to an Attenuation Limit

Overview

Attenuation happens naturally as a communication signal passes through taps, splitters, splices, cable, connections, and feed-through terminators. Your goal as designer is to provide successful RIO services while holding the attenuation to a maximum of 35 dB (32 dB in the case of the 984 host-based PLCs) from the head processor to any drop adapter on the network.

Note: If your cable design exceeds the maximum attenuation limit for your PLC, transmission errors can occur on the network.

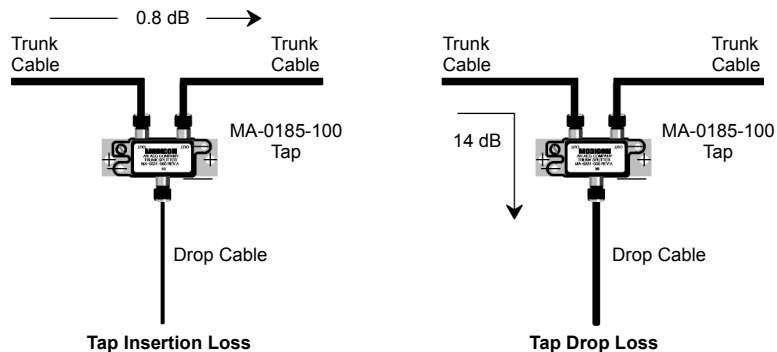
Cable Attenuation

The most important decision the system designer must make with regard to signal loss is the type of cable used in the system. Many designers use semirigid cable for the trunk cable in high noise environments or when maximum distance is necessary. But the majority of RIO networks use the more flexible RG-6 and RG-11 cables.

RG-6 can be used as a trunk cable, but its best use is as a drop cable. It can be used as the trunk on small networks. RG-6 has more attenuation than RG-11. See *RG-6 Cable*, p. 68 for cable attenuation values for RG-6 at 1.544 MHz, the RIO network transmit frequency. See *RG-11 Cable*, p. 69 for cable attenuation values for RG-11 at 1.544 MHz.

Tap Attenuation

All drop adapters must be connected via a tap—never directly to a trunk cable. A direct trunk connection causes a severe impedance mismatch. All RIO taps have a tap drop loss of 14 dB and an insertion loss of 0.8 dB:



**Calculating
Maximum
System
Attenuation**

To calculate maximum attenuation, add all sources of attenuation between the RIO head processor and a drop adapter; the total loss must not exceed 35 dB (32 dB for controllers without pre-amps). The maximum attenuation for the system is generally measured from the RIO processor node to the last drop adapter on the network. The last adapter usually represents the maximum loss of the entire cable system. There are exceptions however—adapters near the end of the cable system with long drop cables may have greater attenuation.

Maximum system attenuation at 1.544 MHz can be calculated as follows:

$$\text{dB loss} = \text{TCA} + \text{DCA} + \text{TDA} + (\text{NOS} \times 6) + (\text{NOT} \times 0.8)$$

where:

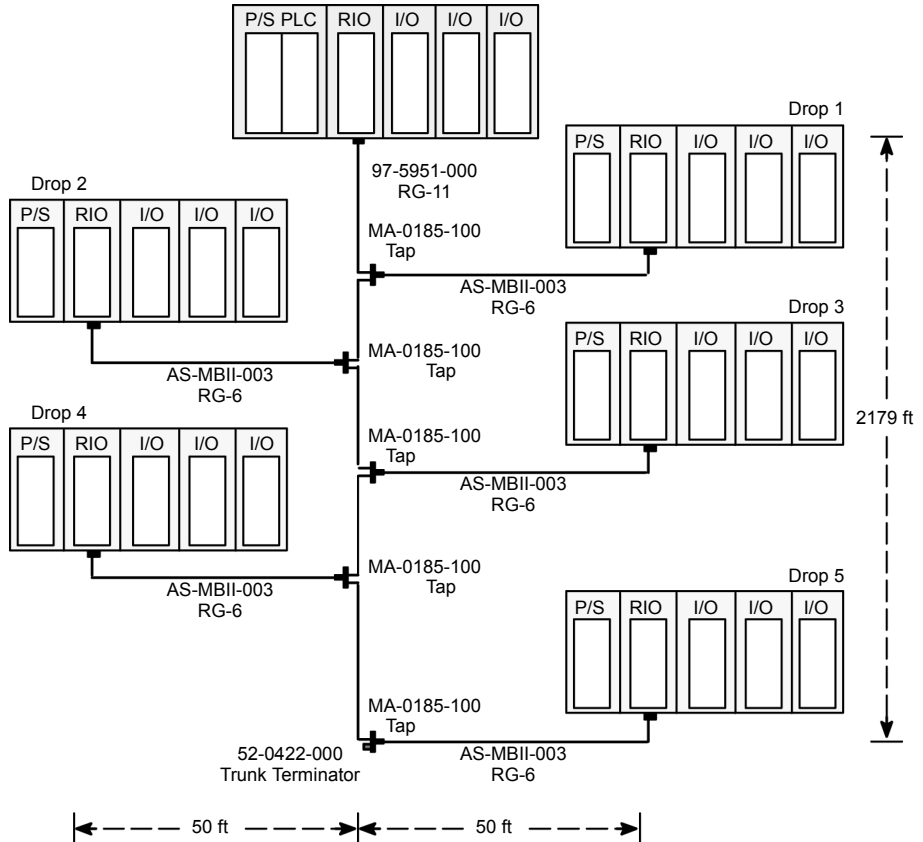
- TCA = the trunk cable attenuation from the head to the end of the trunk
- DCA = the drop cable attenuation, generally at the last drop
- TDA = 14 dB, the tap drop attenuation
- NOS = the number of splitters in the system
- NOT = the number of taps between the last node and the head

Note: On a network using dual or redundant trunk cables, calculate attenuation on each separately. Each trunk on a dual or redundant RIO network can handle attenuation up to 35 dB (or 32 dB).

Note: Use (NOS x 3.5) if MA-0331-000 is to be installed. See *Splitter Specifications*, p. 76.

Calculating Attenuation on a Coaxial Network—An Example

Here is a sample calculation of total attenuation in a five-drop RIO cable system. The calculation is made between the head processor and the adapter at drop 5. The distance between the head and the last tap is 2179 ft.



This system uses RG-11 cable for the trunk; for illustration purposes, its specified attenuation is 0.24 dB/100 ft at 1.544 MHz. Running to the adapter at drop 5 is a Modicon AS-MBII-003 RG-6 drop cable, a 50 ft cable with an attenuation of 0.3 dB. To calculate end-to-end attenuation on the trunk cable (TCA), multiply 0.24 dB (the trunk attenuation per 100 ft) by 21.79:

$$TCA = 0,24B \times 21,79 = 5,23dB$$

Each drop cable is run from a Modicon MA-0185-100 tap in the trunk cable. Four of these taps lie between our two end points, and we must calculate their tap insertion loss (TIL):

$$\text{TIL} = \text{NOT} \times 0,8\text{dB} = 4 \times 0,8 = 3,2\text{dB}$$

The drop cable attenuation (DCA) at drop 5 has been predetermined as 0.3 dB. The attenuation of the tap (TDA) at drop 5 is 14 dB. Since this system does not use a splitter, the NOS is 0.

Thus, the total attenuation for this RIO network is:

$$5,23 + 0,3 + 14 + 3,2 = 22,73\text{dB}$$

This example shows a properly designed RIO cable system with:

- total attenuation less than 35 dB
 - no drop cables longer than 164 feet (50 m)
 - combined cable distance (drop and trunk cables) less than 8400 ft (2560 m)
-

Attenuation Considerations in an Optical Path

Overview

Attenuation that occurs on an RIO fiber optic link is independent from attenuation on the coaxial cable system. Signals that are attenuated no more than 35db after traveling through a coaxial cable section are converted in the fiber repeater circuitry to levels usable in the fiber link. Attenuation takes places on the fiber link and receiving fiber repeaters convert the signal back to a full strength coaxial cable signal. 35db will be available for use over the next copper section.

As with coaxial cable, size and components used will determine a fiber link attenuation. The table below shows allowable attenuation or power loss budget for the connecting repeaters to operate properly. The specified power loss budget is in addition to loss introduced by two ST-type connectors. Other components such as splices plus the fiber cable loss must be subtracted from the budget.

Core Diameter	Attenuation	Optical Power Loss Budget
50/125 μm	3.5 dB/km	7.0 dB
62.5/125 μm	3.5 dB/km	11.0 dB
100/140 μm	5.0 dB/km	16.5 dB

To illustrate, an uninterrupted run of 50/125 μm fiber cable that has attenuation of 3.5 db/km could be 2 km long.

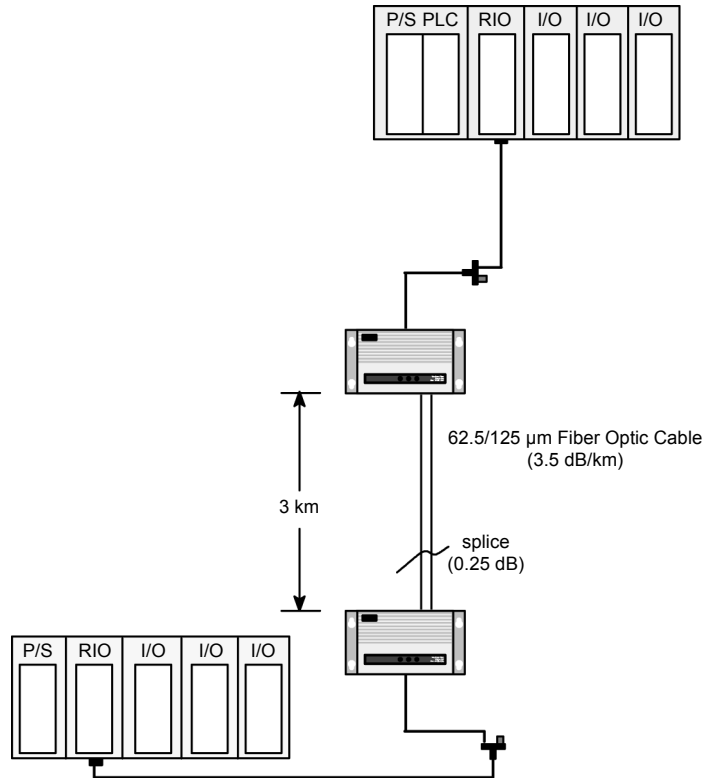
Minimum Distance between Repeaters

There is no minimum distance requirement when using 50/125 or 62.5/125 μm fiber cable. If the larger diameter 100/140 μm cable is used, it is possible to overload a repeater's receive port circuitry. When no components are added in the fiber link made up of this sized cable, minimum distance between repeaters is 1.2 km. Fiber link length may be reduced proportionately as components are introduced.

Note: For those performing measurements, repeater transmitters have a maximum optical power of -4 dbm when 100/140 μm cable is used. Maximum repeater received signal is -10 dbm for any size cable used.

**Example—
Attenuation on a
Simple Optical
Link**

Here is an example of a point-to-point optical connection that uses 3 km of 62.5/125 μ m fiber cable. There is one splice in the cable connection.



The specified power loss budget for a link using this optical cable is 11 dB. We know that the cable's attenuation over 3 km is $3.5 \text{ dB/km} \times 3 = 10.5 \text{ dB}$, and we are given an attenuation of 0.25 dB for the cable splice. Thus, we have a total optical power loss of 10.75 dB on the link, which is under budget and therefore legal.

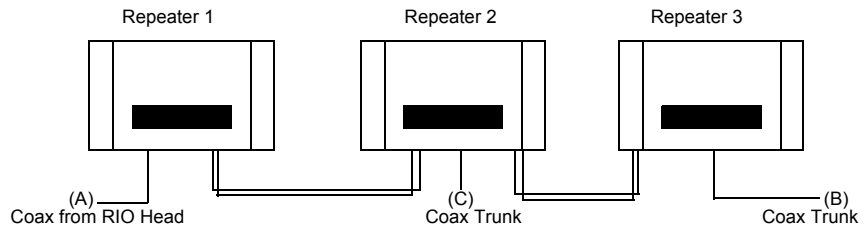
Maximum Number of Repeaters and Jitter Considerations

Overview

Due to the cumulative effects of reactive components, the maximum number of repeaters in a linear network is five. This number may be reduced by the system's total pulse width distortion, or jitter. The table below shows jitter contributed by recommended fiber optic cables.

Core Diameter	Jitter
50/125 μm	3.0 ns/km
62.5/125 μm	5.0 ns/km
100/140 μm	7.5 ns/km

Fiber repeater jitter effect is analogous to tap loss in coaxial cable networks. The fiber to fiber jitter contribution is 10 ns and can be compared to tap insertion loss. The fiber to coaxial cable jitter contribution is 20 ns and comparable to tap drop loss.



in the diagram above, jitter contribution is 50 ns from point A to point B. The following represents individual jitter contributions as shown in the diagram:

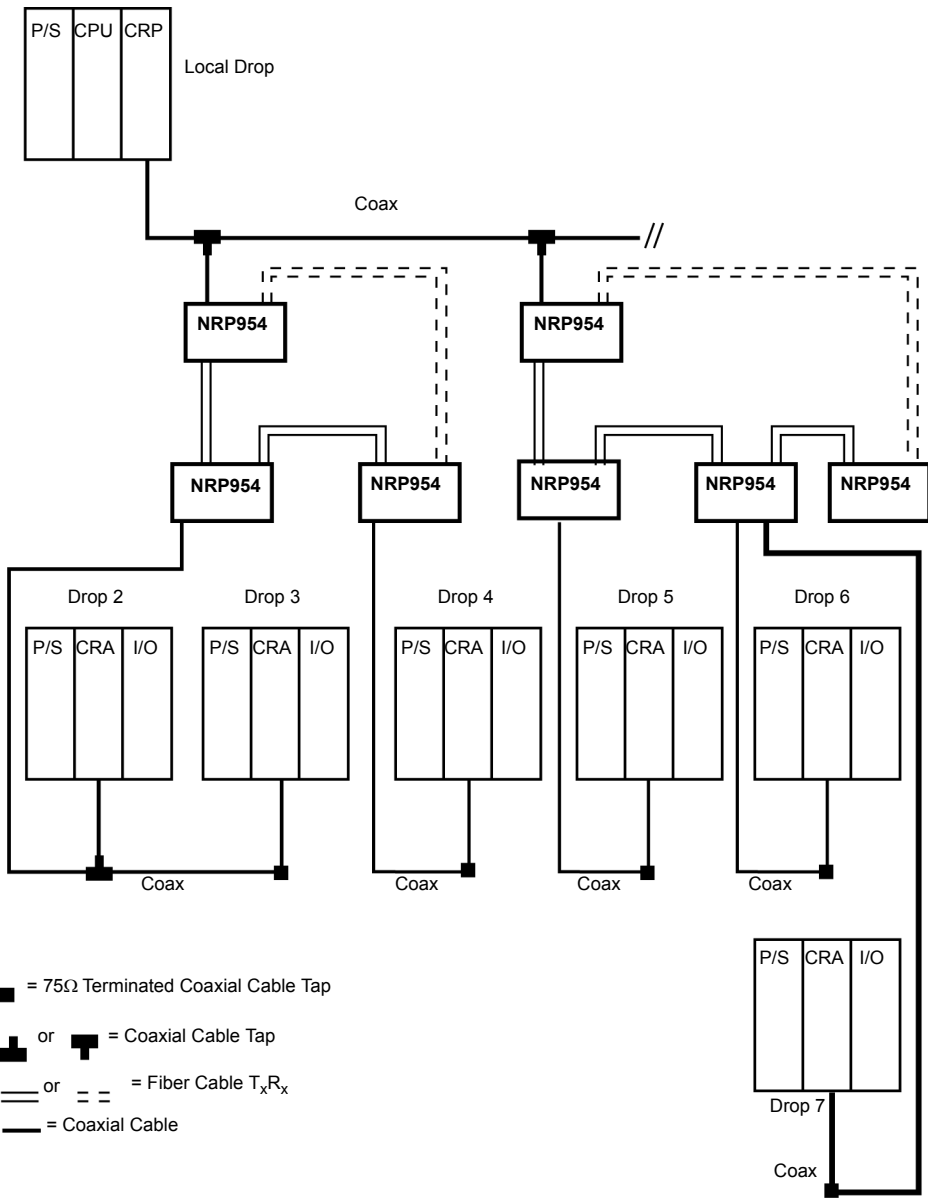
- 20 ns for Repeater 1 from the coax connection (A) to the fiber cable
- 10 ns for Repeater 2 from its fiber cable input to its fiber cable output
- 20 ns for Repeater 3 from its fiber cable input to the coax connection (B)

Jitter contribution as measured from the coax input on Repeater 1, point A to the coax connection at Repeater 2, point C is 40 ns. In both repeaters, the coax and fiber interfaces contribute 20 ns to jitter.

The total allowable jitter in a fiber network is 130 ns. Jitter effects from fiber links separated by a coaxial cable segment are cumulative. Using the diagram above and presuming the fiber cable contribution to be 5 ns, total jitter from point A to point B is 55 ns. If this network was duplicated and separated by a coaxial cable segment, then the total fiber network jitter contribution would be 110 ns between the RIO head and the last drop.

Connecting More than Five Drops

The accompanying illustration shows how six RIO drops may be interconnected using fiber optic cable but still remain within the maximum allowable limit of five repeaters. Installers are cautioned against using ring configurations involving more than five RIO repeaters. In the event of a break in the fiber cable, a linear configuration will be the result and communication errors could occur if too many repeaters are connected together. In the following illustration, dotted lines show three and four RIO repeater ring configurations.



Planning RIO Drops

Overview

The maximum length for Modicon’s recommended drop cable is 164 ft (50 m). Keeping the drop cable lengths within this limit helps reduce attenuation on the drop and noise problems on the system. The minimum length for a drop cable is 8.53 ft (2.5 m)—shorter drop cable generates unacceptable signal reflections from the tap. RG-6 is the more commonly used drop cable—it has fair noise immunity and good flexibility. RG-11 cable can also be used—it has better noise immunity and lower loss; RG-11 is recommended in high noise environments.

Connecting the Drop Cable to the Drop Adapter

All drop adapters connect to a coaxial drop cable via either an F connector or a BNC connector:

RIO Adapter	RIO Cable Connection	Drop Termination
J890/J892-00x	BNC Connector	External
J890/J892-10x*	BNC Connector or F Connector(s)	In the drop adapter
ASP890300	F Connector(s)	In the drop adapter
P890/P892		
P451/P453		
140CRA93100/93200		

*The older J890/J892-00X adapters use a BNC connector and require a 75 Ω inline terminator in drop cable.

Each drop adapter must be connected separately to a tap port. The tap isolates the drop from other drops on the network and also from the trunk cable. Multiple adapters cannot be connected on the same port of a tap. Since an adapter is not directly connected to any other node on the network, most installation and noise-related problems at a drop will not reflect across the entire RIO system.

RIO drop adapters cannot be connected directly to the trunk; they must be connected to a drop cable that is connected to a tap. Direct connection of adapters will cause a severe trunk impedance mismatch.

Minimizing Low Receive Signal Level Problems

Some RIO processing devices have a dynamic range of +0 dBmV to +35 dBmV for receiving signals. Any signal below +0 dBmV cannot be received. No indication will be given that the signal is too low, but signal levels that vary above and below this figure will exhibit an increased bit error rate. (This is why the attenuation between any two nodes must not exceed 32 ... 35 dB.)

Problems related to dynamic range can be difficult to find, and can vary from day to day. Therefore, a properly designed system should provide a sufficient margin of error that allows for variances in the signal level—e.g., a receive level of +1 dBmV or above, attenuation of 32 dB between the RIO head-and the adapter at the most remote drop.

**Documenting
Your Cable
System Design**

The cable system should be fully documented. As you work with the installer to determine a full list of requirements, make a detailed topological drawing of the system layout. The detailed plan should include the cable types, all the cable system hardware in position, and the complete cable routing plan.

As a starting point, you can document the design in less detail using the specification forms that follow. This initial plan does not give the installer all the routing information, but does give the most important information.

Customer:	Network:
Location:	Plant:
Revision/Approved by:	Date:
Trunk Cable Materials	
Trunk Cable Manufacturer:	
Model # Quantity Needed: dB Loss (per 100 ft. or m): Maximum Pull Strength (lb. or kg)	
Trunk Cable Connector Manufacturer:	
Model #: Quantity Needed:	
Trunk Terminator Manufacturer:	
Model #: Quantity Needed:	
Trunk Splice Manufacturer:	
Model #: Quantity Needed:	
Trunk Grounding Block Manufacturer:	
Model #: Quantity Needed:	
Misc. Connector Manufacturer:	
Model #: Quantity Needed:	

Customer:	Network:
Location:	Plant:
Revision/Approved by:	Date:
Trunk Cable Materials	
Misc. Connector Manufacturer	
<p style="text-align: right;">Model #:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Quantity Needed:</p>	
Misc. Connector Manufacturer	
<p style="text-align: right;">Model #:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Quantity Needed:</p>	

Drop Cable and Tap Materials
Drop Cable Manufacturer:
Model #
Quantity Needed:
dB Loss (per 100 ft. or m):
Maximum Pull Strength (lb. or kg)
Minimum Bend Radius (in or mm):
Self-terminating F Adapter Manufacturer:
Model #:
Quantity Needed:
Drop Cable F Connector Manufacturer:
Model #:
Quantity Needed:
Tap Manufacturer:
Model #:
Number of Ports:
Through Loss (dB):
Drop Loss (dB):
Quantity Needed:
Tap Manufacturer:
Model #:
Number of Ports:
Insertion Loss (dB):

Trunk Cable Length			
Tap Number	Trunk length (from head)	Trunk Length (from last tap)	Drop Attenuation (other comments)

RIO Network Hardware Components

3

At a Glance

Overview

This chapter provides information on RIO network hardware components.

What's in this Chapter?

This chapter contains the following topics:

Topic	Page
RG-6 Cable	68
RG-11 Cable	69
Semirigid Cable	70
Selecting Fiber Optic Cable	71
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Tap Specifications	74
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F Connectors for Coaxial Cables	78
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Self-terminating F Adapter Options	85
Ground Blocks	86
Surge Suppressors	88
Fiber Optic Repeater	90
Recommended Materials for Fiber Optic Links	93

RG-6 Cable

Overview

The following table shows specifications for the Modicon 97-5750-000 RG-6 cable (available in 1000 ft rolls):

Modicon 97-5750-000 RG-6 Cable (Belden 3092A)	
Attenuation	0.38 dB/100 ft @ 2 MHz 0.36 db/100 ft @ 1.544 MHz, RIO Transmit Frequency
Impedance and Tolerance	75 Ω (+/- 3 Ω)
Velocity of Propagation	82%
Capacitance	16.2 pF/ft
Type of Shield	Bonded Foil Quad Shield
Type of Jacket	PVC
UL/NEC Rating	CMR or CL2R
Minimum Bend Radius	3 in.
Maximum Pull Strength	162 lb

Modicon Pre-assembled Drop Cable

Modicon offers pre-assembled drop cables, built with high quality F connectors, a self-terminating F adapter, and a high quality quad shield RG-6 cable. Each assembly is fully tested and certified before shipment to assure conformance to RIO specifications. Assemblies are available in two standard lengths—50 ft (15 m) assembly (AS-MBII-003) and 140 ft (42 m) assembly (AS-MBII-004).

Modicon Pre-Assembled Drop Cable Specifications		
Tested Frequency Range	500 kHz ... 30 MHz	
Impedance	75 Ω (+/- 2 Ω)	
Attenuation at 1.5 MHz	50 ft length 140 ft length	0.3 dB maximum 0.7 dB maximum
Return loss	24 dB minimum	
Tests Performed	Attenuation Sweep Test, Return Loss Sweep	

Recommended RG-6 Plenum Cable

Belden recommends 3132A as a plenum-equivalent RG-6 cable. Contact Belden technical support for connector and stripper recommendations. See *RIO Cable Material Suppliers*, p. 143 for contact information.

RG-11 Cable

Overview

The following table shows the specifications for the Modicon 97-5951-000 cable, which is available in 1000 ft rolls.

Modicon 97-5951-000 RG-11 Cable (Belden 3094A)	
Attenuation	0.38 dB/100 ft @ 5 MHz 0.17 dB/100 ft @ 1.544 MHz, RIO Transmit Frequency
Impedance and Tolerance	75 Ω +/- 3 Ω
Velocity of Propagation	82%
Capacitance	16.2 pF/ft
Type of Shield	Bonded Foil Quad Shield
Type of Jacket	PVC
UL/NEC Rating	CMR and CLR2
Minimum Bend Radius	4.5 in. (114.3 mm) (estimated)
Maximum Pull Strength	300 lb (estimated)

Recommended RG-11 Plenum Cable

Belden recommends 3095A as a Plenum-equivalent RG-11 cable. Contact Belden technical support for connector and stripper recommendations. See *RIO Cable Material Suppliers*, p. 143 for contact information.

Semirigid Cable

Overview

The following tables show the specifications for recommended semirigid cables.

CommScope QR 540 JCA	
Attenuation	0.14 dB/100 ft @ 5 MHz
Impedance and Tolerance	75 Ω +/- 2 Ω
Velocity of Propagation	88%
Capacitance	15.3 pF/ft
Type of Shield	Aluminum
Type of Jacket	Polyethylene
Minimum Bend Radius	5.0 in.
Maximum Pull Strength	220 lb

CommScope QR 860 JCA	
Attenuation	0.09 dB/100 ft @ 5 MHz
Impedance and Tolerance	75 Ω +/- 2 Ω
Velocity of Propagation	88%
Capacitance	15.3 pF/ft
Type of Shield	Aluminum
Type of Jacket	Polyethylene
Minimum Bend Radius	7.0 in.
Maximum Pull Strength	450 lb

Selecting Fiber Optic Cable

Overview

If you are using 490NRP954 Fiber Optic Repeaters in your RIO network, there are several parameters you need to consider, among them cable attenuation and cable bandwidth. Parameters are specified by the cable manufacturer and are based on:

- The wavelength of the optical signal—820 nm in the RIO optical link
- The cable index—use graded-index cable only
- The fiber size—50/125 μm , 62.5/125 μm , or 100/140 μm

For most optical cable links, the use of 62.5/125 μm cable is recommended because of its relatively low loss and signal distortion. In applications where high optical power is required—e.g., to support additional optical devices such as splitters or star couplers—the 100/140 μm cable should be used (see *Attenuation Considerations in an Optical Path*, p. 56 for more details on design considerations).

Many cable vendors offer multiple choices for a variety of code ratings:

- From the variety of cables—e.g., AMP or Belden offerings—select the one that meets the demands of your application. Wherever possible, Modicon recommends that a multiconductor cable be considered, since it is inexpensive; it provides a backup in case a cable gets cut in the process of pulling it; and you will always find uses for the extra path(s), be it for voice, video, other communications, and/or other control applications.
 - Most 62.5/125 μm cables are rated at 3.5 dB loss per km. With a multiconductor cable, all the pairs usually come with an attenuation specification as measured, which may be significantly less than 3.5 dB/km.
-

Hardware Overview

Overview

This section provides detailed information about the requirements and availability of hardware components for the RIO cable system (see the table on the following page). Many of the components are available directly from Modicon; qualified alternative sources are also given.

Required Coaxial Cable System Hardware Components

All RIO cable systems require the following hardware components:

- Taps to isolate the individual drop adapters from the rest of the network
- F connectors for making drop cable connections at the taps
- F or BNC connectors for making drop cable connections at the adapter
- Terminators to assure a properly balanced network and to keep unwanted signals out of the cable system

A splitter is required in a Hot Standby system to connect the primary and standby PLCs to the trunk cable, and may be used under certain conditions in other RIO cable topologies (see *Planning and Designing an RIO Cable System*, p. 19).

Optional Coaxial Cable System Hardware Components

Depending on the types of cable used in the system and on overall demands that will be placed on the network by the application, some of the following hardware options may be used in your RIO cable system:

- Adapters for converting from F to BNC connectors for making high performance semirigid trunk cable connections compatible with standard system hardware
 - Self-terminating F adapters or in-line BNC terminators for automatic termination in drop cables should they be disconnected from the drop adapter
-

Optional RIO Fiber Optics Repeater

The 490NRP954 RIO Fiber Optics Repeater provides an alternative fiber-medium communication link between two or more RIO nodes or network segments. Each repeater contains one electrical RIO interface (an F-connector) and two fiber optic transceivers. The RIO interface has the same specifications and restrictions as a head RIO processor with a pre-amp—e.g., 35 dB dynamic range—and must be treated accordingly.

The repeater is passive—i.e., there is no regeneration of the received signal in the repeater and no additional delay to the signal produced by the repeater.

RIO Coaxial Cable System Hardware Components

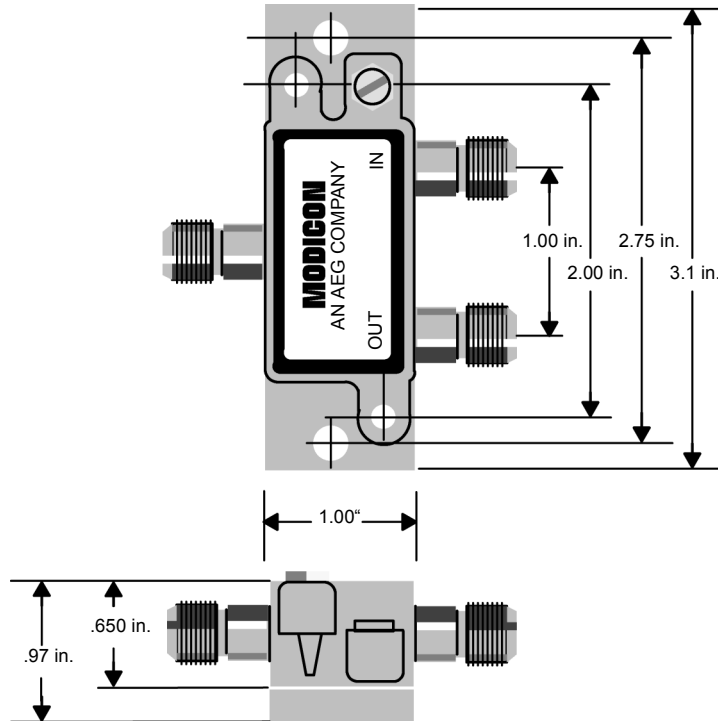
The following table shows the RIO coaxial cable system hardware components.

Description		Part Number
Tap		MA-0185-100
Splitter	Hot Standby system use	MA-0186-100
	used for trunk splitter	MA-0331-000
F Connectors	quad shield RG-11 (6/bag)	490RIO00211
	quad shield RG-6 (10/cassette)	MA-0329-001
Right angle F connector		52-0480-000
BNC connectors	non-quad shield RG-6	52-0487-000
	quad shield RG-6	043509446
F-to-BNC Adapter		52-0614-000
BNC Jack to male F connector		52-0724-000
Tap port terminator		52-0402-000
Trunk terminator		52-0422-000
BNC In-line terminator		60-0513-000
Self-terminating BNC Adapter	Hot Standby system and drop use	52-0370-000
Hot Standby Processor Warning Label	Hot Standby system use	MD-9423-000
Self-terminating F Adapter	Hot Standby system and drop use	52-0399-000 (non-quad shield RG-6)
	Hot Standby system and drop use	52-0411-000 (quad shield RG-6)
Ground block		60-0545-000
Surge suppressor		CBT-22300G (Relcom)
Semirigid Connectors	QR540JCA Cable	A1540FMQR (CommScope)
	QR869JCA Cable	A1860FMWQR (CommScope)

Tap Specifications

Overview

Modicon MA-0185-100 Taps connect the drop cables to the main trunk cable and isolate the RIO drop adapter from the rest of the network. This tap is nondirectional—it allows signals to be propagated in both directions along the trunk cable. An MA-0185-100 tap has one drop port and two trunk ports.



Note: Although the trunk ports are labeled IN and OUT, these labels can be ignored—i.e., the tap is not directional.

An MA-0185-100 tap is supplied with a plastic isolator on its back. The tap isolates the drop adapter from the trunk cable by 14 dB.

Unused ports on the taps must be terminated with a Modicon 52-0402-000 Port Terminator, and the last (trunk-out) port of the last tap on the network must be terminated with a Modicon 52-0422-000 Trunk Terminator (see *Network Terminators*, p. 83).

The following table shows the specifications for the MA-0185-100 Tap.

MA-0185-100 Tap Specifications	
Impedance	75 Ω
Frequency Range	100 kHz ... 30 MHz
Tap Loss	14 dB (+0.5 dB)
Trunk Insertion Loss	0.8 dB maximum
Trunk Return Loss	26 dB maximum
Tap Return Loss	-18 dB minimum
Temperature Range	-40 ... +60° C
Humidity	95% at 85° C
Sealing	RFI/EMI sealed
Interconnections	F Connectors torque up to 90 in./lb

Note: Taps not supplied by Modicon are not supported by Modicon.

Note: The Modicon MA-0185-000 Tap can be used on an RIO network if it is at Revision C. Do not use a lower revision of the MA-0185-000 tap.

Note: Do not ground a tap unless you are using it specifically as the single-point ground for the entire RIO cable system.

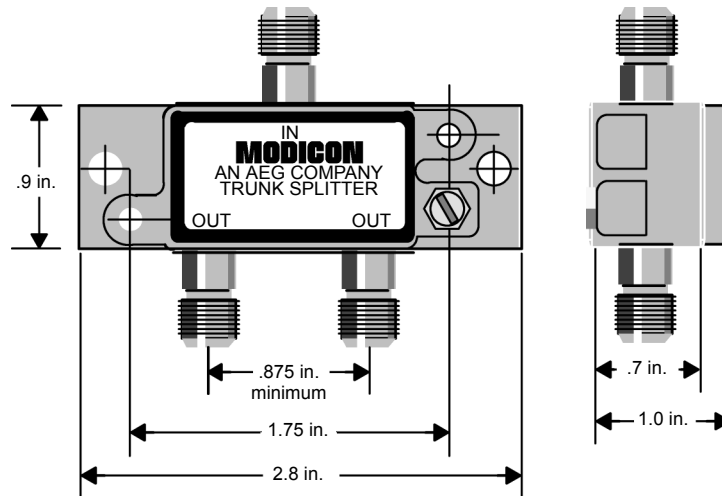
Splitter Specifications

Overview

The Modicon MA-0186-100 Splitter is used as a signal combiner in a Hot Standby cable system; each programmable controller has the ability to transmit onto the network using the splitter.

The Modicon MA-0331-000 splitter is used as a branching device in certain trunk cable topologies, as defined in *Planning and Designing an RIO Cable System*, p. 19.

The following illustration shows the splitter dimensions.



Note: When not in use, splitter ports must be terminated with a Modicon 52-0402-000 Port Terminator.

The following table shows the specifications for the MA-0186-100 and MA-0331-000 specifications.

	MA-0186-100	MA-0331-000
Impedance	75 Ω	75 Ω
Frequency Range	100 kHz ... 5 MHz	100 kHz ... 5 MHz
Trunk Insertion Loss	6.0 dB	3.5 dB
Trunk Return Loss	18 dB	30 dB
Temperature Range	-40° C ... +60° C	-40° C ... +85° C
Humidity	95% @ 60° C	95% @ 85° C
Sealing	RFI/EMI sealed	RFI/EMI sealed

	MA-0186-100	MA-0331-000
Interconnections	F connector, torque 90 in./lb max	F connector, torque 90 in./lb max

Note: Splitters not supplied by Modicon will not be supported by Modicon.

Note: The Modicon MA-0186-000 splitter can be used in an RIO network if the splitter is at least Revision B. Do not use a lower revision of the MA-0186-000 splitter.

Note: Existing systems that utilize the MA-0186-X00 as a trunk splitter are not required to upgrade to MA-0331-000 if performance is acceptable. The MA-0331-000 splitter provides higher port isolation.

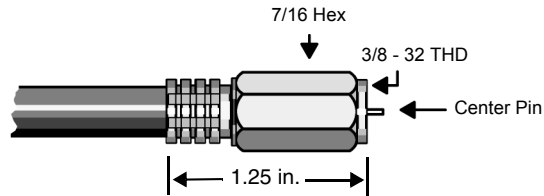
F Connectors for Coaxial Cables

Overview

Flexible cables (RG-6 and RG-11) use F connectors to make the tap port connections; F connectors are also used to make the drop cable connection to certain drop adapters (see *Planning RIO Drops*, p. 61). F connectors use a 3/8-32 thread. Always use industrial grade F connectors in RIO cable systems—commercial grade F connectors should not be used.

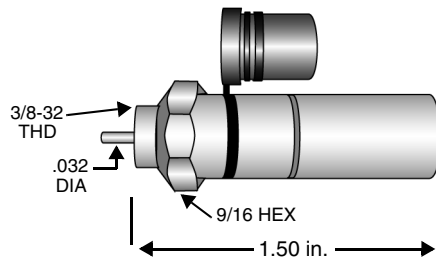
F Connector for Quad Shield RG-6 Cable

The Modicon MA-0329-001 F Connector is recommended for quad shield RG-6 cable; it is packaged in a plastic cassette that contains ten connectors. These connectors can be purchased only by the cassette.



F Connector for Quad Shield RG-11 Cable

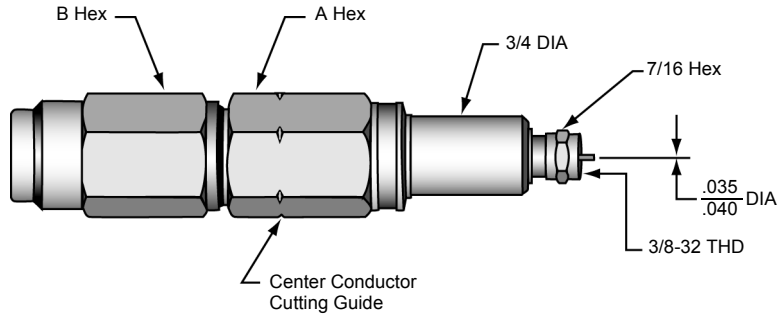
The Modicon 490RIO00211 F connector is recommended for quad shield RG-11 cable; it is purchased in a package that contains six connectors.



F Connectors for Semirigid Cable

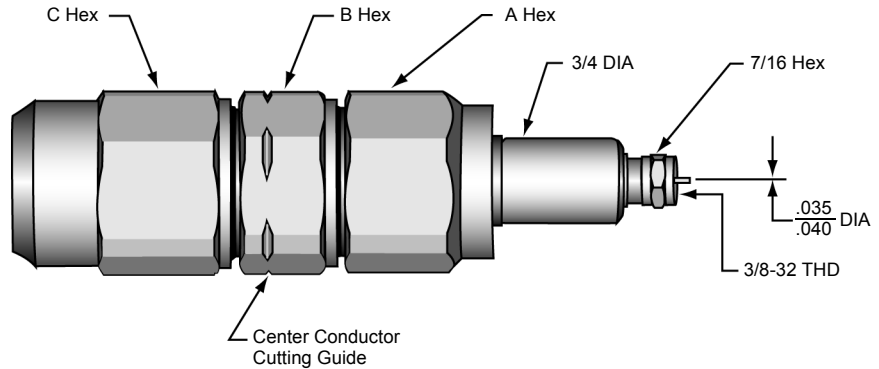
The following F connectors are suggested for use with CommScope® QR type semirigid cable. See *RIO Cable Material Suppliers*, p. 143 for contact information.

The following illustration shows the Thomas & Betts LRC® two-piece AI540FMQR adaptor for connectorizing with QR 540 JCA cable.



A Hex and B Hex = 1 in., Overall Length = 5 1/8 in.

The following illustration shows the Thomas & Betts LRC® three-piece AI860FMWQR adaptor for connectorizing with QR 860 JCA cable.

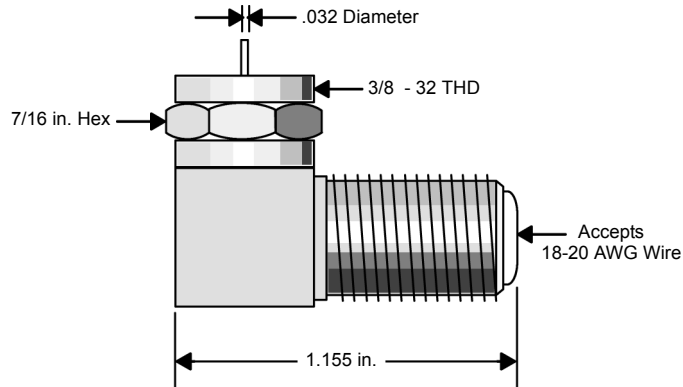


A Hex, B Hex and C Hex = 1 1/2 in., Overall Length = 5 5/8 in.

F Adapters for Semirigid Cable

Overview

A Modicon 52-0480-000 Right Angle F Adapter is usually needed to attach semirigid trunk cable to the F connector on a tap port; it may also be necessary at other connection points in order to maintain bend radius tolerance on a semirigid cable.



Modicon has also approved the FF90FM right-angle F adapter manufactured by LRC Electronics and the GFMF/90 right-angle F adapter manufactured by Gilbert Engineering. See *RIO Cable Material Suppliers*, p. 143 for contact information.

BNC Connectors and Adapters

Overview

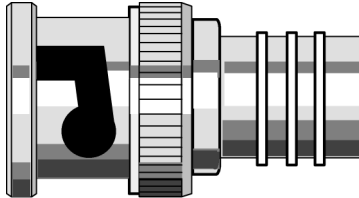
Some drop cables may require a BNC connector to connect to certain RIO drop adapters (see *Planning RIO Drops*, p. 61) or to certain RIO processors at the controller head-end. Always use industrial grade BNC connectors or adapters in RIO cable systems—commercial grade hardware should not be used.

BNC Connectors for RG-6 Cable

The recommended BNC connectors fit RG-6 cable only. Two sizes of BNC connectors are available for quad shield and non-quad shield RG-6 cables:

- The Modicon 043509446 BNC Connector for quad shield (Consult Sales, available by special order only)
- The Modicon 52-0487-000 BNC Connector for non-quad shield cable

The following illustration shows the BNC Connector for RG-6 cable.



Note: Quad shield cable has a larger outside diameter, so it requires a larger connector. Do not use the wrong size BNC connector for the cable you are using. Belden flexible cables are the only approved non-quad shield cables.
