

**SECTION 27 13 13  
COMMUNICATIONS COPPER BACKBONE CABLING**

SPEC WRITER NOTES:

1. Delete between // // if not applicable to project. Also delete any other item or paragraph not applicable in the section and renumber the paragraphs.

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION:**

This section specifies requirements for telecommunications copper (UTP) backbone and horizontal cabling in structured cabling systems in computer rooms.

**1.2 SUMMARY**

Section Includes:

- A. Copper (UTP) Backbone Cables.

**1.3 REFERENCES**

- A. VA Infrastructure Standard for Telecommunications Spaces.

**1.4 RELATED WORK:**

- A. Computer room structured cabling: Section 27 10 00, STRUCTURED CABLING.
- B. Termination equipment: Section 27 11 19, COMMUNICATIONS TERMINATION BLOCKS AND PATCH PANELS.
- B. Cable labeling requirements: Section 27 05 53, IDENTIFICATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.

**1.5 SUBMITTALS:**

- A. Submit in accordance with Section 27 05 00, COMMON WORK RESULTS FOR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.

**PART 2 - PRODUCTS**

**2.1 COPPER (UTP) BACKBONE CABLES.**

Copper (UTP) backbone and horizontal cables are used in computer room structured cabling to connect Main Distribution Areas (MDAs), Horizontal Distribution Areas (HDAs), and server cabinet Equipment Distributors (EDs).

- A. Performance Category. Copper (UTP) backbone cables shall meet the Category 6A performance requirements. Category 6A connectors are required.
- B. Performance Specifications. Meets or exceeds TIA-EIA-568-C.2-10 and TSB-155.
- C. Limited Power (LP) Certification. UL Listed as x-LP (0.5A).

- D. Termination. Factory pre-terminated TIA 568B.
- E. Testing. Factory certified to meet performance category requirements per TIA 568-C.2.
- F. Conductor Size. 22-24AWG.
- G. Jacket Rating. Communications Multipurpose Cable, Plenum (CMP) shall be specified if any portion of the cable passes through an NEC-defined plenum. Communications Multipurpose Cable, Riser (CMR) shall be specified for all other applications. CMP may be used as a substitute for CMR.
- H. Bundling and Construction. Copper (UTP) backbone cables shall be provided in 6-cable bundles with individual 8P8C media interface connectors (RJ-45 'jacks') or 6-jack cassettes designed to fit in copper (UTP) patch panels.
- I. Color. A-side 8P8C media interface connectors (RJ-45) shall be blue. B-side 8P8C connectors shall be yellow.
- J. Length. Backbone cabling used shall be procured to the specific length required by the design (horizontal and vertical paths) with no more than 2 feet of excess length.

**PART 3 - EXECUTION**

**3.1 IMPLEMENTATION.**

- A. A. All cabling and equipment shall be labeled per the requirements of the VA Infrastructure Standard for Telecommunications Spaces.
- B. Install first level backbone and horizontal structured cabling in the computer room in cable tray and fiber raceway systems following diverse path routing.

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