



Employee Newsletter

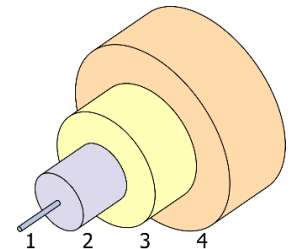
March 2024

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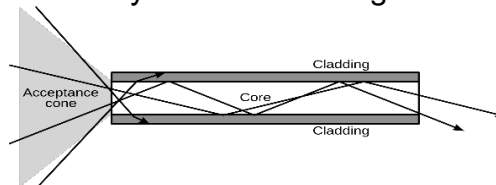
Did you know.....

The core of a conventional optic fiber is the part of the fiber that guides the light. It is a cylinder of glass or plastic and is surrounded by a medium with a lower index of refraction called a cladding made of different glass or plastic. Light travelling in the core reflect from the core-cladding due to total internal reflection. Both the core and cladding have a refractive index which is a measure of how fast light can travel through something. As a result, the fiber transmits all rays that enter the fiber. If light hits the cladding with a small enough angle the light will be reflected through the core instead of passing through the cladding and continue down the fiber. Light being confined by the core/cladding are called guided rays.



The structure of a typical single-mode fiber.

1. Core 9 μm diameter
2. Cladding 125 μm dia.
3. Coating 250 μm dia.
4. Buffer or jacket 900 μm dia.



In this diagram it shows you how light is guided through an optical fiber. Incident rays fall within the acceptance cone of the fiber then are transmitted, whereas those which fall outside of the acceptance cone are lost in the cladding. The result is transmitted messages modulated onto light waves at the speed of light.

Diagrams: by Bob Mellish, SVG derivative by Benchill - derivative work by uploader, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=6561199>

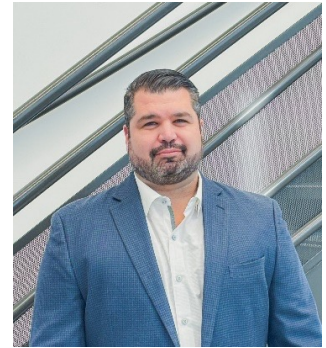
UPDATES AND REMINDERS



Since the implementation of QuickBooks Time App in February, we have seen significant improvements in the accuracy and timeliness of payroll for our team members. Thank you very much for everyone that has adopted this new technology. In March, around the 15th, each team member will be able to view their PTO balances in the QuickBooks App. If anyone has any questions still on how to use this App, please contact Jeff Pinter jpinter@goaptus.com.

PROJECT UPDATES

Our Chief Operating Officer, **Ben Trapuzzano**, shares a list of our **completed projects**. Great job Team Aptus!



COMPLETED PROJECTS	PROJECT MANAGER	SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN
801NC I-5877 (Y12)	Felix Estrella	Brandon Robbins
1621 I-81 New River	James Puzino	Winona Osborn
2405 - SC BJWSA Lemon Island Bridge Beaufort	James Puzino	Omar Brown
2408 - SC BJWSA Broad River Bridge	James Puzino	Omar Brown

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Burns Conrad - 3/14/2006
 Bill Cox - 3/9/2021
 Jeff Pinter - 3/13/2023

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Michael Disheroon - 3/1
 Ronald Belleville - 3/6
 Dave Mattia - 3/10
 Taj Stewart - 3/12
 Robert Jones - 3/13
 James Jagacki - 3/15
 Michael Gaines - 3/17
 Robin Tuttle - 3/26
 Demond Battle - 3/29
 Tatum Cobb - 3/30

NEW HIRES

Christopher Plymire - CM underground – 2/28
 Zackary Stelly – Locator underground – 2/28

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

CDL Operator – Charlotte, NC

SAFETY UPDATES

LADDERS SAFETY

As soon as you set foot on the ladder's first rung and pull your body off the ground, gravity works to bring you back to earth. It is no surprise that ladder safety begins at the ground.

THINK BEFORE YOU CARRY

Before you start to haul a ladder around, evaluate the area where you will be working. Ladders can be heavy and unwieldy. You could strike another person or object or hit electrical power lines.

START WITH A GOOD FOUNDATION

- Before using a ladder, inspect it for faults, such as broken rungs or rails. If it is an extension ladder, inspect the pulleys, ropes, and locks for excessive wear.
- Check the footings and pads to ensure that they still have a nonskid surface.
- When setting up a ladder, ensure that it is set on level and stable ground. Some ladders have a picture guide on the ladder to assist in setup.

CLIMB WITH CARE

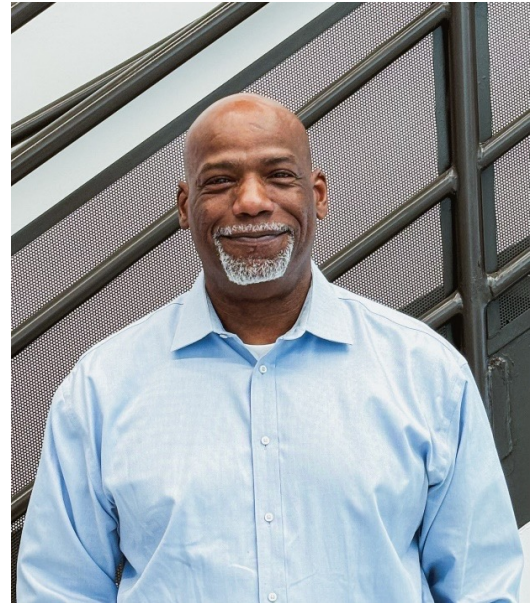
- Remember the "three-point rule": keep at least two hands and one foot, or two feet and one hand, in contact with the ladder at all times.
- Never climb with equipment in your hands. Use your pockets, equipment belt, or a tool pouch and raise heavy objects with a hand line.
- Step off at the bottom rung of the ladder.
Never jump off of a ladder.
- If you forget something, always climb down the ladder to retrieve it yourself; don't have someone toss it up to you.
- When you climb up or down, face the ladder.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT - OFFICE

Dwayne Phelps – Payroll / HR
Generalist

I've been employed with Aptus Group for 2 years and I absolutely love what I do, I'm originally from New Jersey and I'm a huge fan of New York sports, Knicks, Yankees, Giants and Rangers are my teams. I have 2 daughters 21 3rd year of college and 18 last year of high school. Fun fact, I ran track Cross Country in high school, my first job was in a pizzeria, and I was also a butcher.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT - FIELD

Omar Brown - Foreman

Hey Aptus Family I'm Omar Brown. I'm the youngest of two. I'm from Atlanta, Ga It will be 8 years for years for me in august, 2 years on the gas side and 6 years on construction. Favorite food is my mama's Shepherd's pie. I also love playing basketball. One interesting thing about me is that I play the electric guitar. Shout out to Adam (A-Boogie). Aptus has given me an opportunity to learn & grow on a level that I didn't even know I had in me. I came on not knowing ANYTHING about gas or construction. I will be forever grateful for the opportunities to continue to grow & prosper. Let's do big things team. The sky is the limit.



GO APTUS !!

NEWEST ADDITIONS - CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Charladus Simpkins and Family on the birth of their daughter, Charlei Dior Simpkins. She was born on February 20, 2024. Mom and baby are doing well!



IT – TIPS AND TRICKS

One of the biggest IT tips that I have for quick resolutions of issues is doing a “Full Restart”.

Doing a full restart is often misconstrued as just shutting down the computer. While this does physically power down the computer, the operating system doesn’t recognize the computer as being powered off. This is a glitch in modern operating systems – Windows 10, and Windows 11. The procedure to do a full restart is as follows –

1. On the computer keyboard, hit the “Windows / Flag” key and the “ X “ key at the same time.
2. From the menu, choose “Shutdown or signout”
3. Choose “Restart”

If the procedure above is followed, the computer will restart and the operating system will recognize this as a full restart, typically resolving most minor issues.

PROJECT PHOTO OF THE MONTH



February's winning picture is credited to Kor Antine. Picture was taken in Roanoke Rapids, NC.

Remember to submit photos to the email address: FieldPhotos@Aptus.com every month for a chance to win \$100. The winners will have a chance to get their photos on the Aptus website. Check April Issue to see which picture won in March.

NEW WINS

Congratulations to our Sales/Estimators bringing in the following new wins!



Q2	South-East	Reel Tel	GA, Cedar Shoals Covington Bypass Road Eastbound over Yellow River Newton
Q2	South-East	Reel Tel	GA, Covington Bypass Road over Dried Indian Creek Newton County
Q1	South-East		SC, BJWSA Broad River Bridge Inspection Beaufort