Type codes for fiber optic cables

A-	Outdoor cable
B	Armoring
(BN)	Glass yarn, non-metallic armoring, e.g. for rodent protection
D	Loose buffer tube, filled
E	Single-mode fiber
F	Filling compound in the cable core
FR	Cable with improved burning behavior
...F...	Attenuation coefficient in dB/km and dispersion in ps/(nm km) at a wavelength of 1310 nm
G	Multimode fiber
H	Halogen-free jacket
...H...	Attenuation coefficient in dB/km and dispersion in ps/(nm km) at a wavelength of 1550 nm
J-	Indoor cable
K	Slotted core
N	Fiber in central core tube without buffer
NC	Non-corrosive smoke fumes
(L)	Laminated Aluminum sheath
LG	Stranded in layers
S	Metallic elements in the core
Q	Dry swellable material in the cable core (dry core)
(SG)	Armoring by laminated, smooth, longitudinal, overlapped steel tape
(SR)	Armoring by laminated, corrugated, longitudinal, overlapped steel tape
Y	Jacket or protective cover of polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
2Y	Jacket or protective cover of polyethylene (PE)
4Y	Jacket or protective cover of polyamide (PA)
(ZM)	Metallic anti-buckling and strength members in the jacket
(ZN)	Non-metallic anti-buckling and strength members
(...ZN)	Number of non-metallic anti-buckling and strength members in the jacket

VDE	Association of German electrical engineers

Color coding of fiber optic outdoor cables

- The **fibers** in each loose buffer tube and fiber ribbon are identified by different colors.

Fiber no.	Color code
1	blue
2	orange
3	green
4	brown
5	gray
6	white
7	red
8	black
9	yellow
10	violet
11	pink
12	turquoise

- The **loose buffer tubes** are identified by colors.
  - **Pilot/Directional System:** 1st tube red, 2nd tube green, following tubes natural colored
  - other tube identification systems according to national standards on request
- The **fiber ribbons** are clearly distinguishable from each other by the count number printed on them

Example of an outdoor cable

A-DF(ZN)2Y4Y 12x12 E9/125 0,36F3,5 + 0,23H18LG

Outdoor cable with filling compound, non-metallic strength members, polyethylene jacket and protective cover of PA, 12 filled loose buffers tubes, each with 12 E9/125 single-mode fibers: attenuation coefficient ≤ 0.36 dB/km and dispersion ≤ 3.5 ps/(nm km) at a wavelength of 1310 nm; attenuation coefficient 0.23 dB/km and dispersion ≤ 18 ps/(nm km) at a wavelength of 1550 nm; stranded in layers