

# FutureFLEX<sup>®</sup>

## Application Report

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES & MILITARY BASES



### U.S. Army Specialty School at Fort Gordon, Georgia, Hosts a Multitude of Applications on Local Area Network

At Fort Gordon, Georgia, the U.S. Army runs its military occupational specialty school for automatic switching operations and maintenance, and line-of-sight radio operation. Known as the GTE resident school, it is an Army-contracted telecommunications training facility.

When LAN administrators needed to provide online access to GTE's computer-based training programs in Taunton, MA, they also decided to build a campus-wide LAN to serve 52 terminals in 11 of the 24 buildings, an increase from 12 terminals in a single building. Copper wire was not feasible as a data transport medium at Fort Gordon, since external installations are subject to electromagnetic interference, such as lightning, which could cause a network failure.

Estimates for a conventional optical fiber backbone network reached \$226,000, primarily labor costs, and would have taken

from four to six weeks to install -- more time than the schedule allowed. Instead, the GTE school selected the FutureFLEX ABF Cabling System. After taking a three-day installation course, a team was able to provide ABF to the wiring closet for all 24 buildings at a cost of only \$60,000, including servers. The same team now handles all ongoing maintenance and network expansion.

Fort Gordon's FutureFLEX LAN can access GTE's Wide Area Network, replacing a dial-up T-1 system that served only ten percent of the base population. The LAN also supports campus-wide document management, various forms, e-mail and collaborative development work at the home office in Massachusetts, where much of the school's publishing is done for classroom work.



### Other FutureFLEX Installations

The Pentagon, Arlington, VA

Naval Air Systems Command,  
Arlington, VA

Naval Air Warfare Center,  
Patuxent River, MD

China Lake Naval Weapons Station,  
China Lake, CA

Naval Research Labs, Tuscaloosa, AL

NASA, Cape Canaveral, FL

Edwards Air Force Base, CA

Fort Sam Houston, TX

Veterans Administration Headquarters,  
Washington, DC