

## Service Providers

Salmon-pink cable, curled and coiled in two figures of eight. The larger connector, a rectangle of metal with two square cut-outs and a metallic dimple, protrudes from a rubberised rectangle, on which is imprinted a cartoon ghoulish face: squashed circle, pointy cocked ears, circle eye-sockets and a half-crescent mouth. The smaller connector, hosts, not a ghoulish face, but the three-pronged USB insignia; each prong ending in a shape – circle, triangle, square. Text, visually half-chopped, is printed directly onto the c

a  
b  
l  
e

Short skinny cable, Royal Blue, a single loop. As the cable curls upwards from its bottom tip it kinks outwards to the left of its upper metal tip, before curling around. This kink a nose, a nasal protrusion. The upper metal tip an eye, with silver eyebrow. The lower metal tip, a tongue or snaggle tooth. The cable straightens into a smooth forehead in an otherwise satisfyingly knobby potato h

e  
a  
d

Black, splayed left to right, a short cable, chest puffed. At its left end the cable enters a cylindrical tiered black hard plastic casing, out of which a circle of metal extrudes. The cable slopes into a hard plastic end, sitting at a right angle, out of which extends a cylinder of metal, circled blue. The end flares out a couple of millimetres and ends in a shallow p

o  
i  
n

t

A coil of grey-green rope-like cable will snag at rough skin like fibreglass and send electric shocks to the brain. At its left end, a flat rectangle casing, tipped with white plastic edging, is a USB. Its right end, tipped by a five cm long white plastic casing, rounded at the point of entry of the cable, flat at the top, looks like a tampon a

p  
p  
l  
i  
c  
a  
t  
o  
r

Black, curly, sheathed in its original plastic wrapping, a short cable. Left and right ends point upwards out of a tightly coiled middle section, just as rose shoots sprout vertically out of a horizontally tied in stem. The left end, with rounded point is a cylinder of tiered, gold-coloured metal circled by bands of black. The right end is a rectangular plastic chunk, like a toy suitcase. Also housed within the clear plastic packaging, a sachet of silica gel to keep the electronics dry. The care we take. No thought for the toxins required in the making of these electronics, that pollute the sea in which the fish swim on which the birds feed until they fall out of the sky en masse on North Coast b

e  
a  
c  
h  
e  
s

Black, fat cable: a large loop, a small loop, and ends looped under and over. One end a flappy chunk, sits on its side. The other end, long, rectangular, with sloped edges and a rim of metal, sits face down. S

c  
a  
r  
t

Black, wiggly wiggly cable; looped around, above, across, creates a shape sectioned into thirteen. Its left end a metal point, angled. Its right end, a black cylinder with white label states: Ref No. A171 EAGLE TELEPHONE PICK-UP C

O  
I  
L

A bottle-shaped connector sits a third of the way along a black, short cable. The left end, also bottle-shaped shows a short metal protrusion. The cable arches right towards the connector, curls downwards, and folds abruptly back on itself. The two lengths of cable run briefly parallel, then part company, one end curves left, the other gently right, ending in a rusty metal c

I  
i  
p

Black, flat cable splits into three: a yellow end, a red end, a white end. At the black end, the cable loops up, arcs across to the right, loops around and back, runs left, under the split end which connects to the yellow end, continues and loops around to the right, circles under the black end and over the wire that connects to the yellow end - the yellow end having split off sooner than the red or white ends. The cable now splits off in a slight curve left to the white end, and above it, to the red end. M

u  
s  
i  
c  
a  
I

It's complicated. White. Cream. Dirty. Knots. Loops. A plastic white connector a few centimetres along from the small end is architectural, a circle shape with cut outs. It looks like a mid-century tower block with wide slit windows, topped by a white rectangle. The cable loops around, across, back into tight coils, out again, down again, up and around to a ubiquitous U

S  
B

Plug, grey, for a JESSOPS digital camera. A black cable folded into six ovular loops, is tied at the belly with a wire twist. A circular black rubber end rests on the belly of the large transformer plug – in the way that a dog rests a paw on its owner's l

a

p

Red metal cuboid. A white central panel on which, in black, Panasonic. Above the white panel, a thin white line. Above the thin white line, two circles. One houses a cross. The other, a line. Each circle sits beneath short metal teeth sticking out of the top of the cuboid. More text: *FOR LOWER POWER PRODUCTS*, and Zinc C

h

l

o

r

i

d

e

A thick black ear-to-ear band of plastic amongst a scramble of black, red, yellow and grey, tulip-shaped ends and USB connectors. At the heart of the tangle a mass of red laces. A skinny yellow wire extends off to the right and tucks around a figure-of-eight of grey cable, which leads into a white cable, which ends in a U

S

B

An elliptical coil of black cable. Short grey plastic cuboids, dangle down at each end. One end has a flap of plastic which veers gently away, ready to be pressed into submission for insertion into a broadband modem p

o

r

t

A grey cable, hosts two cylindrical barrel connectors a short distance in from each end, in between which, seven wriggly l

o

o

p

s

A black, two-part cable crooks around and breaks into two shaped ends which hang like cartoon eyes on s

t  
a  
l  
k  
s

A grey cable exits a piece of plastic shaped like a horse's toe; it points up, doubles back on itself, wiggles left into a fuzzy tangle, loops back and around on itself, and returns to the t

a  
n  
g  
l  
e

Headphones, from which a squiggle of a cable ends in a jack p

l  
u  
g

Four oval loops of a smooth black cable, still in its packaging. One hooflike end pokes out; a short circular rubber cuff and two silver toes. Printed on the plastic wrapper, a black triangle consists of three bent arrows, 04 at its c

e  
n  
t  
r  
e

A short cable. One end amputated; a flick of wire ends exposed. At the other end the cable enters 1cm of hard grey tubing. This extends into a 2cm rectangle, on which six hexagonal cut out strips look like a washboard. Above, the icon for a m

i  
c  
r  
o  
p  
h  
o  
n  
e

Five circles of rubbery black cable. One end suggests Go West, the other end suggests Go East! In between, one loop goes under and over the circles and cuts through the central space. At each end a serrated c

u  
f  
f

This one is tight; coiled loops neatly contained by two wire ties. One yellow end is contained in see-through casing; it's like looking at the lift on the outside of the Lloyds b

u  
i  
l  
d  
i  
n  
g

A large single loop of black cable folds forwards over a bottom loop which cuts it below the waist. Both ends flow l

e  
f  
t

A muddle of cable is centrally sheathed. An escaping loop houses a silver connecting pod out of which a further line of cable splays right ending in a foam c

i  
r  
c  
l  
e

A scrum of white, grey-green, and grey coiled cables. Pockets of colour offered by red, yellow and blue plastic connectors. Mostly red. The centre is b

l  
a  
c  
k

A white cube, with soft edges, out of which, a coil of dirty white cable. The cube is looped by a skinny, yellowed cable. Visible through a gap in the loops, a solid black rubbery lump with three port holes looks like a p

i  
g  
s  
t  
y

A flat cable, ridged into three, like a strip of plasticine. Grey casing is cut, which exposes an inner circle of off-white casing, which in turn is cut and exposes yellow c

a  
s  
i  
n  
g

A palm-sized pod of plastic, its bottom edge arching dome shaped. Bottom plastic casing is blue, top plastic casing is clear, and shaped into a more pronounced dome. A thin black cable loops left, upwards, right, under the incoming wire, right, back down, across, under, up, around right in a wide arch, down, through the figure of eight, underneath the palm-sized object, and ends in a U

S  
B

A dirty fat grey cable, has rectangular ends, and knobs which must be tightened to connect. Writings: 2990 E52853 VW - 1 U AWM LOW V

O  
L  
T  
A  
G  
E

Five coils of black cable, tightly secured in the middle by a black rubber band. A two-pronged connector, which fans out from a black rubber trapezoid, sits snugly in the middle of the elliptical nest, the metal tipped prongs just poking past the top loop of c

a  
b  
l  
e

Licorice laces, pressed together and flattened into a 1cm wide cable, goldy-green, look like a gold-sprayed dried

tagliatelle nest. Scrappily wound, loops break loose. Squat, see-through plastic connectors. One end rests on a lower loop, the other end escapes to the r

i  
g  
h  
t

Two figures of eight of strong black cable, neatly tied on a high waist with a black wire tie. The rubberised ends sit neatly one atop the other, like feet in a side p

l  
a  
n  
k

Two short cylinders, shiny, white, out of which a grey circle of hard plastic and a metal circle; the connector. A ten-centimetre length of grey cable holds the two ends, set in a gentle curve. D

i  
s  
n  
e  
y

A plug has taken a backwards tumble over a square white plastic apple-imprinted cube. A once white cable extends left, loops around, under, over, up, down, under, over, over, under, a tight twizzle on its flow upstream, around left, under, under, across, right, under, up, round, over, down. A skinny cable follows all the loops and hoops, and ends on a downward trajectory into a white cylinder, shiny, out of which protrudes three flutes of m

e  
t  
a  
l

Apple laptop charger and cable. The cable looks like it's been down a c

o  
a  
l  
m  
i  
n  
e



A neatly coiled thick black rubberised cable. The word KOAX, in white, scans initially as HOAX. Two ends tuck fondly into each other, top left of the coil. Two 1cm metal cylinders push out of black rubber rectangular casings; wider at the metal end, they funnel down and flatten at the wire end; washboard-ridgings on the flat

s  
i  
d  
e  
s

Dirty white cable makes graceful circular and ovular loops. A final loop cuts across the middle of the main nest of coils, and sits atop a lower oval, its connector pressed into an extension which looks like the blow end of a penny w

h  
i  
s  
t  
l  
e

Two small black squashy-looking cuboids swim upstream in a long cellophane casing, tracking parallel trajectories towards and away from upside down lettering: MADE IN C

H  
I  
N  
A

Black. Coiled. Looped. Curled. Tangled. Black cuboid ends, out of which metal points, cylindrical, 1cm long, two black circles etched in, flare out, to rounded pointed e

n  
d  
s

Six phono outputs snorted out of a s

c  
a  
r  
t

This one is jazz: black cable all at angles. Concentrated gatherings tuck in the ends.

A long flat connector at one end. A two-pronged trapezoid at the other. D

u  
s  
t  
y

A hunk of a transformer is circled by skinny black cable which ends in a flare of black, rubberised casing out of which protrudes a 1cm long, half a cm diameter metal cylinder, topped with a ring of black plastic. Belly up, the transformer states C

A  
U  
T  
I  
O  
N

A plastic isosceles trapezoid scart. Top right, out of a sliced away corner, a ridged cylinder of black plastic extends, and out of which further extends a flat, three-part cable, another plasticiney configuration, which loops up and around to the left, crosses over itself up top, enacts short loops around to the right, extends straight, loops down, twists back on itself, loops around to the right creating a figure of eight, loops once more within the previous loop and then splits three ways, ending in red, white and yellow jack plugs with metal p

r  
o  
t  
r  
u  
s  
i  
o  
n  
s

Black plastic not-quite-a-square with curved corners. The right side tapers, and the left edge extends beyond the bottom left square. A wiggly line of thick black cable creates a delicate line drawing to the left, above and across the square. A final flourish off to the right ends in a wire

divided into two ends. The outer casing is cut to reveal peeps of raw w

i  
r  
e

Another adaptor hulk sits belly up. A silver label states, in black text: MODUL M SERVICE AC/AC Adaptor Model: 72891F Input: 240V 50Hz Output:

12V AC 20VA below which, left, a short squiggle, and right, a square within a s

q  
u  
a  
r  
e

Short, neatly coiled figure of eight of black cable, attached to a black rubber trapezoid with two prongs which are half black, and end in rounded metal ends, which points west. A rubberised, slender connector, with two entry holes, point e

a  
s  
t

AC DC Adaptor, a large black lump, out of which a slender cable loops up, down and around making a rough triangle shape. At one end a trapezoid of rubber ends with metal prongs. At the other end, a single metal prong is housed in a glove of cylindrical black rubber. The heaviness of the adaptor is emphasised by this frail dance of c

a  
b  
l  
e

Hues of green. Hues of gold. A two-ply cable ropes around in short tight looping squiggles, like a serving of linguine. Both ends are the same: right angle casings out of which protrude 1 cm gold, cylindrical p

r  
o  
n  
g  
s

Out of an ancient-seeming mouse comes a thick see-through ovoid casing within

which is a smaller black ovoid, embossed with a small white apple insignia. Two loops of hoary-seeming gold cable: one loops around the nose of the mouse; the other runs at right angles, comes out of the middle of the top end of the mouse, draws a wavy line out left, returns to tuck in just under the armpit of the short loop at the left top end of the mouse, where it loops under the mouse and appears a final time attached to a rectangular plastic casing housing a USB. I'm minded of *Inherent Vice*, that bit where they visit the offices of the Golden F

a  
n  
g

