Lexco is an Original Equipment Manufacturer

About Us
Lexco Cable is a family-owned and operated business. It began as a hardware store and bicycle shop on Chicago’s west side in the 1950s. Today, Lexco has a cable assembly division and a bicycle division. We are proud of what we do and we take our work very seriously.

Extraordinary Applications
Lexco Cable specializes in fabricating, manufacturing and assembling custom cable solutions in collaboration with our customers.

In 2002, Alliance Space Systems Inc. needed wire rope with a specific breaking strength to tether a robotic arm on a Mars Exploration Rover. After exhaustive testing, we furnished a unique custom tether assembly fabricated to break at precisely that moment when failure was critical to the project’s success.

In response to security threats to our harbors, ports and waterways, we supply wire rope for installing barriers that guard assets vital to homeland security.

Aimed at leveraging and extending human capabilities, we manufacture custom assemblies used in exoskeletons designed by the Institute of Human Research and Cognition.

Not all of our work is this noteworthy or dramatic, but it shows how important and innovative cable fabrication can be. If you have a special product requirement but don’t see it listed here, just ask! We look forward to meeting and working with you.

Capabilities
Lexco is an original equipment manufacturer for customers with assembly needs. Our primary in-house manufacturing expertise includes:

Swaging
- 5 to 500 ton machine swaging presses
- Presses equipped with built-in quality control gauges
- Rotary bench swaging for Military-Specifications and architectural fittings
- Rotary swaging for ball fittings

PVC/Vinyl & Nylon Coating Extrusion
- Outer diameters from 3/64” to 5/8”
- Custom color matching

Cable Coiling
- Custom coil diameters
- Bare or coated coil

Cable Cutting
- Automatic mechanical cutting
- Automatic fuse cutting

Cable Rewinding
- 4 in. to 4 ft. diameter spools
- Custom labeling, barcodes, lot information, etc.

Proof-Loading and Pull Testing
- Calibrated in accordance with UCC Procedure 100 and meets the requirements of ASTM E4-99
- Calibration range: 200 lbs. to 20,000 lbs

Custom Packing Solutions
- Poly bag kits
- Header cards
- Special labeling
- Bar coding

CNC Machining
- Automatic Lathes
- 32mm Max Machining Diameter

Military Specifications
Military specifications are used for cable, fittings and hardware when critical applications require the highest quality assurance available. We carry the following “Mil-Specs”:

Federal Specifications
- MS 21254, MS 21252, MS 21251
- MS 21268, MS 21267, MS 21266, MS 21265

Boeing Specifications
- Plain Ball (BACT14B, NAS494)
- Terminal Cylindrical (BACT14A)
- Clip Locking Turnbuckle (B15A, MS21256)

ASTM Standards
- A363, A475, A586, A603, A1023

Other Compliances Available:
- DFARS and RoHS
- Other

We have domestic and overseas manufacturing capability, a global network of suppliers to fabricate, manufacture and deliver your specific custom cable solution.
Cable Assemblies
A cable assembly is a wire rope with attached fittings and hardware that serves a useful purpose. Across the bottom of this page are a few examples.

1. Loop assemblies are simple yet highly versatile. They are commonly used in towing, hoisting, safety tie-down, theft protection, etc. (slings, lanyard, tether).
2. Button Stop assemblies anchor cable ends and prevent fraying (ferrule).
3. Eyelet assemblies provide a clean, versatile connection point for many uses; mounting light fixtures, installing push-pull controls, securing displays, anchoring cable, etc. (stake eye, lanyard, tether).
4. Push-Pull Controls provide precise mechanical control, from restricting physical access to actuating emergency brakes. They are shown here with eyelet, loop and ball end options.
5. Threaded Stud assemblies enable tensioning adjustment while anchoring the cable, threading into fixtures or securing with a washer and nut (swage stud, threaded plug, threaded terminal).
6. Fork End assemblies connected by clevis pins are often used for aircraft controls and structural support (swage jaw, M50067).
7. Eye End assemblies connect to fork ends via clevis pins. They are often used for aircraft controls and structural support (Marine Eye, M50068).
8. Coiled assemblies compactly manage cable length. They are popular for trailer safety cables and security applications such as retail displays and bicycle locks.

Bungee Cords
As with cable assemblies, bungee cords are used for tethering and tie-down applications, but their elasticity makes them ideal for specific applications, such as securing tarps, luggage, etc. (sling, lanyard, tether).

Wire Rope
Wire Rope is multi-wire strands laid geometrically around a core. A Strand is a grouping of wires into separate cords that together form a wire rope. Cable is a term loosely applied to wire rope and wire strand. A wire rope is specified by the number of strands, the number of wires in each strand and a description of its construction:

- Strand
- Wire Rope Core
- 19 wires per strand
- 6x19 IWRC

Lexco generally deals with diameters ranging from 1/32” to 2 1/2”.

Lexco distributes wire rope and cable in bulk.

Wire Rope Materials
Stainless Steel is highly corrosion resistant. (Available in grades 302, 304 and 316) Galvanized wire rope is zinc coated to resist corrosion in mild environments.

Bright rope is self-colored or unplated steel. It is lubricated to protect against rust.

Aircraft Cable
Aircraft Cable is a one part construction wire rope made of special strength wire. Originally made for use in the aircraft industry it is now available to the commercial market. It comes in smaller diameters than most wire rope, ranging from 1/32” to 3/8”.

PVC/Vinyl & Nylon
PVC/Vinyl & Nylon coatings protect against corrosion and reduce wear on cables and components. Nylon is harder than Vinyl, better in higher temperatures and used on pulleys. Vinyl provides good UV protection, is more flexible than Nylon and has more cost effective aspects.

Architectural Cable
Lexco’s Cable Railings and Deck Railings can save that lovely view. The corresponding fittings and hardware produce a simple, strong and aesthetically beautiful solution.

Cable Fittings
Fittings are components fabricated to the cable that complete the assembly or permit other components to be added. Available in bulk.

- Threaded Terminals connect cable through the post via a nut or end cap.
- Toggle Jaw Turnbuckles connect cable to a welded tab or eyebolt.
- Deck Toggle Turnbuckles lag surface mount to the inside edge of a post.
- Button, Ball Turnbuckles are also used for through-post connections but are more visually appealing than threaded terminals.
- Shackles provide surface area for attaching assembly components and prevent fraying.
- Eye Ends & Fork Ends are practical for quick connection and release.
- Quick Links & Snap Hooks easily attached with hand tools.
- Turnbuckles adjust cable length and tension.
- Eye Bolts anchor cable assemblies and hardware components.
- Hooks are available with a single safety latch for towing and hoisting or with a double safety latch for fall restraint.
- Shackles provide a sound towing and hoisting connection to cables and chains.
- Wire Rope Clips secure loop ends and splices without swaging.
- Quick Links & Snap Hooks allow simple and fast connection by hand.

Swaging (pronounced sow-ing) is the process of cold pressing a fitting to a cable. Some fittings require mechanical swaging of great force, others can be quickly and easily attached with hand tools.

Lexco is Custom Cable Assemblies
LexcoCable.com

Bungee Cords
assemble compactly manage cable length. They are popular for trailer safety cables and security applications such as retail displays and bicycle locks.

Wire Rope
Multi-wire strands laid geometrically around a core. A Strand is a grouping of wires into separate cords that together form a wire rope. Cable is a term loosely applied to wire rope and wire strand. A wire rope is specified by the number of strands, the number of wires in each strand and a description of its construction:

- Strand
- Wire Rope Core
- 19 wires per strand
- 6x19 IWRC

Lexco generally deals with diameters ranging from 1/32” to 2 1/2”.

Lexco distributes wire rope and cable in bulk.

Wire Rope Materials
Stainless Steel is highly corrosion resistant. (Available in grades 302, 304 and 316) Galvanized wire rope is zinc coated to resist corrosion in mild environments.

Bright rope is self-colored or unplated steel. It is lubricated to protect against rust.

Aircraft Cable
Aircraft Cable is a one part construction wire rope made of special strength wire. Originally made for use in the aircraft industry it is now available to the commercial market. It comes in smaller diameters than most wire rope, ranging from 1/32” to 3/8”.

PVC/Vinyl & Nylon
PVC/Vinyl & Nylon coatings protect against corrosion and reduce wear on cables and components. Nylon is harder than Vinyl, better in higher temperatures and used on pulleys. Vinyl provides good UV protection, is more flexible than Nylon and has more cost effective aspects.

Architectural Cable
Lexco’s Cable Railings and Deck Railings can save that lovely view. The corresponding fittings and hardware produce a simple, strong and aesthetically beautiful solution.

Cable Fittings
Fittings are components fabricated to the cable that complete the assembly or permit other components to be added. Available in bulk.

- Threaded Terminals connect cable through the post via a nut or end cap.
- Toggle Jaw Turnbuckles connect cable to a welded tab or eyebolt.
- Deck Toggle Turnbuckles lag surface mount to the inside edge of a post.
- Button, Ball Turnbuckles are also used for through-post connections but are more visually appealing than threaded terminals.
- Shackles provide surface area for attaching assembly components and prevent fraying.
- Eye Ends & Fork Ends are practical for quick connection and release.
- Quick Links & Snap Hooks easily attached with hand tools.
- Turnbuckles adjust cable length and tension.
- Eye Bolts anchor cable assemblies and hardware components.
- Hooks are available with a single safety latch for towing and hoisting or with a double safety latch for fall restraint.
- Shackles provide a sound towing and hoisting connection to cables and chains.
- Wire Rope Clips secure loop ends and splices without swaging.
- Quick Links & Snap Hooks allow simple and fast connection by hand.

Swaging (pronounced sow-ing) is the process of cold pressing a fitting to a cable. Some fittings require mechanical swaging of great force, others can be quickly and easily attached with hand tools.

Lexco is Custom Cable Assemblies
LexcoCable.com