

# Coil Cord use in Medical Device Interconnect Applications

## Some Advantages and Disadvantages

### Coil cord Advantages

- The cable is shorter when relaxed; taking up less space and automatically returns to a shorter length without user assistance.
- The cable is longer when stretched.
- The coils provide shock resistance to connectors in the event a device is moved away without unplugging the cable.

### Coil Cord Disadvantages

- After being stretched repeatedly, coils tend to become entangled; making them unruly and shorter.
- A 4 foot relaxed cord over a 6 foot span becomes what is referred to as a 'trip cord'.
- Should the cord be heavy enough to lay on the floor and is stepped on, the cable will roll and possibly cause a fall.
- The weight of the cord constantly hanging on the connector plugged into a device (or the wall) will put strain on the cable, connector and the contacts inside the connector.
- Coil cords are more difficult to clean. There is a higher possibility of infectious material being left behind even after cleaning.
- Fully stretched, the cord will pull on the device, straining the connectors and possibly move the device away from its desired location.

**Maguire Enterprises doesn't use coil cords in any of its products.**