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Document And Entity Information - shares	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Jan. 30, 2019
Document Information [Line Items]		
Entity Registrant Name	Clearfield, Inc.	
Entity Central Index Key	0000796505	
Trading Symbol	clfd	
Current Fiscal Year End Date	--09-30	
Entity Filer Category	Accelerated Filer	
Entity Current Reporting Status	Yes	
Entity Emerging Growth Company	false	
Entity Small Business	true	
Entity Common Stock, Shares Outstanding (in shares)		13,662,456
Document Type	10-Q	
Document Period End Date	Dec. 31, 2018	
Document Fiscal Year Focus	2019	
Document Fiscal Period Focus	Q1	
Amendment Flag	false	

Condensed Balance Sheets (Current Period Unaudited) - USD (\$)	Dec. 31, 2018	Sep. 30, 2018
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,358,334	\$ 8,547,777
Short-term investments	8,490,225	8,930,225
Accounts receivables, net	8,167,441	12,821,258
Inventories, net	9,626,116	10,050,135
Other current assets	653,202	742,136
Total current assets	42,295,318	41,091,531
Property, plant and equipment, net	4,592,435	4,744,584
Other Assets		
Long-term investments	18,292,000	17,974,000
Goodwill	4,708,511	4,708,511
Intangible assets, net	5,381,889	5,482,555
Other	213,914	227,461
Total other assets	28,596,314	28,392,527
Total Assets	75,484,067	74,228,642
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	1,918,301	2,363,380
Accrued compensation	1,771,531	2,048,904
Accrued expenses	862,998	568,507
Total current liabilities	4,552,830	4,980,791
Other Liabilities		
Deferred taxes	104,935	104,935
Deferred rent	263,661	268,040
Total other liabilities	368,596	372,975
Total Liabilities	4,921,426	5,353,766
Shareholders' Equity		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 500,000 shares; no shares issued or outstanding		
Common stock, authorized 50,000,000, \$.01 par value; 13,662,456 and 13,646,553, shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2018 and September 30, 2018	136,625	136,466
Additional paid-in capital	56,161,405	55,483,759
Retained earnings	14,264,611	13,254,651
Total Shareholders' Equity	70,562,641	68,874,876
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$ 75,484,067	\$ 74,228,642

Condensed Balance Sheets (Current Period Unaudited) (Parentheticals) - \$ / shares	Dec. 31, 2018	Sep. 30, 2018
Preferred stock, par value (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01
Preferred stock, authorized shares (in shares)	500,000	500,000
Preferred stock, shares issued (in shares)	0	0
Preferred stock, shares outstanding (in shares)	0	0
Common stock, authorized (in shares)	50,000,000	50,000,000
Common stock, par value (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01
Common stock, shares issued (in shares)	13,662,456	13,646,553
Common stock, shares outstanding (in shares)	13,662,456	13,646,553

Condensed Statements of Earnings Unaudited - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Net sales	\$ 20,089,150	\$ 16,866,884
Cost of sales	12,142,452	9,758,477

Gross profit	7,946,698	7,108,407
Operating expenses		
Selling, general and administrative	6,775,875	6,463,971
Income from operations	1,170,823	644,436
Interest income	135,137	95,722
Income before income taxes	1,305,960	740,158
Income tax expense (benefit)	296,000	(203,000)
Net income	\$ 1,009,960	\$ 943,158
Net income per share Basic (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07
Net income per share Diluted (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic (in shares)	13,400,383	13,443,945
Diluted (in shares)	13,400,383	13,476,417

Condensed Statements of Shareholders' Equity Unaudited - USD (\$)	Common Stock [Member]	Additional Paid-in Capital [Member]	Retained Earnings [Member]	Total
Balance (in shares) at Sep. 30, 2017	13,812,821			
Balance at Sep. 30, 2017	\$ 138,128	\$ 55,406,888	\$ 8,980,104	\$ 64,525,120
Stock-based compensation expense		483,287		483,287
Repurchase of common stock (in shares)	(900)			
Repurchase of common stock	\$ (9)	(10,841)		(10,850)
Restricted stock issuance, net (in shares)	(4,376)			
Restricted stock issuance, net	\$ (44)	44		
Issuance of common stock under employee stock purchase plan (in shares)	14,242			
Issuance of common stock under employee stock purchase plan	\$ 142	148,117		148,259
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment (in shares)	3,075			
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment	\$ 32	3,217		3,249
Tax withholding related to vesting of restricted stock grants (in shares)	(671)			
Tax withholding related to vesting of restricted stock grants	\$ (7)	(9,255)		(9,262)
Net income			943,158	943,158
Balance (in shares) at Dec. 31, 2017	13,824,191			
Balance at Dec. 31, 2017	\$ 138,242	56,021,457	9,923,262	66,082,961
Balance (in shares) at Sep. 30, 2018	13,646,553			
Balance at Sep. 30, 2018	\$ 136,466	55,483,759	13,254,651	68,874,876
Stock-based compensation expense		538,524		538,524
Restricted stock issuance, net (in shares)	(3,838)			
Restricted stock issuance, net	\$ (38)	38		
Issuance of common stock under employee stock purchase plan (in shares)	17,312			
Issuance of common stock under employee stock purchase plan	\$ 173	145,767		145,940
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment (in shares)	2,974			
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment	\$ 29	(12)		17
Tax withholding related to vesting of restricted stock grants (in shares)	(545)			
Tax withholding related to vesting of restricted stock grants	\$ (5)	(6,671)		(6,676)
Net income			1,009,960	1,009,960
Balance (in shares) at Dec. 31, 2018	13,662,456			
Balance at Dec. 31, 2018	\$ 136,625	\$ 56,161,405	\$ 14,264,611	\$ 70,562,641

Condensed Statements of Cash Flows Unaudited - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	\$ 1,009,960	\$ 943,158
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	529,414	436,198
Deferred taxes		(384,000)
Loss on disposal of assets		1,594
Stock based compensation	538,524	483,287
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	4,653,817	1,666,920
Inventories	424,019	313,183
Other assets	102,481	41,706
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and deferred rent	(432,340)	(1,497,524)
Net cash provided by operating activities	6,825,875	2,004,522
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	(276,599)	(229,999)
Purchases of investments	(1,558,000)	(2,466,000)
Proceeds from maturities of investments	1,680,000	2,477,000

Net cash used in investing activities	(154,599)	(218,999)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repurchases of common stock		(10,850)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock under employee stock purchase plan	145,940	148,259
Proceeds from issuance of common stock upon exercise of stock options	17	3,249
Tax withholding related to vesting of restricted stock grants	(6,676)	(9,262)
Net cash provided by financing activities	139,281	131,396
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	6,810,557	1,916,919
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	8,547,777	18,536,111
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	15,358,334	20,453,030
Supplemental disclosures for cash flow information		
Cash (received) paid during the year for income taxes	(1,043)	2,500
Non-cash financing activities		
Cashless exercise of stock options	\$ 9,658	\$ 5,782

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Basis of Accounting [Text Block]	Note 1. Basis of Presentation	
	<p>The accompanying (a) condensed balance sheet as of September 30, 2018, which has been derived from audited financial statements, and (b) unaudited interim condensed financial statements as of and for the three months ended December 31, 2018 have been prepared by the Company in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for interim financial information, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Pursuant to these rules and regulations, certain financial information and footnote disclosures normally included in the financial statements have been condensed or omitted. However, in the opinion of management, the financial statements include all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring accruals, necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position and results of operations and cash flows of the interim periods presented. Operating results for the interim periods presented are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for the full year or for any other interim period, due to variability in customer purchasing patterns and seasonal, operating and other factors. These condensed financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2018.</p> <p>In preparation of the Company's financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities and related revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. As future events and their effects cannot be determined with precision, actual results could differ significantly from these estimates.</p> <p>Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements</p> <p>Effective October 1, 2018, we adopted the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)</i>, and ASU 2015-14, <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Deferral of Effective Date</i>, which deferred the effective date of ASU 2014-09 by one year. ASU 2014-09 supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in ASC 605, <i>Revenue Recognition</i>, and is based on the principle that revenue is recognized to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. It also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue, cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments, and assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. The adoption of ASU 2014-09, using the modified retrospective approach, had no material impact on our results of operations, cash flows, or financial position. Revenue continues to be recognized at a point in time for our product sales when products are delivered to or picked up by the customer and revenue for shipping and handling charges continues to be recognized when products are delivered to or picked up by the customer. Additional information and disclosures required by this new standard are contained in Note 5, "Revenue."</p>	

Note 2 - Net Income Per Share	3 Months Ended																											
	Dec. 31, 2018																											
Notes to Financial Statements																												
Earnings Per Share [Text Block]	Note 2. Net Income Per Share																											
	<p>Basic net income per common share ("EPS") is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the reporting period. Diluted EPS equals net income divided by the sum of the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus all additional common stock equivalents, such as stock options and restricted stock awards, when dilutive.</p> <p>The following is a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator of the net income per common share computations for the three months ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">Three Months Ended December 31,</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2018</th> <th>2017</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Net income</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,009,960</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 943,158</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weighted average common shares</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13,400,383</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13,443,945</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dilutive potential common shares</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">32,472</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13,400,383</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13,476,417</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Net income per common share:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Basic</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.08</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Diluted</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.08</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.07</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Three Months Ended December 31,		2018	2017	Net income	\$ 1,009,960	\$ 943,158	Weighted average common shares	13,400,383	13,443,945	Dilutive potential common shares	-	32,472	Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding	13,400,383	13,476,417	Net income per common share:			Basic	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07	Diluted	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07
	Three Months Ended December 31,																											
	2018	2017																										
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Net income per common share:																												
Basic	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07																										
Diluted	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07																										

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Cash and Cash Equivalents Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 3. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	
	<p>The Company currently invests its excess cash in money market accounts and bank certificates of deposit (CDs) with a term of not more than five years. CDs with original maturities of more than three months are reported as held-to-maturity investments and are carried at amortized cost. Investments maturing in less than one year are classified as short term investments on the balance sheet, and investments maturing in one year or greater are classified as long term investments on the balance sheet.</p>	

The maturity dates of the Company's CDs as of December 31, 2018 and September 30, 2018 are as follows:

	December 31, 2018	September 30, 2018
Less than one year	\$ 8,490,225	\$ 8,930,225
1-5 years	18,292,000	17,974,000
Total	<u>\$ 26,782,225</u>	<u>\$ 26,904,225</u>

Note 4 - Stock Based Compensation	3 Months Ended Dec. 31, 2018
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Notes to Financial Statements
Disclosure of Compensation Related Costs, Share-based Payments [Text Block]

Note 4. Stock Based Compensation

The Company recorded \$538,524 of compensation expense related to current and past restricted stock grants and the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") for the three months ended December 31, 2018 of which \$507,284 is included in selling, general and administrative expense, and \$31,240 is included in cost of sales. The Company recorded \$483,287 of compensation expense related to current and past equity awards for the three months ended December 31, 2017 of which \$441,257 was included in selling, general and administrative expense, and \$42,030 was included in cost of sales. As of December 31, 2018, \$3,474,499 of total unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested awards is expected to be recognized over a period of approximately 5.7 years.

Stock Options

The Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the weighted average fair value of options granted. During the three months ended December 31, 2018, the Company granted employees non-qualified stock options to purchase an aggregate of 172,000 shares of common stock with a weighted average contractual term of four years, a three year vesting term, and a weighted average exercise price of \$12.17. There were no stock options granted during the three months ended December 31, 2017. The weighted-average fair value at the grant date for options issued during the three months ended December 31, 2018 was \$3.53.

This fair value was estimated at the grant date using the assumptions listed below:

	Three months ended December 31, 2018
Dividend yield	0%
Weighted average expected volatility	37.77%
Weighted average risk-free interest rate	2.92%
Weighted average expected life (years)	3.0
Vesting period (years)	3.0

The expected stock price volatility is based on the historical volatility of the Company's stock for a period approximating the expected life. The expected life represents the period of time that options are expected to be outstanding after their grant date. The risk-free interest rate reflects the interest rate at grant date on zero-coupon U.S. governmental bonds having a remaining life similar to the expected option term.

Options are generally granted at fair market values determined on the date of grant and vesting normally occurs over a three to five-year period. However, options granted to directors have a one year vesting period and a six-year contractual term. The maximum contractual term is normally six years. Shares issued upon exercise of a stock option are issued from the Company's authorized but unissued shares.

The following is a summary of stock option activity during the three months ended December 31, 2018:

	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price
Outstanding as of September 30, 2018	138,500	\$ 10.99
Granted	172,000	12.17
Exercised	(3,750)	2.58
Cancelled or Forfeited	-	-
Outstanding as of December 31, 2018	<u>306,750</u>	<u>\$ 11.76</u>

The intrinsic value of an option is the amount by which the fair value of the underlying stock exceeds its exercise price. As of December 31, 2018, the weighted average remaining contractual term for all outstanding and exercisable stock options was 1.9 years and their aggregate intrinsic value was \$196,345. During the three months ended December 31, 2018, the Company received proceeds of \$17 from the exercise of 3,750 stock options. During the three months ended December 31, 2017, exercised stock options totaled 3,500 shares, resulting in \$3,249 of proceeds to the Company.

Restricted Stock

The Company's 2007 Stock Compensation Plan permits its Compensation Committee to grant stock-based awards, including stock options and restricted stock, to key employees and non-employee directors. The Company has made restricted stock grants that vest over one to ten years.

There were no restricted stock awards granted during the three months ended December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017. Restricted stock transactions during the three months ended December 31, 2018 are summarized as follows:

	Number of shares	Weighted average grant date fair value
Unvested shares as of September 30, 2018	248,613	\$ 14.65
Granted	-	-
Vested	(1,700)	13.64
Forfeited	(3,838)	14.49
Unvested as of December 31, 2018	<u>243,075</u>	<u>\$ 14.66</u>

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Clearfield, Inc.'s ESPP allows participating employees to purchase shares of the Company's common stock at a discount through payroll deductions. The ESPP is available to all employees subject to certain eligibility requirements. Terms of the ESPP provide that participating employees may purchase the Company's common stock on a voluntary after-tax basis. Employees may purchase the Company's common stock at a price that is no less than the lower of 85% of the fair market value of one share of common stock at the beginning or end of each stock purchase period or phase. The ESPP is carried out in six month phases, with phases beginning on January 1 and July 1 of each calendar year. For the phases that ended on December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, employees purchased 17,312 and 14,242 shares at a price of \$8.43 and \$10.41 per share, respectively. After the employee purchase on December 31, 2018, 69,769 shares of common stock were available for future purchase under the ESPP.

Note 5 - Revenue	3 Months Ended		
	Dec. 31, 2018		
Notes to Financial Statements			
Revenue from Contract with Customer [Text Block]	Note 5. Revenue		
	Revenue Recognition		
	<p>Net sales include products and shipping and handling charges. Revenue is measured as the amount of consideration we expect to receive in exchange for transferring products. All revenue is recognized when we satisfy our performance obligations under the contract. We recognize revenue by transferring the promised products to the customer, with substantially all revenue recognized at the point in time the customer obtains control of the products. We recognize revenue for shipping and handling charges at the time the products are delivered to or picked up by the customer. The majority of our contracts have a single performance obligation and are short term in nature. Sales taxes and value added taxes in foreign jurisdictions that are collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are accounted for on a net basis and therefore are excluded from net sales.</p>		
	Disaggregation of Revenue		
	<p>The Company allocates sales from external customers to geographic areas based on the location to which the product is transported. Sales outside the United States are principally to countries in the Caribbean, Canada, Central and South America.</p> <p>Our revenues related to the following geographic areas were as follows for the three months ended:</p>		
		December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	United States	\$ 18,504,467	\$ 15,497,661
	All other countries	1,584,683	1,369,223
	Total Net Sales	\$ 20,089,150	\$ 16,866,884
	<p>In addition to a proprietary product line designed for the broadband service provider marketplace, Clearfield provides build-to-print services for original equipment manufacturers requiring copper and fiber cable assemblies built to their specification.</p> <p>The percentages of our sales by markets were as follows for the three months ended:</p>		
		December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	Broadband service providers	94%	95%
	Build-to-print customers	6%	5%
	Total Net Sales	100%	100%
	Accounts Receivable		
	<p>Credit is extended based on the evaluation of a customer's financial condition and collateral is generally not required. Accounts receivable are stated at their estimated net realizable value. Accounts that are outstanding longer than the contractual payment terms are considered past due. The Company writes off accounts receivable when they become uncollectible; payments subsequently received on such receivables are credited to the allowance for doubtful accounts. As of both December 31, 2018 and September 30, 2018, the balance in the allowance for doubtful accounts was \$79,085.</p> <p>See Note 7, "Major Customer Concentration" for further information regarding accounts receivable and net sales.</p>		

Note 6 - Inventories	3 Months Ended		
	Dec. 31, 2018		
Notes to Financial Statements			
Inventory Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 6. Inventories		
	<p>Inventories consist of the following as of:</p>		
		December 31, 2018	September 30, 2018
	Raw materials	\$ 5,775,216	\$ 6,013,166
	Work-in-progress	529,767	560,988
	Finished goods	3,321,133	3,475,981
	Inventories, net	\$ 9,626,116	\$ 10,050,135
	<p>During the three months ended December 31, 2017, the Company adopted ASU 2015-11, <i>Inventory (Topic 330) Related to Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory</i> which applies to all inventory except inventory that is measured using last-in, first-out or the retail inventory method. This adoption had no effect on the financial statements and was applied prospectively. Therefore, prior periods were not retrospectively adjusted.</p>		

Note 7 - Major Customer Concentration	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Concentration Risk Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 7. Major Customer Concentration	
	<p>For the three months ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company had two customers that comprised 10% or more of net sales. For the three months ended December 31, 2018, one of these customers was a distributor and the other was a private label original equipment manufacturer. For the three months ended December 31, 2017, both of these customers were distributors.</p> <p>As of December 31, 2018, the Company had two customers that comprised 10% or more of accounts receivable. One of these customers was a distributor and the other was a private label original equipment manufacturer. As of September 30, 2018, the Company had three customers that comprised 10% or more of accounts receivable. Two of these customers were distributors and the other was a private label original equipment manufacturer.</p>	

Note 8 - Goodwill and Patents	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Goodwill and Intangible Assets Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 8. Goodwill and Patents	
	<p>The Company analyzes its goodwill for impairment annually or at an interim period when events occur or changes in circumstances indicate potential impairment. The result of the analysis performed in the fourth quarter ended September 30, 2018 did not indicate an impairment of goodwill. During the three months ended December 31, 2018, there were no triggering events that</p>	

indicate potential impairment exists.

The Company capitalizes legal costs incurred to obtain patents. Once accepted by either the U.S. Patent Office or the equivalent office of a foreign country, these legal costs are amortized using the straight-line method over the remaining estimated lives, not exceeding 20 years. As of December 31, 2018, the Company has 15 patents granted and multiple pending applications both inside and outside the United States.

Note 9 - Income Taxes	3 Months Ended
	Dec. 31, 2018
Notes to Financial Statements	
Income Tax Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 9. Income Taxes
	<p>For the three months ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded an expense for income taxes of \$296,000, reflecting an effective tax rate of 22.7%. The Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 (the "Tax Reform Act") was enacted on December 22, 2017. The Tax Reform Act reduced certain federal corporate income tax rates effective January 1, 2018 and changed certain other provisions. Additionally, differences between the effective tax rate and the statutory tax rate are related to nondeductible meals and entertainment, research and development credits and nondeductible stock compensation.</p> <p>As of December 31, 2018 and September 30, 2018, the Company had a remaining valuation allowance of approximately \$105,000 related to state net operating loss carry forwards the Company does not expect to utilize. As a result of recording the impact of the Tax Reform Act on its deferred assets and liabilities, the Company recorded an increase in its valuation allowance against state net operating losses carried forward of approximately \$32,000 in the three months ended December 31, 2017. Based on the Company's analysis and review of long-term forecasts and all available evidence, the Company determined that there should be no further change in the valuation allowance for the three months ended December 31, 2018.</p> <p>For the three months ended December 31, 2017, the Company recorded a benefit for income taxes of \$203,000, reflecting an effective tax rate of negative 27.4%. The Tax Reform Act reduced certain federal corporate income tax rates effective January 1, 2018 and changed certain other provisions. Our first quarter of fiscal 2018 tax benefit reflected a lower tax rate and a one-time benefit of \$384,000 related to the favorable impact of a revaluation of our net deferred tax liability that decreased the income tax provision for the three months ended December 31, 2017 and reduced long-term deferred tax liabilities as of December 31, 2017. Additionally, differences between the effective tax rate and the statutory tax rate were related to nondeductible meals and entertainment, favorable domestic manufacturing deduction and research and development credits.</p> <p>Deferred taxes recognize the impact of temporary differences between the amounts of the assets and liabilities recorded for financial statement purposes and these amounts measured in accordance with tax laws. The Company's realization of deferred tax temporary differences is contingent upon future taxable earnings. The Company reviewed its deferred tax asset for expected utilization using a "more likely than not" criteria by assessing the available positive and negative factors surrounding its recoverability.</p> <p>As of December 31, 2018, we do not have any unrecognized tax benefits. It is the Company's practice to recognize interest and penalties accrued on any unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense. The Company does not expect any material changes in its unrecognized tax positions over the next 12 months.</p>

Note 10 - Accounting Pronouncements	3 Months Ended
	Dec. 31, 2018
Notes to Financial Statements	
New Accounting Pronouncements and Changes in Accounting Principles [Text Block]	Note 10. Accounting Pronouncements
	Recent Accounting Pronouncements
	<p>In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, <i>Leases</i>, which requires lessees to present right-of-use assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet for all leases with terms longer than 12 months. The guidance is to be applied using a modified retrospective approach at the beginning of the earliest comparative period in the financial statements and is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is evaluating the impact the adoption of this ASU will have on our financial statements.</p> <p>In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04 which offers amended guidance to simplify the accounting for goodwill impairment by removing Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test. A goodwill impairment will now be measured as the amount by which a reporting unit's carrying value exceeds its fair value, limited to the amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. This guidance is to be applied on a prospective basis effective for the Company's interim and annual periods beginning after January 1, 2020, with early adoption permitted for any impairment tests performed after January 1, 2017. The Company does not believe the adoption of this ASU will have a material impact on our financial statements.</p>

Note 2 - Net Income Per Share (Tables)	3 Months Ended
	Dec. 31, 2018
Notes Tables	
Schedule of Earnings Per Share, Basic and Diluted [Table Text Block]	Three Months Ended December 31,
	2018 2017
Net income	\$ 1,009,960 \$ 943,158
Weighted average common shares	13,400,383 13,443,945
Dilutive potential common shares	- 32,472
Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding	13,400,383 13,476,417
Net income per common share:	
Basic	\$ 0.08 \$ 0.07
Diluted	\$ 0.08 \$ 0.07

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Tables)	3 Months Ended
	Dec. 31, 2018
Notes Tables	
Investments Classified by Contractual Maturity Date [Table Text Block]	December 31, September 30,
	2018 2018
Less than one year	\$ 8,490,225 \$ 8,930,225
1-5 years	18,292,000 17,974,000
Total	\$ 26,782,225 \$ 26,904,225

Note 4 - Stock Based Compensation (Tables)	3 Months Ended
	Dec. 31, 2018
Notes Tables	
Schedule of Share-based Payment	Three months

Award, Stock Options, Valuation Assumptions [Table Text Block]

		ended December 31, 2018	
	Dividend yield	0%	
	Weighted average expected volatility	37.77%	
	Weighted average risk-free interest rate	2.92%	
	Weighted average expected life (years)	3.0	
	Vesting period (years)	3.0	
Share-based Compensation, Stock Options, Activity [Table Text Block]		Number of options	Weighted average exercise price
	Outstanding as of September 30, 2018	138,500	\$ 10.99
	Granted	172,000	12.17
	Exercised	(3,750)	2.58
	Cancelled or Forfeited	-	-
	Outstanding as of December 31, 2018	306,750	\$ 11.76
Schedule of Share-based Compensation, Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units Activity [Table Text Block]		Number of shares	Weighted average grant date fair value
	Unvested shares as of September 30, 2018	248,613	\$ 14.65
	Granted	-	-
	Vested	(1,700)	13.64
	Forfeited	(3,838)	14.49
	Unvested as of December 31, 2018	243,075	\$ 14.66

Note 5 - Revenue (Tables)	3 Months Ended		
	Dec. 31, 2018		
Notes Tables			
Disaggregation of Revenue [Table Text Block]		December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	United States	\$ 18,504,467	\$ 15,497,661
	All other countries	1,584,683	1,369,223
	Total Net Sales	\$ 20,089,150	\$ 16,866,884
		December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Broadband service providers	94%	95%	
Build-to-print customers	6%	5%	
Total Net Sales	100%	100%	

Note 6 - Inventories (Tables)	3 Months Ended		
	Dec. 31, 2018		
Notes Tables			
Schedule of Inventory, Current [Table Text Block]		December 31, 2018	September 30, 2018
	Raw materials	\$ 5,775,216	\$ 6,013,166
	Work-in-progress	529,767	560,988
	Finished goods	3,321,133	3,475,981
	Inventories, net	\$ 9,626,116	\$ 10,050,135

Note 2 - Net Income Per Share - Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding (Details) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Net income	\$ 1,009,960	\$ 943,158
Weighted average common shares (in shares)	13,400,383	13,443,945
Dilutive potential common shares		\$ 32,472
Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding (in shares)	13,400,383	13,476,417
Net income per common share:		
Basic (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07
Diluted (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Details Textual)	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	
Maximum [Member]		
Held-to-maturity Securities, Investment Term	5 years	

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments - Maturity Date of CDs (Details) - USD (\$)	Dec. 31, 2018	Sep. 30, 2018
	Less than one year	\$ 8,490,225
1-5 years	18,292,000	17,974,000
Total	\$ 26,782,225	\$ 26,904,225

Note 4 - Stock Based Compensation (Details Textual) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Allocated Share-based Compensation Expense, Total	\$ 538,524	\$ 483,287
Employee Service Share-based Compensation, Nonvested Awards, Compensation Cost Not yet Recognized, Total		\$ 3,474,499
Employee Service Share-based Compensation, Nonvested Awards, Compensation Cost Not yet Recognized, Period for Recognition		5 years 255 days
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Grants in Period, Gross	172,000	0

Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Expiration Period	4 years	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period	3 years	
Share-based Compensation Arrangements by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Grants in Period, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 12.17	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Grants in Period, Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	\$ 3.53	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	1 year 328 days	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Outstanding, Intrinsic Value	\$ 196,345	
Proceeds from Stock Options Exercised	\$ 17	\$ 3,249
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Exercises in Period	3,750	3,500
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Exercisable, Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	1 year 328 days	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Exercisable, Intrinsic Value	\$ 196,345	
Employee Stock Purchase Plan [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Market Price Percentage, Offering Date	85.00%	
Stock Issued During Period, Shares, Employee Stock Purchase Plans	17,312	14,242
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Purchase Price	\$ 8.43	\$ 10.41
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Number of Shares Available for Grant	69,769	
Employee Stock Option [Member] Director [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Expiration Period	6 years	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period	1 year	
Employee Stock Option [Member] Minimum [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period	3 years	
Employee Stock Option [Member] Maximum [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period	5 years	
Restricted Stock [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period	0	0
Restricted Stock [Member] Minimum [Member] Employees [Member] Stock Compensation Plan 2007 [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period	1 year	
Restricted Stock [Member] Maximum [Member] Employees [Member] Stock Compensation Plan 2007 [Member]		
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period	10 years	
Selling, General and Administrative Expenses [Member]		
Allocated Share-based Compensation Expense, Total	\$ 507,284	\$ 441,257
Cost of Sales [Member]		
Allocated Share-based Compensation Expense, Total	\$ 31,240	\$ 42,030

Note 4 - Stock Based Compensation - Valuation Assumptions (Details)	3 Months Ended Dec. 31, 2018
Dividend yield	0.00%
Weighted average expected volatility	37.77%
Weighted average risk-free interest rate	2.92%
Weighted average expected life (years) (Year)	3 years
Vesting period (years) (Year)	3 years

Note 4 - Stock Based Compensation - Option Transaction Summary (Details) - \$ / shares	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Options, outstanding (in shares)	138,500	
Weighted-average exercise price, outstanding (in dollars per share)	\$ 10.99	
Granted (in shares)	172,000	0
Weighted-average exercise price, Granted (in dollars per share)	\$ 12.17	
Exercised (in shares)	(3,750)	(3,500)
Weighted-average exercise price, Exercised (in dollars per share)	\$ 2.58	
Cancelled or Forfeited (in shares)		
Weighted-average exercise price, Cancelled or Forfeited (in dollars per share)		
Options, outstanding (in shares)	306,750	
Weighted-average exercise price, outstanding (in dollars per share)	\$ 11.76	

Note 4 - Stock Based Compensation - Restricted Stock Transactions (Details) - Restricted Stock [Member] - \$ / shares	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Balance, unvested shares (in shares)	248,613	
Balance, weighted-average grant date fair value (in dollars per share)	\$ 14.65	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period	0	0
Granted (in dollars per share)		
Vested (in shares)	(1,700)	
Vested (in dollars per share)	\$ 13.64	
Forfeited (in shares)	(3,838)	
Forfeited (in dollars per share)	\$ 14.49	
Balance, unvested shares (in shares)	243,075	
Balance, weighted-average grant date fair value (in dollars per share)	\$ 14.66	

Note 5 - Revenue (Details Textual) - USD (\$)	Dec. 31, 2018	Sep. 30, 2018
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Receivable, Current, Ending Balance	\$ 79,085	\$ 79,085

Note 5 - Revenue - Disaggregation of Revenue (Details) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Total Net Sales	\$ 20,089,150	\$ 16,866,884
Percent of net sales	100.00%	100.00%
Broadband Service Providers [Member]		
Percent of net sales	94.00%	95.00%
Build-to-print Customers [Member]		
Percent of net sales	6.00%	5.00%
UNITED STATES		
Total Net Sales	\$ 18,504,467	\$ 15,497,661
Non-US [Member]		
Total Net Sales	\$ 1,584,683	\$ 1,369,223

Note 6 - Inventories - Components of Inventory (Details) - USD (\$)	Dec. 31, 2018	Sep. 30, 2018
Raw materials	\$ 5,775,216	\$ 6,013,166
Work-in-progress	529,767	560,988
Finished goods	3,321,133	3,475,981
Inventories, net	\$ 9,626,116	\$ 10,050,135

Note 7 - Major Customer Concentration (Details Textual) - Customer Concentration Risk [Member]	3 Months Ended		12 Months Ended
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017	Sep. 30, 2018
Sales Revenue, Net [Member]			
Number of Major Customers	2	2	
Accounts Receivable [Member]			
Number of Major Customers	2		3

Note 8 - Goodwill and Patents (Details Textual) \$ in Thousands	3 Months Ended	
	Dec. 31, 2018 USD (\$)	Sep. 30, 2017 USD (\$)
Goodwill, Impairment Loss	\$ 0	\$ 0
Number of Patents Granted	15	
Patents [Member]		
Finite-Lived Intangible Asset, Useful Life	20 years	

Note 9 - Income Taxes (Details Textual) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended		
	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017	Sep. 30, 2018
Income Tax Expense (Benefit), Total	\$ 296,000	\$ (203,000)	
Effective Income Tax Rate Reconciliation, Percent, Total	22.70%	(27.40%)	

Income Tax Expense (Benefit), Continuing Operations, Adjustment of Deferred Tax (Asset) Liability		\$ (384,000)	
Unrecognized Tax Benefits, Ending Balance		\$ 0	
State and Local Jurisdiction [Member]			
Operating Loss Carryforwards, Valuation Allowance, Total	\$ 105,000		\$ 105,000
State and Local Jurisdiction [Member] Deferred Tax Assets Related to Operating Loss Carryforwards [Member]			
Valuation Allowance, Deferred Tax Asset, Increase (De			