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Document And Entity Information - shares	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	Apr. 19, 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)		13,663,981
Document Type	10-Q	
Document Period End Date	Mar. 31, 2019	
Document Fiscal Year Focus	2019	
Document Fiscal Period Focus	Q2	
Amendment Flag	false	

Condensed Balance Sheets (Current Period Unaudited) - USD (\$)	Mar. 31, 2019	Sep. 30, 2018
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,905,627	\$ 8,547,777
Short-term investments	17,048,473	8,930,225
Accounts receivables, net	8,987,992	12,821,258
Inventories, net	8,273,522	10,050,135
Other current assets	1,253,635	742,136
Total current assets	43,469,249	41,091,531
Property, plant and equipment, net	4,412,001	4,744,584
Other Assets		
Long-term investments	18,574,000	17,974,000
Goodwill	4,708,511	4,708,511
Intangible assets, net	5,302,721	5,482,555
Other	202,516	227,461
Total other assets	28,787,748	28,392,527
Total Assets	76,668,998	74,228,642
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	2,352,411	2,363,380
Accrued compensation	2,419,704	2,048,904
Accrued expenses	39,195	568,507
Total current liabilities	4,811,310	4,980,791
Other Liabilities		
Deferred taxes	104,935	104,935
Deferred rent	258,497	268,040
Total other liabilities	363,432	372,975
Total Liabilities	5,174,742	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; 13,668,408 and 13,646,553, shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2019 and September 30, 2018	136,684	136,466
Additional paid-in capital	56,725,019	55,483,759
Retained earnings	14,632,553	13,254,651
Total Shareholders' Equity	71,494,256	68,874,876
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$ 76,668,998	\$ 74,228,642

Condensed Balance Sheets (Current Period Unaudited) (Parenteticals) - \$ / shares	Mar. 31, 2019	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)	13,668,408	13,646,553
Common stock, shares outstanding (in shares)	13,668,408	13,646,553

Condensed Statements of Earnings (Unaudited) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended		6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018
Net sales	\$ 19,084,365	\$ 16,830,895	\$ 39,173,515	\$ 33,697,779
Cost of sales	12,059,122	10,051,061	24,201,574	19,809,538

Gross profit	7,025,243	6,779,834	14,971,941	13,888,241
Operating expenses				
Selling, general and administrative	6,727,744	7,305,589	13,503,619	13,769,560
Income (loss) from operations	297,499	(525,755)	1,468,322	118,681
Interest income	169,443	119,379	304,580	215,101
Income (loss) before income taxes	466,942	(406,376)	1,772,902	333,782
Income tax expense (benefit)	99,000	(101,000)	395,000	(304,000)
Net income (loss)	\$ 367,942	\$ (305,376)	\$ 1,377,902	\$ 637,782
Net income (loss) per share Basic (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05
Net income (loss) per share Diluted (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic (in shares)	13,422,222	13,450,482	13,411,183	13,447,178
Diluted (in shares)	13,450,212	13,450,482	13,425,178	13,494,433

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
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, 2017	13,812,821			
Balance at Sep. 30, 2017	\$ 138,128	55,406,888	8,980,104	64,525,120
Stock-based compensation expense		969,081		969,081
Restricted stock issuance, net (in shares)	(1,409)			
Restricted stock issuance, net	\$ (14)	14		
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)	5,675			
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment	\$ 58	17,891		17,949
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			637,782	637,782
Repurchase of common stock (in shares)	(19,582)			
Repurchase of common stock	\$ (196)	(235,828)		(236,024)
Balance (in shares) at Mar. 31, 2018	13,811,076			
Balance at Mar. 31, 2018	\$ 138,111	56,296,908	9,617,886	66,052,905
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
Stock-based compensation expense		485,794		485,794
Restricted stock issuance, net (in shares)	2,967			
Restricted stock issuance, net	\$ 30	(30)		
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment (in shares)	2,600			
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment	\$ 26	14,674		14,700
Net income			(305,376)	(305,376)
Repurchase of common stock (in shares)	(18,682)			
Repurchase of common stock	\$ (187)	(224,987)		(225,174)
Balance (in shares) at Mar. 31, 2018	13,811,076			
Balance at Mar. 31, 2018	\$ 138,111	56,296,908	9,617,886	66,052,905
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
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
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		1,102,190		1,102,190
Restricted stock issuance, net (in shares)	(352)			
Restricted stock issuance, net	\$ (4)	4		
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)	5,440			
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment	\$ 54	(30)		24
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			1,377,902	1,377,902
Balance (in shares) at Mar. 31, 2019	13,668,408			
Balance at Mar. 31, 2019	\$ 136,684	56,725,019	14,632,553	71,494,256
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

Stock-based compensation expense		563,666		563,666
Restricted stock issuance, net (in shares)	3,486			
Restricted stock issuance, net	\$ 35	(35)		
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment (in shares)	2,466			
Exercise of stock options, net of shares exchanged for payment	\$ 24	(17)		7
Net income			367,942	367,942
Balance (in shares) at Mar. 31, 2019	13,668,408			
Balance at Mar. 31, 2019	\$ 136,684	\$ 56,725,019	\$ 14,632,553	\$ 71,494,256

Condensed Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited) - USD (\$)	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	\$ 1,377,902	\$ 637,782
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,064,024	989,912
Change in allowance for doubtful accounts	210,000	
Amortization of discount on investments	(15,855)	
Deferred taxes		(384,000)
Loss on disposal of assets		1,594
Stock based compensation	1,102,190	969,081
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	3,623,266	78,265
Inventories, net	1,776,613	354,984
Other assets	(486,554)	(71,117)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and deferred rent	(179,024)	(313,921)
Net cash provided by operating activities	8,472,562	2,262,580
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	(551,607)	(516,341)
Purchases of investments	(12,274,393)	(4,181,075)
Proceeds from maturities of investments	3,572,000	3,469,000
Business acquisition		(10,350,000)
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,254,000)	(11,578,416)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repurchases of common stock		(236,024)
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	24	17,949
Tax withholding related to vesting of restricted stock grants	(6,676)	(9,262)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	139,288	(79,078)
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(642,150)	(9,394,914)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	8,547,777	18,536,111
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	7,905,627	9,141,197
Supplemental disclosures for cash flow information		
Cash paid during the year for income taxes	1,051,716	23,987
Non-cash financing activities		
Cashless exercise of stock options	\$ 17,390	\$ 5,782

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
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 and six months ended March 31, 2019 have been prepared by Clearfield, Inc. (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</p>	

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."

Note 2 - Net Income (Loss) Per Share	6 Months Ended				
	Mar. 31, 2019				
Notes to Financial Statements					
Earnings Per Share [Text Block]	Note 2. Net Income (Loss) Per Share				
	<p>Basic net income (loss) per common share ("EPS") is computed by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the reporting period. Diluted EPS equals net income (loss) 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 (loss) per common share computations for the three and six months ended March 31, 2019 and 2018:</p>				
		Three Months Ended March 31,		Six Months Ended March 31,	
		2019	2018	2019	2018
	Net income (loss)	\$ 367,942	\$ (305,376)	\$ 1,377,902	\$ 637,782
	Weighted average common shares	13,422,222	13,450,482	13,411,183	13,447,178
	Dilutive potential common shares	27,990	-	13,995	47,255
	Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding	13,450,212	13,450,482	13,425,178	13,494,433
	Net income (loss) per common share:				
	Basic	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05
	Diluted	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	6 Months Ended				
	Mar. 31, 2019				
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, treasury securities, 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> <p>The maturity dates of the Company's treasury securities and CDs as of March 31, 2019 and September 30, 2018 are as follows:</p>				
		March 31,		September 30,	
		2019		2018	
	Less than one year	\$ 17,048,473	\$ 8,930,225	\$ 18,574,000	\$ 17,974,000
	1-5 years	-	-	-	-
	Total	\$ 35,622,473	\$ 26,904,225	\$ 18,574,000	\$ 17,974,000

Note 4 - Stock-based Compensation	6 Months Ended				
	Mar. 31, 2019				
Notes to Financial Statements					
Share-based Payment Arrangement [Text Block]	Note 4. Stock-Based Compensation				
	<p>The Company recorded \$563,666 and \$1,102,190 of compensation expense related to current and past stock option grants, restricted stock grants and the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") for the three and six months ended March 31, 2019, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2019, \$532,425 of this expense is included in selling, general and administrative expense, and \$31,241 is included in cost of sales. For the six months ended March 31, 2019, \$1,039,709 of this expense is included in selling, general and administrative expense, and \$62,481 is included in cost of sales. The Company recorded \$485,794 and \$969,081 of compensation expense related to current and past stock option grants, restricted stock grants and the Company's ESPP for the three and six months ended March 31, 2018, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2018, \$443,763 of this expense is included in selling, general and administrative expense, and \$42,031 is included in cost of sales. For the six months ended March 31, 2018, \$885,020 of this expense is included in selling, general and administrative expense, and \$84,061 is included in cost of sales. As of March 31, 2019, \$2,965,292 of total unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested equity awards is expected to be recognized over a period of approximately 5.4 years.</p>				
	Stock Options				
	<p>The Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the weighted average fair value of stock options granted. During the six months ended March 31, 2019, 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 six months ended March 31, 2018. The weighted-average fair value at the grant date for options issued during the six months ended March 31, 2019 was \$3.53.</p> <p>This fair value was estimated at the grant date using the assumptions listed below:</p>				
				Six months ended	
				March 31, 2019	
	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 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 six months ended March 31, 2019:

	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price
Outstanding as of September 30, 2018	138,500	\$ 10.99
Granted	172,000	12.17
Exercised	(6,750)	2.58
Cancelled or Forfeited	-	-
Outstanding as of March 31, 2019	<u>303,750</u>	<u>\$ 11.85</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 March 31, 2019, the weighted average remaining contractual term for all outstanding and exercisable stock options was 1.4 years and their aggregate intrinsic value was \$287,850. During the six months ended March 31, 2019, the Company received proceeds of \$24 from the exercise of stock options. During the six months ended March 31, 2018, exercised stock options totaled 6,100 shares, resulting in proceeds of \$17,949 from the exercise of stock options.

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.

During the six months ended March 31, 2019, the Company granted non-employee directors elected at the Company's 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders restricted stock awards totaling 4,340 shares of common stock, with a vesting term of approximately one year and a fair value of \$14.40 per share.

During the six months ended March 31, 2018, the Company granted non-employee directors elected at the Company's 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders restricted stock awards totaling 4,235 shares of common stock, with a vesting term of approximately one year and a fair value of \$14.75 per share.

Restricted stock transactions during the six months ended March 31, 2019 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	4,340	14.40
Vested	(5,935)	14.43
Forfeited	(4,692)	15.05
Unvested as of March 31, 2019	<u>242,326</u>	<u>\$ 14.64</u>

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

The Company'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	6 Months Ended Mar. 31, 2019			
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. Revenue which has been recognized but not yet billed to the customer is recorded as a contract asset and is included in Other Current Assets on the condensed balance sheet. 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 and six months ended:</p>			
	Three Months Ended March 31,		Six Months Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
United States	\$ 17,136,328	\$ 16,065,902	\$ 35,640,795	\$ 31,563,562
All other countries	1,948,037	764,993	3,532,720	2,134,217
Total Net Sales	<u>\$ 19,084,365</u>	<u>\$ 16,830,895</u>	<u>\$ 39,173,515</u>	<u>\$ 33,697,779</u>
	<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 and six months ended:</p>			
	Three Months Ended March 31,		Six Months Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018

Broadband service providers	94%	95%	94%	95%
Build-to-print customers	6%	5%	6%	5%
Total Net Sales	100%	100%	100%	100%

Accounts Receivable

Credit is extended based on the evaluation of a customer's financial condition and collateral is generally not required. 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 March 31, 2019 and September 30, 2018, the balance in the allowance for doubtful accounts was \$289,085 and \$79,085, respectively.

See Note 7, "Major Customer Concentration" for further information regarding accounts receivable and net sales.

Note 6 - Inventories, Net	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Inventory Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 6. Inventories, net	
	Inventories consist of the following as of:	
	March 31,	September 30,
	2019	2018
Raw materials	\$ 5,755,357	\$ 6,013,166
Work-in-progress	712,003	560,988
Finished goods	1,806,162	3,475,981
Inventories, net	\$ 8,273,522	\$ 10,050,135

Note 7 - Major Customer Concentration	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Concentration Risk Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 7. Major Customer Concentration	
	<p>For the three months ended March 31, 2019, Customers A and B comprised 17% and 10%, respectively, of the Company's net sales. Both Customers A and B are distributors. For the six months ended March 31, 2019, Customers A and C comprised 18% and 11%, respectively, of the Company's net sales. Customer C is a private label original equipment manufacturer. For the three months ended March 31, 2018, Customers A and B comprised 25% and 16%, respectively, of the Company's net sales. For the six months ended March 31, 2018, Customers A and B comprised 24% and 14%, respectively, of the Company's net sales.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2019, Customer B comprised 13% of the Company's accounts receivable. As of September 30, 2018, Customers C, A, and B comprised 35%, 10%, and 10%, respectively, of the Company's accounts receivable.</p>	

Note 8 - Goodwill and Patents	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
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 six months ended March 31, 2019, there were no triggering events that indicate potential impairment exists.</p> <p>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 March 31, 2019, the Company has 17 patents granted and multiple pending applications both inside and outside the United States.</p>	

Note 9 - Income Taxes	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes to Financial Statements		
Income Tax Disclosure [Text Block]	Note 9. Income Taxes	
	<p>For the three and six months ended March 31, 2019, the Company recorded a provision for income taxes of \$99,000 and \$395,000, respectively, reflecting an effective tax rate of 21.2% and 22.3%, respectively. 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 March 31, 2019 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 six months ended March 31, 2018. 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 and six months ended March 31, 2019.</p> <p>For the three and six months ended March 31, 2018, the Company recorded a benefit for income taxes of \$101,000 and \$304,000, respectively, reflecting an effective tax rate of 24.9% and negative 91.1%, respectively. The effective tax rate for the six months ended March 31, 2018 was a blended rate reflecting the anticipated benefit of three quarters of federal tax rate reductions for fiscal 2018. Our six months 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 six months ended March 31, 2018 and reduced long-term deferred tax liabilities during the six months ended March 31, 2018. Additionally, differences between the effective tax rate and the statutory tax rate were related to nondeductible meals and entertainment, expenses related to equity award compensation, 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 assets for expected utilization using a "more likely than not" criteria by assessing the available positive and negative factors surrounding its recoverability.</p>	

As of March 31, 2019 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.

Note 10 - Accounting Pronouncements	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes to Financial Statements	Note 10. Accounting Pronouncements	
New Accounting Pronouncements and Changes in Accounting Principles [Text Block]	<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 has begun evaluating the new lease standard, including the review and implementation of the necessary changes to our existing processes and systems that will be required to implement this new standard. While we are unable to quantify the impact at this time, it is expected the adoption of this standard will lead to a material increase in the assets and liabilities recorded on the consolidated balance sheets.</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 (Loss) Per Share (Tables)	6 Months Ended			
	Mar. 31, 2019			
Notes Tables				
Schedule of Earnings Per Share, Basic and Diluted [Table Text Block]	Three Months Ended March 31,		Six Months Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Net income (loss)	\$ 367,942	\$ (305,376)	\$ 1,377,902	\$ 637,782
Weighted average common shares	13,422,222	13,450,482	13,411,183	13,447,178
Dilutive potential common shares	27,990	-	13,995	47,255
Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding	13,450,212	13,450,482	13,425,178	13,494,433
Net income (loss) per common share:				
Basic	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05
Diluted	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Tables)	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes Tables		
Investments Classified by Contractual Maturity Date [Table Text Block]	March 31, 2019	September 30, 2018
Less than one year	\$ 17,048,473	\$ 8,930,225
1-5 years	18,574,000	17,974,000
Total	\$ 35,622,473	\$ 26,904,225

Note 4 - Stock-based Compensation (Tables)	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes Tables		
Schedule of Share-based Payment Award, Stock Options, Valuation Assumptions [Table Text Block]	Six months ended March 31, 2019	
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 Payment Arrangement, Option, 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	(6,750)	2.58
Cancelled or Forfeited	-	-
Outstanding as of March 31, 2019	303,750	\$ 11.85
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Unit, 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	4,340	14.40
Vested	(5,935)	14.43
Forfeited	(4,692)	15.05
Unvested as of March 31, 2019	242,326	\$ 14.64

Note 5 - Revenue (Tables)	6 Months Ended			
	Mar. 31, 2019			
Notes Tables				
Disaggregation of Revenue [Table Text Block]	Three Months Ended March 31,		Six Months Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
United States	\$ 17,136,328	\$ 16,065,902	\$ 35,640,795	\$ 31,563,562
All other countries	1,948,037	764,993	3,532,720	2,134,217
Total Net Sales	\$ 19,084,365	\$ 16,830,895	\$ 39,173,515	\$ 33,697,779
	Three Months Ended March 31,		Six Months Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Broadband service providers	94%	95%	94%	95%
Build-to-print customers	6%	5%	6%	5%
Total Net Sales	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note 6 - Inventories, Net (Tables)	6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	
Notes Tables		
Schedule of Inventory, Current [Table Text Block]		
		March 31, 2019
		September 30, 2018
Raw materials	\$ 5,755,357	\$ 6,013,166
Work-in-progress	712,003	560,988
Finished goods	1,806,162	3,475,981
Inventories, net	\$ 8,273,522	\$ 10,050,135

Note 2 - Net Income (Loss) Per Share - Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding (Details) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended		6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018
Net income	\$ 367,942	\$ (305,376)	\$ 1,377,902	\$ 637,782
Weighted average common shares (in shares)	13,422,222	13,450,482	13,411,183	13,447,178
Dilutive potential common shares (in shares)	27,990		13,995	47,255
Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding (in shares)	13,450,212	13,450,482	13,425,178	13,494,433
Net income (loss) per common share:				
Basic (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05
Diluted (in dollars per share)	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Details Textual)	6 Months Ended
	Mar. 31, 2019
Maximum [Member]	
Held-to-maturity Securities, Investment Term	5 years

Note 3 - Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments - Maturity Date of CDs (Details) - USD (\$)	Mar. 31, 2019	Sep. 30, 2018
Less than one year	\$ 17,048,473	\$ 8,930,225
1-5 years	18,574,000	17,974,000
Total	\$ 35,622,473	\$ 26,904,225

Note 4 - Stock-based Compensation (Details Textual) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended				6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	Dec. 31, 2018	Mar. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Expense	\$ 563,666		\$ 485,794		\$ 1,102,190	\$ 969,081
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Nonvested Award, Cost Not yet Recognized, Amount, Total	2,965,292				\$ 2,965,292	
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Nonvested Award, Cost Not yet Recognized, Period for Recognition					5 years 146 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 146 days	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Outstanding, Intrinsic Value	287,850				\$ 287,850	
Proceeds from Stock Options Exercised					\$ 24	\$ 17,949
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Options, Exercises in Period					6,750	6,100
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				
Share-based Payment Arrangement, 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		
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Option [Member] Minimum [Member]							
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period					3 years		
Share-based Payment Arrangement, 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						4,340	
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period, Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value						\$ 14.40	
Restricted Stock [Member] Non Employee Directors [Member] Stock Compensation Plan 2007 [Member]							
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Award Vesting Period					1 year		1 year
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period						4,340	4,235
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period, Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value						\$ 14.40	\$ 14.75
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]							
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Expense	532,425		443,763			\$ 1,039,709	\$ 885,020
Cost of Sales [Member]							
Share-based Payment Arrangement, Expense	\$ 31,241		\$ 42,031			\$ 62,481	\$ 84,061

Note 4 - Stock-based Compensation		6 Months Ended	
- Valuation Assumptions (Details)		Mar. 31, 2019	
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		6 Months Ended	
- Option Transaction Summary (Details) - \$ / shares		Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018
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)		(6,750)	(6,100)
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)		303,750	
Weighted-average exercise price, outstanding (in dollars per share)		\$ 11.85	

Note 4 - Stock-based Compensation		6 Months Ended	
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- Restricted Stock Transactions (Details) - Restricted Stock [Member]	Mar. 31, 2019 \$ / shares
Balance, unvested shares (in shares) shares	248,613
Balance, weighted-average grant date fair value (in dollars per share) \$ / shares	\$ 14.65
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period shares	4,340
Share-based Compensation Arrangement by Share-based Payment Award, Equity Instruments Other than Options, Grants in Period, Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value \$ / shares	\$ 14.40
Vested (in shares) shares	(5,935)
Vested (in dollars per share) \$ / shares	\$ 14.43
Forfeited (in shares) shares	(4,692)
Forfeited (in dollars per share) \$ / shares	\$ 15.05
Balance, unvested shares (in shares) shares	242,326
Balance, weighted-average grant date fair value (in dollars per share) \$ / shares	\$ 14.64

Note 5 - Revenue (Details Textual) - USD (\$)	Mar. 31, 2019	Sep. 30, 2018
Accounts Receivable, Allowance for Credit Loss, Current	\$ 289,085	\$ 79,085

Note 5 - Revenue - Disaggregation of Revenue (Details) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended		6 Months Ended	
	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018
Total Net Sales	\$ 19,084,365	\$ 16,830,895	\$ 39,173,515	\$ 33,697,779
Percent of net sales	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Broadband Service Providers [Member]				
Percent of net sales	94.00%	95.00%	94.00%	95.00%
Build-to-print Customers [Member]				
Percent of net sales	6.00%	5.00%	6.00%	5.00%
UNITED STATES				
Total Net Sales	\$ 17,136,328	\$ 16,065,902	\$ 35,640,795	\$ 31,563,562
Non-US [Member]				
Total Net Sales	\$ 1,948,037	\$ 764,993	\$ 3,532,720	\$ 2,134,217

Note 6 - Inventories, Net - Components of Inventory (Details) - USD (\$)	Mar. 31, 2019	Sep. 30, 2018
Raw materials	\$ 5,755,357	\$ 6,013,166
Work-in-progress	712,003	560,988
Finished goods	1,806,162	3,475,981
Inventories, net	\$ 8,273,522	\$ 10,050,135

Note 7 - Major Customer Concentration (Details Textual) - Customer Concentration Risk [Member]	3 Months Ended		6 Months Ended		12 Months Ended
	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	Sep. 30, 2018
Revenue Benchmark [Member] Customer A [Member]					
Concentration Risk, Percentage	17.00%	25.00%	18.00%	24.00%	
Revenue Benchmark [Member] Customer B [Member]					
Concentration Risk, Percentage	10.00%	16.00%		14.00%	
Revenue Benchmark [Member] Customer C [Member]					
Concentration Risk, Percentage			11.00%		
Accounts Receivable [Member] Customer A [Member]					
Concentration Risk, Percentage					10.00%
Accounts Receivable [Member] Customer B [Member]					
Concentration Risk, Percentage			13.00%		10.00%
Accounts Receivable [Member] Customer C [Member]					
Concentration Risk, Percentage					35.00%

Note 8 - Goodwill and Patents (Details Textual) \$ in Thousands	3 Months Ended	6 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2018 USD (\$)	Mar. 31, 2019 USD (\$)
Goodwill, Impairment Loss	\$ 0	\$ 0
Number of Patents Granted		17
Patents [Member]		
Finite-Lived Intangible Asset, Useful Life		20 years

Note 9 - Income Taxes (Details Textual) - USD (\$)	3 Months Ended		6 Months Ended		Sep. 30, 2018
	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	Mar. 31, 2019	Mar. 31, 2018	
Income Tax Expense (Benefit), Total	\$ 99,000	\$ (101,000)	\$ 395,000	\$ (304,000)	

Effective Income Tax Rate Reconciliation, Percent, Total	21.20%	(24.90%)	22.30%	(91.10%)	
Income Tax Expense (Benefit), Continuing Operations, Adjustment of Deferred Tax (Asset) Liability				\$ (384,000)	
Unrecognized Tax Benefits, Ending Balance	\$ 0		\$ 0		
State and Local Jurisdiction [Member]					
Operating Loss Carryforwards, Valuation Allowance, Total	\$ 105,000		\$ 105,000		\$ 105,000
State and Local Jurisdiction [Member] Deferred Tax Assets Related to Operating Loss Carryforwards [Member]					
Valuation Allowance, Deferred Tax Asset, Increase (Decrease), Amount					