

Severing the National Optical Cable



Article Overview

Severing national or undersea optical cables can disrupt global communications, financial systems, and national security, with both accidental and deliberate incidents posing significant risks.

Importance of Optical Cables

National and international optical fiber cables form the backbone of global communications, carrying over 95% of internet traffic, financial transactions, and military communications . These cables span oceans and connect cable landing stations (CLS) on land, making them critical for economic stability, government operations, and everyday digital services . Their strategic importance also makes them vulnerable to both accidental damage and deliberate sabotage.

Methods and Capabilities

Modern undersea cables are designed with multiple layers of protection, including armoring and trenching in shallow waters. In deep waters, cables are laid directly on the seabed, making them more difficult to access . However, technological advancements have increased the potential for deliberate severance. For example, China has developed a device capable of cutting cables at depths up to 4,000 meters using a diamond-coated grinding wheel and robotic arms, overcoming extreme pressure and low visibility challenges . Such capabilities highlight the growing military and geopolitical risks associated with cable infrastructure.

Historical Incidents...

Article Content

A Roadmap for Securing India's Undersea Cables

This report examines India's dependence on undersea fibre optic cables for its financial well-being. It explains the complexities

Subsea telecommunications cables: resilience and crisis preparedness

There are particular vulnerabilities around the UK's outlying islands, military cables and the financial sector. The trend

What to know about Finland, Russia and a severed undersea cable :

Finland says a ship affiliated with Russia's "shadow fleet" is linked to a 60-mile-long anchor drag mark on the

Crossing the line: Severing undersea internet cables in

o protecting internet infrastructure and cybersecurity. This study discusses the recent incidents regarding undersea internet cables in

2024 Baltic Sea submarine cable disruptions

2024 Baltic Sea submarine cable disruptions ... On 17–18 November 2024, two submarine telecommunication cables, the BCS

Repairing Submarine Cables Is a Wartime Necessity

What should the U.S. government do when the transoceanic submarine fiber optic cables that supply, at the speed of light, more than

Charter said Van Nuys vandalism should be considered "domestic ...

"The incident involving the severing of fiber optic cables in Van Nuys on June 15 ... is being investigated as a case of

The mystery surrounding two severed Baltic subsea internet cables is ...

A massive Chinese cargo ship suspected of intentionally severing a pair of fiber optic cables in the Baltic Sea has left

NBI Investigates Cable-Severing Cases

The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) is investigating two separate cases involving severed cables, one in Ylöjärvi, Pirkanmaa,

2024 Baltic Sea submarine cable disruptions

On 17–18 November 2024, two submarine telecommunication cables, the BCS East-West Interlink and C-Lion1 fibre-optic cables,

Contact Us

For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://gmarkconstruction.co.za>

Email: sales@gmarkconstruction.co.za

Phone: +31-6-15-38-72-94

Address: Herengracht 456, 1017 BS Amsterdam, Netherlands

This document is for informational purposes only. Specifications subject to change without notice.

