

Ranking of Afghan civilian optical cable manufacturers



Overview

This section provides an overview for fiber optic cables as well as their applications and principles.

Key Takeaways

Afghanistan currently has limited domestic production of optical fiber and cables, with most supply being imported, and no publicly available ranking of local manufacturers exists. Domestic Production and Trade Context

Afghanistan's optical fiber and cable industry is still in its early stages. In 2024, the country exported only \$4,500 worth of optical fibers and cables, ranking it 133rd globally among exporters, while imports totaled \$582,000, primarily from China, Turkey, and the Philippines (OEC World Trade data). This indicates that domestic production is minimal and the market relies heavily on imported products.

Infrastructure Development

The Afghan government is actively expanding the Afghan Fiber Optic Ring, also known as the Afghan National Civil Optical Fiber Cable-OFC ring network, as part of the broader Digital Silk Road initiative. This network aims to improve regional connectivity and support the knowledge economy in Central, South, and Southwest Asia. While the government has signed MOUs with international partners like China Telecom to enhance fiber connectivity, domestic manufacturing capacity remains limited, and most large-scale projects depend on imported cables.

Key Considerations

- Local manufacturers: There is no publicly available list or ranking of Afghan civilian optical cable manufacturers. Most domestic companies are small-scale and may focus on installation or assembly rather than full-scale production.
- International partnerships: Afghanistan's optical cable projects often involve foreign suppliers and technical expertise, highlighting the reliance on imported materials and technology.
- Market potential: With ongoing infrastructure projects, there is potential for domestic manufacturers to expand, but currently, the industry is nascent and fragmented.

Conclusion

At present, Afghanistan does not have a recognized ranking of civilian optical cable manufacturers, and domestic production is limited. The country primarily imports optical fiber and cable products to meet its growing infrastructure needs, while government-led projects like the Afghan Fiber Optic Ring provide opportunities for future development and potential growth of local manufacturers .

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