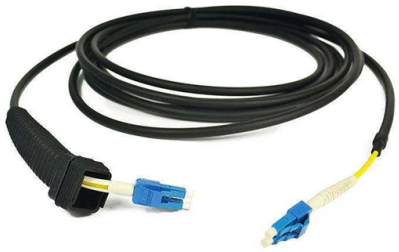
Mauritius external fiber optic cable fault



Overview

The undersea fiber optic cable SAFE was damaged “off the coast of Africa”, according to a press release from Mauritius Telecom issued on Friday.

Key Takeaways

The SAFE undersea fiber optic cable off the African coast was damaged, causing widespread internet and banking disruptions in Mauritius. Overview of the FaultMauritius experienced significant internet outages due to a fault in the SAFE (South Africa-Far East) undersea fiber optic cable, which connects the island to South Africa, India, and Malaysia. The 13,500 km cable is part of a consortium including Mauritius Telecom, Vodafone Group, and Orange.

The damage occurred off the African coast and was classified by Mauritius Telecom as a force majeure event beyond its control. Impact on ServicesThe cable fault disrupted connectivity across homes, businesses, and critical services. Banks, including SBM Bank, reported ATM and point-of-sale terminal failures, leaving customers unable to withdraw cash or complete transactions.

Internet-dependent operations, such as photocopying and online banking, were also affected, highlighting the vulnerability of Mauritius' reliance on a single major undersea cable.

Broader Context

This incident coincided with other undersea cable disruptions in the region. Four cables near the Ivory Coast were damaged due to seismic activity, and three cables off Yemen were offline after a cargo ship incident. These cumulative faults have stressed the resilience of internet infrastructure in Africa and nearby islands.

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Mitigation and Repair Efforts

Mauritius Telecom and its partners initiated repair operations to restore connectivity. In the interim, some services were rerouted through alternative network paths, though this caused higher latency until optimal routing was restored. Regular monitoring continues to ensure stable service while repairs are completed.

Technical Considerations

Fiber optic cable faults can result from external damage, stress, or environmental factors, leading to signal loss or complete outages. Troubleshooting involves inspecting the cable, testing signal continuity, and repairing breaks, often requiring specialized vessels and equipment for undersea operations.

Summary

The SAF

E cable fault in Mauritius caused widespread internet and banking disruptions, emphasizing the critical role of undersea fiber optic infrastructure. While temporary alternative routing mitigated some effects, full restoration depends on repair of the damaged cable, which is underway. This event underscores the importance of redundancy and contingency planning for island nations reliant on external connectivity.

Article Content

Damaged optical cables banks down!

The undersea fiber optic cable SAFE was damaged “off the coast of Africa”, according to a press release from Mauritius Telecom issued on Friday. The consequence is that the Internet

Network Status

We are currently experiencing a network issue with MyT (Mauritius Telecom), which is affecting connectivity between MyT and many other network operators within the country.

Africa hit by another subsea cable cut

Damage to an undersea cable off the African coast is exacerbating disruptions of internet services to the continent, impacting customers on the islands of Mauritius and Reunion.

Subsea Cable Damage Cuts Internet to Islands Off Africa Coast

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Damage to an undersea cable off the African coast is exacerbating disruptions of internet services to the continent, impacting customers on the islands of Mauritius and La Reunion.

SAFE cable fault disrupts internet and banking services in Mauritius ...

Internet and banking services were reportedly disrupted in Mauritius on Friday due to a technical glitch with the South Africa Far East (SAFE) submarine cable, although connectivity was restored late the

Mauritius Telecom Reports Rs 1 Million in Cable Vandalism Damage

A deliberate act of vandalism has caused over Rs one million in damage to a crucial undersea fibre-optic cable, Mauritius Telecom confirmed on Monday September 14.

WACS repaired, Mauritius Telecom to build new subsea cable

Several Internet service providers (ISPs) confirmed disruptions to the international submarine cables. To ease the impact, operators rerouted traffic via alternative cables like Google''s

Fiber Network Troubleshooting – Common Issues & Fixes

Learn how to troubleshoot fiber networks. Identify common issues like high loss, dirty connectors, and signal drops, with practical solutions for optical links.

Submarine fiber optic cable connects Mauritius with South Africa and ...

A submarine cable of 3200 kilometer-long is now operating and connecting South Africa with Mauritius, Reunion Island and Madagascar. In a statement, Emtel, a telecom network operator

Cable Crash: SAFE Fiber Optic Down, Internet Woes Ahead

According to a press release from Mauritius Telecom published on Friday, April 26, 2024, the undersea fiber optic cable SAFE has been damaged.

Providing Mauritius with a national optical fiber

CEB FiberNET is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Central Electricity Board incorporated in October 2016. Our network provides Mauritius with a second

Electrum

Welcome to Electrum, a leader in delivering cutting-edge telecommunication solutions in Mauritius and the region. Founded in 2011, we specialize in turnkey

Slow internet speed: Two underwater cables damaged and reportedly

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Repairs began on the Lower Indian Ocean Network Lion/Lion 2 cable since Monday. At the same time, the two other fiber optic underwater cables WATS and SACS located on the west

WACS repaired, Mauritius Telecom to build new subsea cable

The West Africa Cable System (WACS) has been repaired after enduring weeks of disruptions while Mauritius Telecom is partnering with Orange and Reliance Jio to build a new

METISS submarine fibre cable now operational in Mauritius

Emtel, a telecoms network operator in Mauritius, has provided the only landing point for the Meltingpot Indianoceanic Submarine System (METISS) fibre optic cable in the country. The

Africa hit by another subsea cable cut

The damaged 13 500km Safe fibre cable is one of three connecting Mauritius, an island nation with close to 1.3 million people and an economy mostly dependent on financial services and

Subsea cable T3 lands in Mauritius

Mauritius Telecom, the largest Internet service provider and cellular service distributor in Mauritius, announced on Friday, March 24, that it has laid the T3 fiber optic submarine cable in Mauritius. The

Our optical fibre network | CEB Fibernet

Our fibre optics backbone network spans over 300 km across the island, with a harmonized low latency transport network built on a solid and resilient electrical grid infrastructure.

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