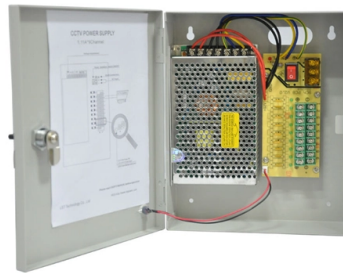


How do Congolese telecommunications workers lay fiber optic cables



Article Overview

In the DRC, fiber optic cables are installed through a combination of underground trenching, aerial deployment, and careful splicing, guided by national planning and international partnerships.

Planning and Survey

Before installation begins, Congolese telecommunications teams conduct site surveys to map out routes, assess terrain, and identify existing utility infrastructure. This planning determines whether cables will be laid underground or aerially on poles, and identifies central distribution points for efficient network coverage . The DRC's National Digital Plan 2025 prioritizes connecting urban and rural areas, requiring careful route planning to overcome geographic and infrastructural challenges .

Cable Laying Methods

Fiber optic cables in the DRC are deployed using several methods depending on the environment:

- Open Trenching: Digging trenches along streets or rural paths to bury cables, suitable for areas with less dense infrastructure .
- Directional Drilling (HDD): Installing cables underground without surface disruption, ideal for urban areas with existing utilities .
- Microtrenching: Narrow, shallow trenches in city streets to minimize disruption .
- Plowing: Rapidly laying cables in rural regions using specialized plows .

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Below is given the fiber optic cable installation method statement for performing the installation of optical fiber cabling

The FOA Reference For Fiber Optics

All fiber optic applications are not the same. At the FOA, we're mainly concerned with communications fiber

FOA Standard For Installing Fiber Optic Cable Plants

The type of fiber optic cable and the fibers in the cable should be chosen appropriate for the type of communications system(s) being

SOCOF and APCSC to deploy fibre along new roads in the DRC

SOCOF is a government-owned entity tasked with managing fibre-optic deployments in the DRC. APCSC is a

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Placing cables underground has the added benefits of reducing transmission losses, aiding planning consent and reduced risk of

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