

Article Overview

The largest China-invested fiber optic manufacturing facility in Africa is the Yangtze Optics Africa Cable (YOA) factory at Dube TradePort, South Africa, producing over three million fiber kilometers annually.

Overview of YOA Factory

The YOA factory is a joint venture between Chinese-owned Yangtze Optical Fibre and Cable Joint Stock Limited Company (YOFC) and South Africa's Mustek Limited. Located in the Dube TradePort Special Economic Zone north of Durban, the facility spans 14,000 m² and is the largest optical fiber cable manufacturing plant in Africa . The factory was initially established in 2016 and has undergone multiple expansions, including a R160-million investment to introduce intelligent optical fiber manufacturing technologies .

Production Capacity and Technology

The YOA factory has a production capacity of over three million fiber kilometers per year, making it the continent's largest producer . At full speed, the facility can produce over 4,000 fiber kilometers of cable daily, much of which is destined for African telecom networks . The factory manufactures polyethylene-based optical fiber cables, including trenchable and direct-burial types, supporting high-speed internet connectivity across urban and rural areas . The facility also emphasizes localization, producing essential materials like natural polyethylene locally for the first time in over 20 years .

Workforce and Skills Development

The YOA factory employs 155-260 people, with about 50% women in the workforce . The company runs youth leadership programs, internships, and 12-month learnerships to train graduates and matriculants in finance, manufacturing, IT, and engineering, fostering local skills in fiber optic technology . This initiative addresses youth unemployment and builds a pipeline of skilled professionals for Africa's digital economy.

Impact on Africa's Digital Infrastructure

The YOA factory plays a critical role in boosting broadband access, reducing reliance on imports, and supporting digital transformation across Southern Africa . By producing trenchable fiber optic cables locally, the factory enables faster deployment of FTTH, MNO backhaul, and metro networks, contributing to inclusive digital connectivity in both urban and rural regions . The facility also supports carrier-neutral data centers and telecom operators with high-density fiber solutions.

Other Chinese Fiber Initiatives

In addition to YOA, Fibrafrica, a commercial brand of Minqing Fibramerica Technology, supplies factory-direct fiber optic solutions across Africa, including ADSS, armored, drop, and duct cables, as well as GPON/XGS-PON equipment for last-mile networks. These initiatives complement YOA's production by providing ready-to-deploy fiber assemblies and professional installation tools for African telecom operators.

Summary

The China-Africa fiber optic trench production ecosystem is anchored by the YOA factory in South Africa, which combines high production capacity, advanced manufacturing technology, and local workforce development. Together with suppliers like Fibrafrica, these facilities are transforming Africa's digital infrastructure, enabling faster internet deployment, supporting local economies, and fostering skills development in the fiber optic sector.

The Federal Government has inaugurated Coleman Industries Ltd's new fibre optic cable

Subsea Fiber Optic Cable Manufacturer Solutions - VERI Cable Product Details: VERI produces submarine fiber optic cables

Fibre cable maker Yangtze Optics Africa Cable has opened a R160 million facility -- the biggest optical

Fibre-optic cable manufacturer Yangtze Optics Africa (YOA) Cable officially opened its new 14 000 m2 optical fibre

We anticipate market needs, innovate and constantly refine our manufacturing processes and products to deliver faster speeds and

The future of China's fiber optic manufacturing industry looks promising, with continued

The Yangtze Optics Africa (YOA) Cable fibre-optic cable manufacturing facility in Durban's Dube TradePort

Fibre cable maker Yangtze Optics Africa Cable has opened a R160 million facility -- the

Spanning 14,000 square meters, the new plant in the Dube Trade Port Special Economic Zone, north of Durban, is now the largest

Though tech giants have invested heavily in high-performance digital infrastructure -- more



China-Africa Fiber Optic Trench Manufacturing Plant

Inside fiber optic cable manufacturer In China In the era of 5G, AI, and hyperscale data centers, fiber optic

Chairman of Coleman Technical Industries, Asiwaju Solomon Onafowokan, has inaugurated Africa's largest fibre-optic

As a key partner, China Mobile has invested in one pair of optical fibres in the Ring African backbone, covering 28

Factory-direct fiber optic infrastructure for African telecom operators, ISPs, towercos and data centers. From our manufacturing plant

Working with other strategic partners, YOA Cable is now able to localise the supply of natural polyethylene supply. This

President Xi Jinping pledged on Thursday to step up China's support across

Web: <https://millstraining.co.za>

