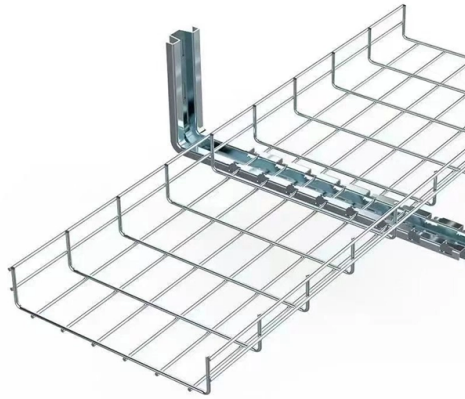


New Optical Cable Segment



Overview

Corning at OFC 2026 | New Fiber, Cable, and Corning's newest fiber, cable, and connector technologies unveiled at OFC 2026 enable Optical Cables 2026: Tren.

Key Takeaways

The new optical cable segment is driven by high-density fiber solutions, active optical cables, and 5G/data center infrastructure, reflecting rapid growth in bandwidth demand and digital transformation. Market Overview

The global fiber optic cable market is experiencing significant growth, with projections to reach \$150 billion by 2033 from \$75.31 billion in 2023, driven by increasing internet penetration, 5G rollout, and expansion of data centers and smart city infrastructure . The market is highly fragmented, with major players like Corning, CommScope, Prysmian Group, and Fujikura leading innovation in high-capacity and low-latency cables .

Key Drivers for New Segments



1. High-Density and High Fiber-Count Cables The demand for high fiber-count ribbon cables has accelerated, particularly for AI and hyperscale data centers. These cables bundle thousands of fibers to maximize bandwidth and spatial efficiency, supporting low-latency, high-throughput interconnects within server rooms and across data center campuses . Innovations include 864-fiber micro cables and next-generation Intermittent Bonded Ribbon (IBR) cables for fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) expansion . 2. Active Optical Cables (AOC) Active optical cables integrate optical transceivers with fiber, enabling high-speed data transmission over longer distances compared to traditional copper cables. The market for AOCs is projected to grow from \$3.97 billion in 2023 to \$9.07 billion by 2030, driven by cloud adoption, 5G networks, and high-resolution video technologies like 4K/8K . QSFP and SFP+ form factors dominate, providing 10–40 Gbps connectivity for data centers and enterprise networks . 3. 5G and Telecommunications Infrastructure The rollout of 5G networks globally is a major driver for new optical cable segments. Fiber optic cables are essential for backhaul and fronthaul connectivity, supporting small cell deployment and high-speed, low-latency communication . By 2030, 5G penetration is expected to exceed 56%, further increasing demand for high-capacity fiber networks . 4. Data Center Expansion Rapid growth in data centers worldwide, particularly in regions like India, is fueling demand for high-capacity fiber networks. Fiber optic cables enable low-latency, secure, and reliable connectivity, which is critical for hyperscale computing, cloud services, and AI infrastructure .

Regional Trends

Asia Pacific remains the largest market, accounting for nearly 46.5% of global fiber optic cable revenue in 2023, followed by North America and Western Europe . Africa and the Middle East are the fastest-growing regions, with projected CAGRs of 13.76% and 13.59%, respectively .

Technological Innovations

- High-capacity, low-latency cables optimized for 5G and data centers
- Micro cables and ribbon designs for space efficiency
- Enhanced durability and fire resistance for urban and industrial deployments
- Integration with active optical modules for high-speed enterprise and HPC applications

Conclusion

The new optical cable segment is characterized by high-density fiber solutions, active optical cables, and 5G/data center-focused deployments, driven by the need for higher bandwidth, low latency, and reliable connectivity. Market growth is supported by technological innovation, digital transformation, and global expansion of telecommunications and cloud infrastructure. Manufacturers are prioritizing high-capacity, low-loss, and energy-efficient designs to meet the evolving demands of hyperscale data centers and next-generation networks .

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