

Article Overview

Ghana is advancing its optical switch and fiber-optic infrastructure through national projects, market growth, and integration into new road construction.

Government Initiatives and Infrastructure

Ghana's government has approved a transformative proposal from the Ghana Chamber of Telecommunications to integrate fiber-optic ducts and access chambers into all new road construction projects, a policy often called the "Dig Once Policy" . This initiative aims to reduce the capital cost of digging for telecom operators, accelerate network rollout, and minimize service interruptions caused by road construction, which historically accounted for about 60% of fiber cuts in the country . The policy aligns with Ghana's Digital Economy Policy (2024) and National Broadband Strategy, supporting faster, cheaper, and more sustainable connectivity .

National Fiber-Optic Network Projects

Alcatel-Lucent, in collaboration with Ghana's National Information Technology Agency (NITA), is building a 600-km backbone fiber-optic network to support the e-Ghana program . This network will link central government functions with remote and rural locations, using 100-Gbps-capable optical coherent technology within the 1830 Photonic Service Switch (PSS). The project also includes a national data center and is designed to scale with future demand, enhancing e-government services across health, education, justice, and other sectors .

Market Outlook

The Ghana Optical Switch Market is actively monitored and shows strong growth potential, driven by increasing demand for high-speed connectivity, government digitalization initiatives, and regional trade opportunities . Market analysis highlights emerging trends, revenue forecasts, and export potential, enabling businesses to make data-driven strategic decisions in the optical switch sector .

Commercial Availability

For businesses and consumers, fiber-optic switches are available for purchase in Ghana, with prices starting from around GH? 500. These include Wi-Fi, LAN, and enterprise-grade equipment suitable for various networking needs .

Summary

Ghana's optical switch landscape is shaped by strategic government policies, large-scale fiber-optic projects,



New Ghana Optical Switch

and a growing market for commercial optical equipment. The combination of the Dig Once Policy, national backbone networks, and market expansion positions Ghana as a leader in infrastructure-led digitalization in Africa, providing faster, more reliable, and cost-effective connectivity for both public and private sectors .

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The telecommunication industry in Ghana has undergone various stages of transformation. The industry has

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