

Vietnam Telecom Main Fiber Optic Cable Failure

Article Overview

Three of Vietnam's five main undersea fiber optic cables are currently down, significantly slowing international internet connections.

Affected Cables and Current Status

As of mid-2026, the three undersea cables experiencing failures are the Intra Asia (IA) cable connecting to Singapore, the Asia Pacific Gateway (APG), and the Asia-Africa-Europe-1 (AAE-1) cable . The remaining two cables, Asia-America Gateway (AAG) and Southeast Asia-Middle East-Western Europe (SMW-3), are still operational . These cables collectively carry the majority of Vietnam's international internet traffic, with undersea routes accounting for approximately 99% of domestic-to-international connections .

Causes and Challenges in Repair

Repairing undersea cables is complex due to several factors: the cables are located deep underwater, requiring specialized ships and equipment; international permissions are needed to access certain cable locations; and weather conditions can delay repair operations . Additionally, new faults may be discovered during repair, further extending downtime. Past incidents have shown that full restoration can take weeks, and no exact timeline has been provided for the current outages .

Impact on Internet Connectivity

The failure of these three cables has seriously affected internet speed and service quality for users accessing international websites and services . Internet service providers in Vietnam have implemented temporary measures, such as rerouting traffic through land-based cables and sharing capacity among operational lines, but users still experience slower connections .

Government and Industry Response

The Vietnamese Ministry of Information and Communications has emphasized the need for more stable and sustainable digital infrastructure . Plans include:

- o Expanding the number of undersea cables to at least 15 by 2030, with a focus on domestic ownership to reduce dependence on international alliances .
- o Introducing new cables such as the Vietnam-Singapore Cable System (VTS), scheduled to be operational by Q2 2027, which will connect Vietnam, Singapore, Cambodia, Thailand, and Malaysia .
- o Increasing domestic cable capacity and sharing traffic among operators to mitigate the impact of future

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outages .

Future Outlook

Vietnam aims to strengthen its international connectivity by building more undersea cables, including at least three owned by domestic enterprises, to ensure resilience against similar failures . By 2025-2030, the country plans to add multiple new cables, nearly doubling its bandwidth and reducing vulnerability to international cable disruptions . In summary, while the current failures have caused significant internet slowdowns, Vietnam is actively pursuing infrastructure expansion and domestic cable ownership to improve the stability and reliability of its international internet connections.

Local news reports say Vietnamese internet service providers have rolled out various measures to ensure internet

The failure of the two cable systems has seriously affected the speed of the nation's international internet connections,

Updated information on repair and troubleshooting plans on international undersea optical cables used by Vietnamese

Vietnam's IA undersea cable has been fully repaired, restoring international Internet connectivity. The APG cable, still

The IA cable has been encountering problems since December 26, 2024, on branch S1, which connects Vietnam to

Late last year, another two fiber optic cables also faced issues and have not been resolved. For the first time ever,

The failure of the three cable systems has seriously affected the speed of Viet Nam's international internet

A two-day delay in the maintenance of Asia Pacific Gateway (APG), an undersea fiber-optic cable that makes up the

The AAE1 submarine fiber optic cable experienced a malfunction, resulting in a loss of approximately 10% of international capacity,

All 5 out of 5 undersea fiber optic cable routes connecting Vietnam internationally encountering problems. On

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the morning of

That's why when a submarine cable incident occurs, domestic telecommunications

Major Vietnamese carriers such as Viettel, VNPT, FPT Telecom, and CMC Telecom are all exploiting the APG fiber

Deputy Chair of the Vietnam Internet Association (VIA) Vu The Binh said Vietnam's international fiber optic cable

HÀ NOI - Despite the full restoration of the Asia-Africa-Europe-1 (AAE-1) undersea cable,

Multiple cable outages slow Vietnam's Internet Vietnam's ISPs scramble as yet more cable failures throttle connectivity.

According to the strategy issued by the Ministry of Information and Communications in June 2024, state-owned

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