



Press release

ACE (Africa Coast to Europe) submarine cable extended to South Africa

Paris, June 9th, 2009 – The ACE (Africa Coast to Europe) submarine cable system, which was initially planned to stretch from France to Gabon, will now be extended to South Africa connecting all countries along the West coast of Africa, from Morocco to South Africa. This new cable will provide broadband interconnection to the global telecommunications network to more than twenty-five countries in Africa and Western Europe.

The ACE consortium currently comprises seventeen telecommunications operators. Three operators, Mauritano-Tunisienne des Télécommunications, Camtel and Companhia Santomense de Telecomunicações recently joined the original fourteen operators (Benin Telecoms SA, Côte d'Ivoire Telecom, France Télécom SA, Gamtel, Maroc Telecom, Orange Bissau, Orange Cameroun, Orange Guinée, Orange Mali, Orange Niger, Orange Spain, Portugal Telecom, Sonatel and Togo Telecom), which signed the Memorandum of Understanding approved in Dakar on November 27th, 2008.

The ACE submarine cable system, which will be more than 14,000 km long, will be switched on in 2011. It will benefit from the state-of-the-art submarine cable technology and will benefit from a minimum capacity of 1.92Tbit/s capable of supplying the network connectivity required to meet the needs of many countries and secure international traffic.

ACE will complement existing submarine cables (SAT-3/WASC/SAFE, SEA-ME-WE.3, ATLANTIS 2, etc.) and will offer the West African coastal region excellent connectivity to telecommunications networks in Europe, America and Asia.

ACE submarine cable



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