

APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group

Submarine Cable Protection Information Resource

Submarine Cable Protection:

The Work of APEC TEL

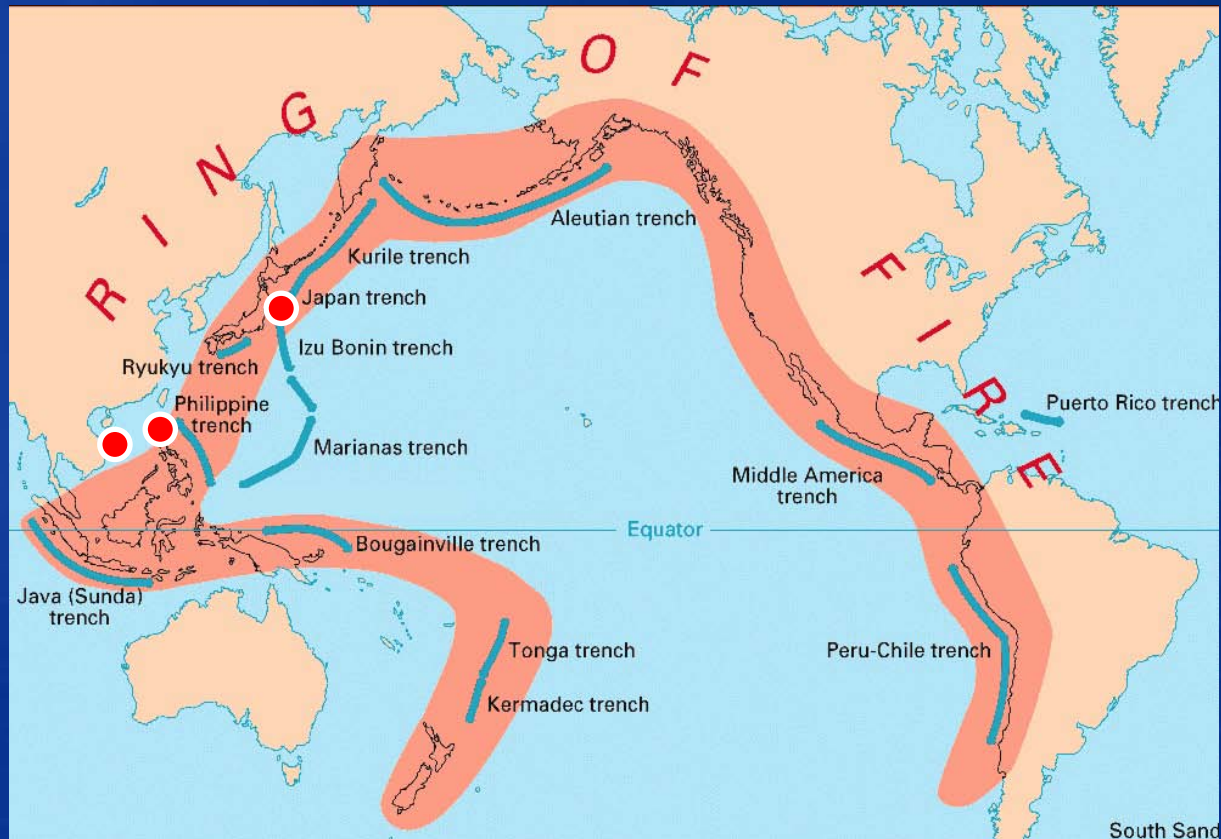
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APEC TEL 39



- A Submarine Cable Information Sharing Workshop was held at APEC TEL 39 in Singapore in 2009

APEC TEL 39 Outcomes

- Consensus that the APEC TEL should:
 - Compile a list of information including designated points of contact in both government and industry
 - Develop an inventory of submarine cable regulation
 - Raise awareness at the Ministerial level
 - Achieved at APEC TELMIN 8

Developing an Information Resource

- A virtual Working Group was formed to respond to the outcomes of the workshop
- Australia distributed a questionnaire in 2010 to gather information on:
 - Points of contact for cases of actual or suspected piracy, terrorism or like emergency;
 - legislation and regulations;
 - industry codes and standards; and
 - government and industry submarine cable protection initiatives.

Responses

- 8 economies have provided responses to the survey.
- Australia, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Hong Kong - China, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, and Thailand

Key Findings

- Responding economies reported that most international communications traffic is carried by submarine cables.
- Five have established criminal penalties
- Only two have established protection zones.

Contact points



- Six economies provided points of contact in cases of actual or suspected piracy, terrorism or like emergency.
- This list will be kept up to date.

Engagement with Industry



- Providing the resource
- Seek industry contribution
- Information can be provided to DBCDE to asia.pacific@dbcde.gov.au

Next Steps

- Encouraging more economies to contribute to the information resource.
- Raising submarine cables within the Committee on Trade and Investment

APEC Committee on Trade and Investment

- High level forum to deliberate trade and policy issues
- Submarine cables are a link in the trade of goods and services
- Can encourage more economies to provide information for the resource

CTI Workshop on Cable Protection

- Propose workshop September 2011
- Envisage that the workshop would:
 - Raise awareness of the economic importance of submarine cables
 - Foster Government and Industry collaboration
 - Exchange information on existing cable protection regimes
 - Increase contributions to the APEC information resource

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Thank you!

Further contact: asia.pacific@dbcde.gov.au