

## **Europacable calls for the inclusion of optical fiber cables in the EU Taxonomy: Cables are essential for Europe's digital & environmental transitions, and shall be accounted for by the European Taxonomy**

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**Europacable, the voice of Europe's wire and cable industry, calls on the European Commission to include optical fibre cables in the EU Taxonomy Regulation.** Adding optical fibre is essential for fostering energy efficiency, reducing emissions, and ensuring the development of resilient, future-proof telecommunications infrastructure.

The existing taxonomy activities cover targeted aspects of digitalisation. To ensure adequate recognition of optical fibre cables networks and their components, **Europacable calls on the European Commission to include in the EU Taxonomy Regulation:**

- A. An encompassing activity on telecommunication networks:** digital networks covering a wide range of technologies from fibre cables to active equipment are enablers of sustainable digitalisation across sectors and should be recognised accordingly.  
**Or, as an alternative;**
- B. A specific taxonomy activity focused on optical fibre cables:** they are the key technology to ensure energy savings while increasing bandwidth and achieve EU's digital transition in a sustainable way;

**This recognition is essential to channel investments to sustainable telecommunication networks while reaching EU connectivity targets for all European citizens by 2030.**

Power cables are recognised in the taxonomy under activities 3.20 'Manufacture, installation, and servicing of high, medium and low voltage electrical equipment for electrical transmission and distribution' and 4.9, 'Transmission and distribution of electricity' of the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation objectives. They are vital to enable EU's twin transitions just like optical fibre cables are.

**Accordingly, an equivalent activity should recognise the role of optical fibre cables which are suited for energy savings, increasing bandwidth and fostering sustainability across Europe.** Compared to other access technologies, fibre is the most energy-efficient solution, with its low energy consumption, long lifespan, and future-proof capabilities. As technologies like 5G, IoT, and edge computing continue to expand, consumers increasingly demand high-speed, low-latency, and reliable bandwidth, available everywhere at all times. This underscores the necessity for extensive backhaul cabling to connect end-users to optical fibre networks, and for densification of networks to ensure a higher number of access points.

Europacable is committed to working closely with EU institutions and industry partners to establish clear eligibility and alignment criteria, ensuring that investments in Europe's telecommunication networks meet the growing connectivity demand while contributing to the EU's climate goals. Including optical fibre cables in the EU Taxonomy is essential for fostering energy efficiency, reducing emissions, and ensuring the development of resilient, future-proof telecommunications infrastructure.

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### **About Europacable**

Europacable is the voice of Europe's leading wire and cable producers. High-quality, sustainable power and telecommunication cables, produced by our members in Europe, empower electrification and digitalisation of our societies. Founded in 1991, Europacable represents the largest cable makers in the world providing global technology leadership, as well as highly specialized small- and medium sized businesses from across Europe.

With our future being ever more electrified and digitalised, cable technology will be the core backbone of Europe's energy and telecommunication infrastructures. Sustainable, low-carbon manufacturing and high-performance cables are essential to achieve Europe's climate neutrality objectives by 2050. Europacable is committed to the principles of free enterprise and fair trade. Our members employ over 80.000 people of which more than 50% in Europe, generating a worldwide turnover over € 70 billion in 2021.

Europacable is a member of EuroFSA, FEEDS, Orgalim, RGI, WindEurope and a partner of CENELEC and EUEW. Europacable is listed in the European Commission's Transparency Register under 453103789-92. [www.europacable.eu](http://www.europacable.eu)