Maritime Link Submarine Cables

BACKGROUNDER

How did the cables get here?

Cable Transport from Halden, Norway

- The Skagerrak is the cable laying vessel that Nexans will use to place the cables across the Cabot Strait for the Maritime Link Project. The Skagerrak currently holds the submarine cable manufactured in Halden, Norway, with installation beginning at Cape Ray, NL, near the end of April 2017.

The Skagerrak was built in 1976 and refurbished in 2010 to enhance cable handling capability.

The cable turntable on the Skagerrak holds a 170 km submarine cable for the Maritime Link.

Cable Transport from Futtsu, Japan

- The second cable for the Maritime Link Project was manufactured in Futtsu, Japan. In late March 2017 it was spooled onboard a barge containing a turntable which was subsequently loaded aboard a heavy lift vessel (HLV). This vessel is currently in transit and destined for the port in Sydney, NS.

A turntable containing the Maritime Link's second cable was loaded onto a barge in Futtsu, Japan, for transport.

The heavy lift vessel carrying the barge in transit to Sydney, NS.

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How will the cables be placed on the seafloor?

- The cable laying process will be executed with constant monitoring to ensure precision as each cable is gently placed on the seafloor. The Skagerrak will travel at speeds of approximately 0.3 knots (0.6 km/h) during the cable laying process.

A similar live video will be viewed by the crew onboard the Skagerrak displaying cable laying activity during installation.

How will the cables be protected?

<u>Cable Protection - Trenching</u>

- Cable burial by trenching is required for protection at up to 400 m water depths. At depths beyond this, there is minimal risk of external factors impacting the cables.
- Trenching will be performed by a remote operated vehicle (ROV), controlled onboard Nexans' support vessel, the Polar King.
- Modern technologies will allow visual monitoring during cable laying through forward viewing sonar on the ROV used to conduct pre-lay survey work.
- Burial depth in soft sediment ranges from 1 m - 1.9 m, depending on water depth, location, and risk profile.

The Polar King will be the control centre for the ROV.

Nexans ROV, the Capjet, will be used to perform cable trenching for the Maritime Link's submarine cables.

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<u>Cable Protection – Rock Berming</u>

- The majority of the length of the submarine cables will be protected through trenching. The remaining areas will be protected by rock berms. Nexans will use the Rockpiper vessel as the base of operations for rock berming activities.

The Rockpiper will be the base of operations for protective rock berming activities.