

## IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. Joins the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition to Strengthen the Netherlands' Role as a Strategic Digital Gateway for Northern Europe



**IOEMA-1 Holding B.V.**, the Dutch-based project company behind the IOEMA-1 subsea fibre cable system, has joined the **Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition (DSCC)**, further reinforcing the Netherlands' role as a strategic digital gateway, landing hub and resilience corridor for new international submarine cable infrastructure.

The Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition brings together public and private stakeholders across the Dutch digital infrastructure ecosystem, including government bodies, regional authorities, data centre and connectivity players, knowledge institutions and industry experts. Its role is to support the development of submarine cable landings in the Netherlands by helping projects navigate the Dutch ecosystem, connect with relevant authorities and market participants, and strengthen the country's position as one of Europe's leading digital hubs.

IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. is developing IOEMA-1 as a next-generation Northern European subsea cable system designed to provide new route diversity, resilience and open-access fibre connectivity between the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark and Norway. The project is also considering future extensions to France, Ireland and the north of the United Kingdom, further strengthening IOEMA-1's potential role as a diverse North Sea and Northern European connectivity platform.

The system is intended to address growing demand for diverse, purchasable and resilient fibre routes driven by cloud, AI, data centre growth, digital sovereignty requirements and the increasing importance of secure subsea infrastructure.

The Netherlands plays a central role in the IOEMA-1 architecture. The system is planned to include Dutch landing infrastructure, with the Netherlands acting as a key connectivity bridge between the UK, Germany, the Nordics and wider European digital markets. Potential future extensions to France, Ireland and the north of the UK would further enhance this position by creating additional route diversity, supporting greater regional interconnection and expanding the strategic reach of the IOEMA-1 platform.

IOEMA-1 Holding B.V.'s participation in the DSCC will support closer coordination with Dutch stakeholders as the project advances through development, permitting, landing planning and market engagement.

**Eckhard Bruckschen, Founder and CEO of IOEMA-1 Holding B.V., said:**

“Joining the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition is an important step for IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. and for the IOEMA-1 project. The Netherlands is not just another landing point in our system; it is one of the most important digital gateways in Europe and a natural hub for resilient North Sea connectivity.

IOEMA-1 has been designed as a neutral, open-access and future-ready fibre platform. Our core architecture connects key Northern European markets, and we are also considering future extensions to France, Ireland and the north of the United Kingdom. This reflects our ambition to create a broader, resilient and strategically relevant connectivity platform across the North Sea and adjacent European corridors.

Close collaboration with the Dutch ecosystem is essential to deliver that vision. The North Sea is becoming a critical corridor for digital infrastructure, energy infrastructure, security and scientific monitoring. By working with the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition, we can align more closely with public and private stakeholders in the Netherlands and contribute to a more resilient, diverse and strategically important European subsea cable landscape.”

**Martin Prins, Ambassador of the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition, said:**

“We are pleased to welcome IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. to the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition. The Netherlands has a strong interest in attracting and enabling new submarine cable systems that enhance route diversity, strengthen digital resilience and support our position as a leading European internet and data hub.

IOEMA-1 is a highly relevant initiative for the Dutch and wider North Sea digital ecosystem. Its planned Dutch landing infrastructure and potential future extensions to other important European markets further underline the value of coordinated collaboration between cable developers, authorities, knowledge partners and market participants.

As a coalition, our role is to help connect cable initiatives with the right authorities, knowledge partners and market participants, and to support a more efficient and

coordinated landing environment in the Netherlands. We look forward to working with IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. as the project continues to develop.”

The collaboration comes at a time when Europe is placing increased emphasis on the resilience, security and strategic autonomy of critical digital infrastructure. Submarine cables carry the overwhelming majority of international data traffic and are increasingly recognised as essential infrastructure for economic competitiveness, cloud services, AI, research and education networks, public services and defence-related resilience.

IOEMA-1 is being developed to support these requirements through a fibre-rich, open-platform architecture, with the ability to serve carriers, hyperscalers, enterprises, public institutions, research networks and strategic users requiring diverse and resilient connectivity across Northern Europe.

In addition to connectivity, IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. is exploring integrated sensing and SMART cable capabilities for IOEMA-1, including the potential use of dedicated fibre resources and sensor-enabled infrastructure to support scientific, environmental and security-related applications. This aligns with broader European and Dutch priorities around resilient infrastructure, maritime domain awareness and the responsible use of subsea assets for public and private benefit.

By joining the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition, IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. will further strengthen its engagement with the Dutch digital infrastructure community and contribute to the shared objective of making the Netherlands a leading, accessible and strategically important landing environment for next-generation submarine cable systems.

### **About IOEMA-1 Holding B.V.**

IOEMA-1 Holding B.V. is a Dutch-based company developing the IOEMA-1 subsea fibre optic cable system. IOEMA-1 is designed as a neutral, open-access and switchable subsea fibre platform connecting key Northern European markets including the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark and Norway. The project is also considering future extensions to France, Ireland and the north of the United Kingdom. The system aims to provide new route diversity, resilient fibre connectivity and future-ready digital infrastructure for carriers, hyperscalers, enterprises, public institutions and strategic users.

### **About the Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition**

The Dutch Subsea Cable Coalition is a public-private collaboration focused on strengthening the Netherlands’ position as a leading digital gateway and landing location for international submarine cable systems. The coalition connects stakeholders across government, industry, knowledge institutions and the wider digital infrastructure ecosystem to support efficient, coordinated and future-oriented cable landing development in the Netherlands.