



ICPC News Release

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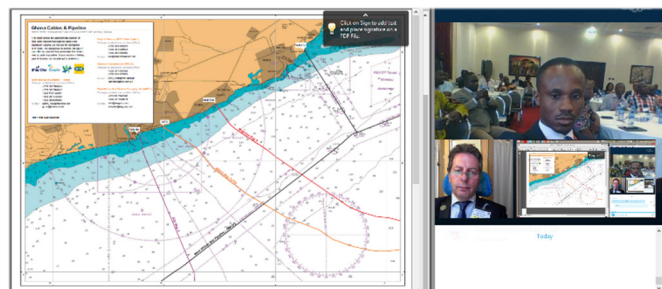
ICPC participates at Ghana Cable Awareness Workshop



LYMINGTON, UK—On 26 November 2015 in Accra, Ghana, a pioneering Submarine Cable Awareness Workshop was held to bring together cross-sectoral national and international organisations with an interest in the seabed in Ghana's national waters and Exclusive Economic Zone, with particular reference to pipelines and submarine cables. These cables are of vital social and economic importance

internationally, as they underpin the Internet and over 98% of trans-oceanic communications and data transfer.

Senior Ghanaian Government figures were joined by ICPC's General Manager, Keith Schofield and representatives of carriers, the National Communications Agency, the Ghana Maritime Authority, the Navy, the Fisheries Commission, Ghana Ports & Harbour Authority, Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association, and representatives of carriers with submarine cables landing in Ghana.



A number of presenters made reference to the critical nature of pipelines and international submarine cable communications, and referenced the resources of the ICPC in helping the diverse interests represented at the event share the seabed in harmony with others. To the assembled community of interest, Mr. Schofield's presentation included information on how the interests of different seabed users are addressed internationally by ICPC members (which include five governments), and stated: "This gathering provides an excellent foundation for increased communication and collaboration between different seabed interests to increase the resilience of Ghana's international connections while paying due

regard to other seabed users.” Mr. Schofield further commented, “Ghana’s proud progress in developing its international trade and economic development can be underpinned both by the protection of her critical infrastructure and by delivering Ghanaian solutions informed by international experience.”



Mr. Schofield called on those assembled to build on the excellent foundations of this event, now in its fifth year, and thanked the organisers for their invitation. Due to unavoidable flight delays, Mr. Schofield’s contribution was only

made possible by rapidly arranged low latency video communications via submarine cables that, while attending remotely, enabled him to present and take questions directly from the attendees in real time—an excellent example of how the very infrastructure the event was considering aids international communications.

About ICPC: The [International Cable Protection Committee \(ICPC\)](http://www.iscpc.org) was formed in 1958 and its primary goal is to promote the safeguarding of international submarine cables against man-made and natural hazards. The organisation provides a forum for the exchange of technical, legal and environmental information about submarine cables and, with 160 members from over 60 nations, including cable operators, owners, manufacturers, industry service providers, as well as governments, it is the World’s premier submarine cable organisation. For further information about ICPC, visit: www.iscpc.org.

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