

Article Overview

As of early 2026, G.657A1 optical fiber is trading at approximately \$22 per kilometer, with CIF prices likely higher depending on shipping and insurance costs.

Current Market Price

The G.657A1 bend-insensitive fiber, commonly used for FTTH and long-distance optical networks, has seen a significant price increase due to global demand pressures. As of March 2026, the base price is around \$22 per kilometer for bare fiber . This represents an 80% increase from mid-2025, when prices ranged between \$12-14 per kilometer . The surge is driven by high demand from both civilian telecom projects and specialized military applications, which have strained the global supply chain .

Factors Affecting CIF Pricing

- o Shipping and Insurance: CIF prices include freight and insurance to the destination port. Depending on the origin (e.g., China, Europe) and destination, CIF costs can add 10-20% or more to the base fiber price.
- o Lead Times: Many suppliers report 12-20 week lead times, with some specialty fibers facing up to 6-month backlogs . Longer lead times can increase CIF costs due to storage and handling fees.
- o Cable Type and Construction: Pre-terminated cables, armored outdoor cables, and long-distance optical cables may carry additional costs beyond bare fiber, including protective sheathing, tight-buffer construction, and flame-retardant coatings .
- o Global Supply Constraints: Rising silica prices, helium shortages, and high demand for 5G and FTTH networks contribute to higher production costs, which are reflected in CIF pricing .

Practical Estimate

For long-distance G.657A1 optical cable, a rough CIF estimate would be:

- o Bare fiber: \$22/km base + 10-20% shipping/insurance -> approximately \$24-26/km CIF.
- o Pre-terminated or armored cable: Prices can be higher, potentially \$30-35/km CIF, depending on specifications and supplier .

Recommendations

- o Contact suppliers directly for custom CIF quotes, as prices fluctuate with demand and shipping conditions .
- o Consider bulk orders to reduce per-kilometer costs and secure delivery within the extended lead times.
- o Monitor market trends, as prices may continue to rise if global demand remains high . This provides a current, practical estimate for budgeting and procurement of G.657A1 long-distance optical cable.

Datasheet: GD063103v7 SPECIFICATION FOR ENHANCED LOW MACROBENDING SENSITIVE, LOW WATER PEAK

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