ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd

Special optical cable tariffs



Overview

HTS heading 8544 covers insulated wire, cable, and conductors, entering the United States at a 3.5% MFN duty rate.

Key Takeaways

Optical cables are subject to varying tariffs depending on origin, classification, and trade measures, with Chinese imports facing additional anti-subsidy duties in the EU and higher U.S. tariffs.EU Anti-Subsidy and Anti-Dumping Measures

The European Union has imposed anti-subsidy duties on Chinese optical fiber cables due to government subsidies that give Chinese producers an unfair advantage, including R&D funds, preferential tax rates, and low-interest loans from the China Development Bank . These measures aim to protect the EU optical fiber industry, which employs around 5,000 people and generates €1 billion annually . The duties are applied on top of standard tariffs, effectively increasing the cost of Chinese optical cables entering the EU market.

U.S. Tariffs and HTS Classification

In the United States, optical fiber cables are classified under HTS Code 8544.70.0000, which covers insulated optical fiber cables, whether or not fitted with connectors . For certain imports, such as Chinese-made cables, additional tariffs of up to 25% may apply due to trade measures, including anti-dumping and Section 301 tariffs . Standard U.S. duty rates for other optical cables may be duty-free, depending on the specific product and country of origin .

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HS Codes and Product Classification

Correct classification is crucial for determining applicable tariffs. Key HS codes include:

• 9001.10: Unassembled optical fibers

• 8544.70: Assembled fiber optic cables

• 8536.70: Fiber optic connectors and splices

• 8517.62: Fiber optic transceivers and amplifiers Products from countries subject to trade measures, particularly China, face higher tariffs, while European or U.S.-made products may avoid these additional costs .
Global Trade Implications

Tariff increases on Chinese optical cables have led to higher costs for U.S. and EU importers, encouraging sourcing from alternative regions such as Europe, Japan, or Southeast Asia . Chinese manufacturers may also invest in local production outside China to circumvent tariffs and maintain competitiveness in key markets .

Summary
• EU: Anti-subsidy duties on Chinese optical cables to protect local industry .

• U.S.: HTS Code 8544.70.0000 applies; Chinese imports may face 25% additional tariffs .

• HS Codes: Proper classification is essential to determine duty rates and compliance .

• Trade Strategy: Sourcing from non-Chinese suppliers or domestic production can reduce tariff exposure . Understanding these tariffs is critical for businesses importing optical cables, as they directly affect pricing, sourcing decisions, and compliance with international trade regulations.

Article Content

HTS 8544.70.00.00: Optical fiber cables, Free US duty (2026) | Tariffs

This is a US Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) code that classifies "Optical fiber cables". It determines base duty

HTS 8544.70 — Optical fiber cables | Import Tariff & Duty Rate

Find import duty rates for HTS 8544.70: Optical fiber cables. View rates by country of origin, Chapter 99 surcharges, and related

HTS 9001 — Optical fibers, lenses, and prisms Tariff Rate (2026)

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The top origin countries for optical fibers, lenses, and prisms are CN, JP, DE, KR, TW. Tariff rates vary based on the source

HTS 8544 Tariff Rate 2026: 3.5% MFN +25% China — Insulated wire,

HTS heading 8544 covers insulated wire, cable, and conductors, entering the United States at a 3.5% MFN duty rate. Insulated wire,

Harmonized Tariff Schedule

The Harmonized Tariff Schedule provides detailed tariff rates and statistical categories for merchandise imported into the United States.

Harmonized Tariff Schedule

The HTS is based on the international Harmonized System, which is the global system of nomenclature applied to most world trade

HTS Code 900110: Optical fibers, optical fiber bundles and cables ...

This 6-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule subheading (900110) covers optical fibers, optical fiber bundles and cables. The table below

Customs Ruling NY N344044

The merchandise at issue with this request is identified by part number OGNM12WTZTWBE and described as a single mode optical

HTS Code 9001.10.00 US import tariffs and quota

This code covers optical fibers, bundles, and cables, along with certain unmounted optical elements.

HS Code for Cable

Explore HS code suggestions for electrical, coaxial, fiber-optic and steel-wire cable. US HTS lookup across headings 8544 and 7312

9001-Optical fibers and optical fiber bundles; optical fiber cables

Provides details about optical fibers, optical fiber bundles, and cables excluding those of heading 8544, including sheets and plates.

fiber optic cable HS Code & Harmonized Tariff Code (HTS) for USA

Find HS Code for fiber optic cable for customs in the United States. HTS or Schedule B codes are used throughout the USA and you

How Trump''s 2025 Tariffs Are Reshaping the Internet

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The broad spectrum of tariffs levied in 2025 has generated strategic dislocation across the internet and communication

Changes to US import rules for low-value shipments from the UK

Overview From 29 August 2025, the United States removed the $800 de minimis threshold for commercial shipments. This change

HS Codes for Wire & Cable: Complete Guide (8544)

Complete guide to HS codes for insulated wire and cable under heading 8544. Includes subheading breakdowns, duty rates, cable

Optical fibres and optical fibre bundles; optical fibre cables ot

Find out the requirements and duties of Optical fibres and optical fibre bundles; optical fibre cables other than those of heading|8544;

US Tariff Effects on Fiber Optic Components: Market

The fiber optic components market, a backbone of high-speed internet and modern

Tariffs and Broadband: Every Day is a New Day

Expert Opinion Tariffs and Broadband: Every Day is a New Day In 2024, the United States

854470-OPTICAL-FIBER-CABLES -

8544.70 Description: Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers,

8544.70.00

2006 NY M87746 - The tariff classification of plastic scintillating fibers and wavelength shift fibers 2006 NY R04271 - The tariff

Harmonized Tariff Schedule

The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) sets out the tariff rates and statistical categories for all merchandise

HS Code 85447000

Find tariff details, duty rates, and trade specifications for HS Code 85447000 (Optical Fiber Cables Made Up Of Individually

HS Code 90011090

Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (excl. made up of individually sheathed fibres of heading 8544 and image conductor

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HS Code 854470

Looking for HS codes? Use Flexport''s free Search tool to find the tariff code to correctly classify your goods for customs.

How to Handle Optical Cable Export Agency? These 9 Key Questions

This article addresses core issues related to tariff policies, international certification, logistics solutions, and payment

The Impact of U.S. Tariff Increases on China''s Export of Optical Cables

Among the products affected by these tariffs is China''s export of optical cables, a crucial component in modern

Chapter 85, HSN Code 854470 for Optical fibre cables

HSN code 854470 — Optical fibre cables. View GST rates, chapter classification, and compliance details for invoicing in India.

Welcome

Vietnam Tariff Schedule Analytics Trusted partner for Vietnam''s market. Real-time check and quick online calculation of tax and

8544.70.00.00-Optical fiber cables

Optical fiber cables OPEN OR CLOSE CATEGORIES AND COLLECT HTS CODE FOR LOGIN USER

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