

THE NetworkGuy

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Subsea Cables: *The Workhorse of Global Commerce and Communications*

Did you watch the NFL games that happened in London and England in 2023? Or maybe you watched a concert or another sporting event live from across the ocean.

If you did, it's likely that you didn't even think about how you were able to get access. The answer is a network of subsea cables, draped across the ocean floor. That's right, there are cables with strands of glass fiber as thin as hair but thousands of miles long, transmitting sights and sounds at the speed of light across the dark, cold subsea. They are about as thick as a garden hose and can carry 400 terabits of data per second. That's 400,000 times faster than gigabit service. In contrast, there's an element of low tech too. The cables are coated in tar and unspooled by ships using basically the same process used in the 1850s to lay the first transatlantic telegraph cable. SubCom, a subsea-cable maker based in New Jersey, traces its beginnings as a rope manufacturer with a factory next to a deep-water port for easy loading onto ships.

Satellite links are becoming more important with current orbiting systems like SpaceX's Starlink, but the subsea cables are the workhorse of global commerce and communication, handling more than 99% of traffic between continents.

Interesting, isn't it? Think of that next time you're watching that game happening in Germany or when you visit the beach and look at the vast ocean. There's a lot more than meets the eye!

The Network Guy Quiz Challenge

PenTeleData is giving one lucky winner a \$150 Amazon Gift Card. Just visit www.ptd.net/quiz-challenge by **April 30, 2024** to answer the contest question. We will select a winner at random from all correct entries. **Good Luck!**

Click the Quiz Challenge link and find out what is true about subsea cables.

Learn from The Network Guy

I recently purchased a new connected device (computer, smartphone, tablet). How do I set up my email program/app?

The Network Guy:

PenTeleData can help! We offer detailed instructions about setting up the most common email programs and apps on our webpage. Please visit our helpdesk: [PTD | How to Setup Your Email](#).



Things That Make You Go Hmmm...

The first Virtual Reality (VR) headset was patented in the 1960's and was named the 'Telesphere Mask' by inventor Morton Heilig.

While most of us think of VR with gaming, the technology is now being used in healthcare to treat depression, anxiety, PTSD, and more.

The PlayStation VR headset developed by Sony engineers came about from an open-ended brainstorming session without any executive direction.

The first webcam was introduced in 1991 at the University of Cambridge in England. It was created to check or monitor the status/level of the coffee pot at the university.

The first computer virus was created by Bob Thomas. He created one program called "Creeper" that could move between two computers and display the message "I'm the creeper, catch me if you can!" It is not designed to harm the computer system, but it was the start of a new era in computing, in which malicious software and programs could be designed to harm a computer system.

The first emoji was designed in Japan in the 1990s. It was designed by one of the graphic designers in Japan named Shigetaka Kurita, who wanted to help people to communicate with others more effectively by sharing feelings and emotions.

About 3% of all children have amblyopia, or "lazy eye." The treatment is usually to place an eyepatch over the good eye for several hours each day in order to strengthen the weaker eye. Luminopia is the first FDA-approved* binocular therapy for amblyopia. Patients can choose from more than 700 hours of popular TV shows and movies to watch within a virtual reality (VR) headset.

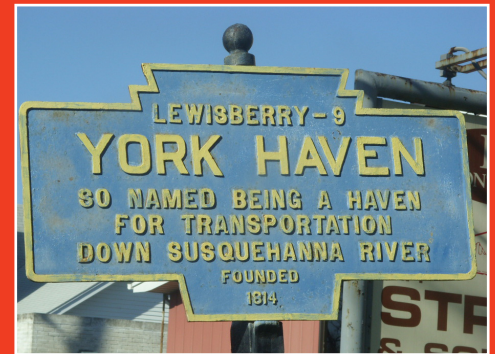
VR headsets can be used to help surgeons plan upcoming procedures and train residents by creating 3D models using the imaging from MRIs, CT scans and angiograms.

"Someone must have ripped the 'Q' section out of my dictionary, 'cause I don't know the meaning of the word 'quit'."

– Mr. Furious in Mystery Men

PenTeleData is Proud to Serve York Haven, PA

York Haven, Pennsylvania is a quiet town outside of Harrisburg and York. It began with the Conewago Canal company, a group of wealthy men, mostly from Philadelphia, who set out to purchase land. The 1810 land purchased was a tract of 151 acres, a tract of 64 5/8 acres called "Hopewell," and another tract of 12 acres, projecting into the river called "Cape Francis."



The town of York Haven was laid out in 1814 when a neatly designed plan was prepared under the direction of the York Haven Company. There were two sections: the "upper town" was located on the hill and the "lower town" was down by the canal. Before the railroads, the river canal was the subject of great public interest and York Haven was to become an important town and business center. Three new mills were built, one having a capacity of 150 barrels of flour a day; for that time this mill had the largest capacity in the state. They soon built cooper shops, hotels, and private residences. The borough was incorporated in 1892 using the company name York Haven (being a haven for transportation down the Susquehanna River).

The York Haven Paper Company purchased the site of the flouring mills, which had been destroyed by fire and built great paper mills in 1880. The Conewago Bag Manufacturing Company was a part of the Paper Company. By 1899, it had grown to become the sixth largest factory employer in all of York County. The York Haven Paper Company extracted 2,100-horsepower of hydropower, from the fall of the river water, to operate their paper mill. At the time it was built, the York Haven Paper Company was the largest ground pulp paper mill in the United States. Between 1885 and 1895 the biggest customer for their newsprint was the New York Herald Tribune.

The Conewago Canal enabled late 18th and early 19th century river craft to safely bypass rapids at Conewago Falls. That canal was one of the earliest canals in America and it was the first working canal in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In 1895, the York Haven Power Company built a power plant to the riverside of the paper mill. In 1904, the power plant constructed the York Haven Dam. At that time, it was the third largest in the world. At one time, the York Haven Power Company provided 85 percent of York's power. The York Haven hydroelectric plant now produces over 2021 megawatts of power. The plant is listed as a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark.

Generations later, the borough of York Haven remains a close-knit community with a friendly atmosphere.

Source: <https://www.yorkhavenborough.org/history/>