

First-of-its-kind technology headed to Facebook's Los Lunas data center

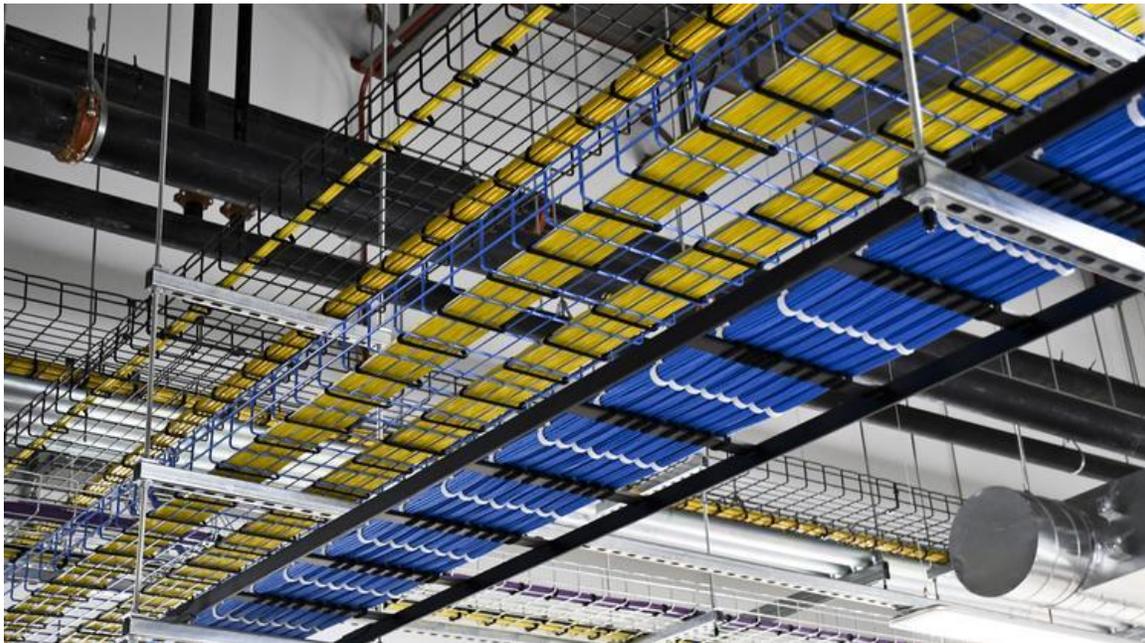
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ALBUQUERQUE BUSINESS FIRST

For the first time at one of its data centers, [Facebook](#) is debuting a high-capacity, underground fiber cable that will be part of the first \$250 million phase of its Los Lunas data center set to open in 2018.

“When complete, this cable will stretch 200 miles and be one of the highest-capacity systems in the U.S.,” said Facebook officials [on the data center's Facebook page](#) for the site Tuesday.



Miles of data cables and duct-work span the massive campus in Fort Worth Texas where Facebook opened its first building that is part of a 2.5 million square foot data center in May.

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Facebook officials said the state-of-the-art optical fiber cable being constructed for Los Lunas has never been used for one of the entity's data centers before and will be 50 percent more efficient when moving information compared to high-capacity cables the company has built in the past.

“We expect the construction of this new cable will lead to more than 50 jobs over the next year, which is in addition to the hundreds of jobs created by the building of our Los Lunas Data Center,” Facebook said in the announcement.

Facebook officials confirmed in an email that California-based DPR Construction is the general contractor on the fiber cable, but that all of the subcontracting work has been awarded to New Mexico companies.

Those companies include Albuquerque-based Directional Boring, Los Lunas-based IHP Construction, Los Lunas-based Volt Inc., and Albuquerque-based Kelly Cable of NM Inc. Those companies will work on directional boring for the cable. Clovis-based [Nick Griego & Sons Construction Inc.](#), will work on the gravel quarry and hauling, and Las Cruces-based Armarc Landscapes is Facebook's hydro seed contractor for the project, according to Facebook officials.

[Facebook's](#) Los Lunas data center is slated to create around 50 long-term jobs, in addition to around 200 to 300 jobs for its initial construction. Located in the Huning Ranch Business Park just off Interstate 25, the first \$250 million phase of the center is set to open late next year.

When it opens next year, it will join [four other data centers operating throughout the U.S.](#)

Sapin covers money, job creation and energy.