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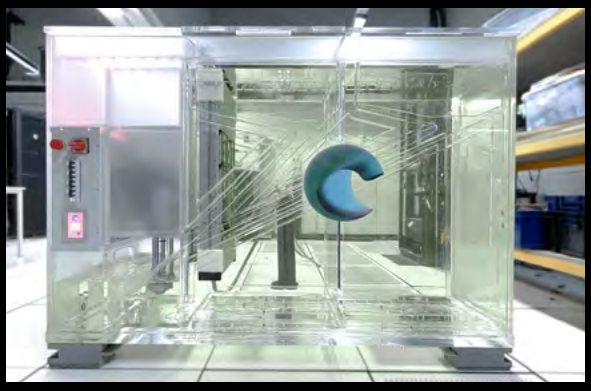

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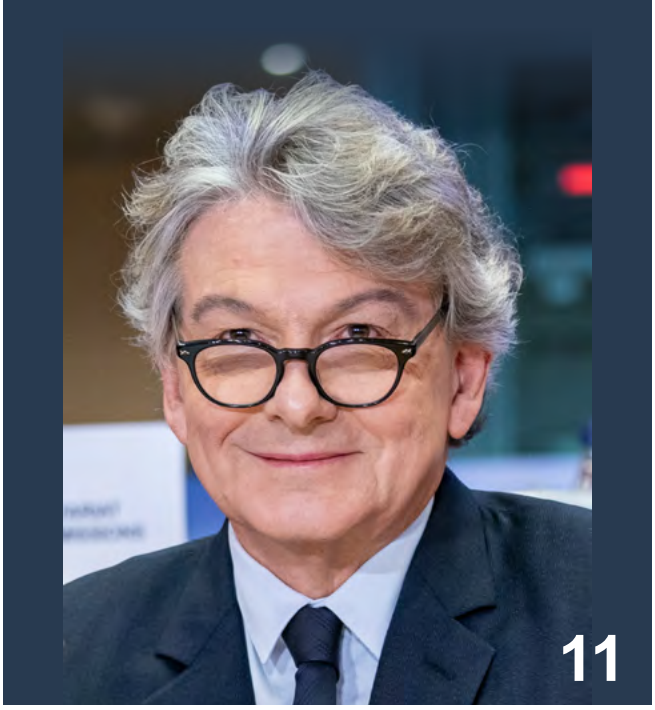

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Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of Teletimes International.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the SAMENA Telecom Council on a very successful Telecom Leaders Summit which brought together key industry players for constructive policy discussions. A detailed post event report is included in this edition for our readers who could not make it to the event.

As IntelligentRAN becomes a very hot topic in the market right now, I would highlight my editorial about "How IntelligentRAN is reshaping the mobile industry" which is based on an interview with Calvin Zhao, Vice President of Huawei Wireless Network SingleOSS Product Line. You will also find a news-piece about leading regional operators and Huawei jointly releasing IntelligentRAN in the ME.

This edition features an exclusive interview with Ahmed Al Sharif, Chief Technology & Digital Officer, stc Bahrain who talks about stc's efforts and vision to become a key enabler of the digital economy in Bahrain.

As always, you will find the latest news and updates from all major players in Telecom, ICT & Sat Com.

Your feedback is welcome on info@teletimesinternational.com

Enjoy Reading!

Khalid Athar
Chief Editor

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How is IntelligentRAN reshaping the mobile industry?

An overview of IntelligentRAN and how its supporting sustainable mobile networks based on exclusive interview with Calvin Zhao, Vice President of Huawei Wireless Network SingleOSS Product Line

By Khalid Athar

As one of the leader's in the telecom space, Huawei introduced its IntelligentRAN platform. Huawei's new IntelligentRAN allows intelligent air interfaces to use key technologies such as smart grids, scheduling dictionaries, and channel graphs. With these capabilities, they can intelligently configure air interface resources and achieve optimal user experience and capacity. Service prediction with IntelligentRAN also guides non-real-time spectrum and channel selection on the network side and real-time symbol scheduling and transmit power configuration on the base station side. This significantly reduces energy consumption across the entire network. In addition, IntelligentRAN enables intelligent SLA site planning, where parameters are dynamically configured and models can be adjusted flexibly in response to service changes.

The IntelligenRAN platform is introduced at a time when network complexities are increasing continuously for some operators. Reflecting on this problem, Zhao said, "5G is now developing very quickly around the world, but this has brought a lot of challenges at the same time. For a lot of telecom operators, they now manage 2G, 3G and 4G plus 5G. So they are now managing four generations of technologies at the same time. It has exponentially increased the complexity of the network and that has inhibited the potential of the network." The fact that a partial switch to 5G has only added more complexity to network management is true for all operators around the world.

According to Zhao, IntelligentRAN not only enables operators to tackle the problems with multi channel network management but in fact, improves the management to higher standards. Zhao said, "With our

As IntelligentRAN establishes itself as the gold standard for the industry, more and more operators are adopting strategies to become autonomous

Telecom operators and their partners strive to find ways to improve customer service on the same network. This is where IntelligentRAN makes the biggest difference

With these capabilities, telecom operators' O&M staff will no longer be buried by tiring, complicated and repetitive everyday tasks

IntelligentRAN solution, we use intelligent and collaborative coverage technologies for the optimal conditions with multi frequency and performance. We also combine the network forecasting of the traffic, so that we can achieve optimal multi-path judgment and decision-making."

Such oversight enables the telcos to manage parameter settings much better allowing them to provide differentiated SLAs and also helps telcos manage the dynamic parameters to adapt to the service requirements with more custom made configurations for delivering optimal performance. This is very relevant to the mobile industry, now more than ever, as we enter the era of 5G with the new network supporting a myriad of industries through critical connectivity and driving the digital economy.

Talking about the improvements to the end-user experience, Zhao added, "The intelligent operation of the network is a very important factor that we consider when we design the solution. And I believe it's also a very valuable aspect to implement the collaboration between network and base stations. We have several basic capabilities such as channel models, the scheduling dictionary and intelligent grids. With these basic capabilities we can provide the optimal performance based on heterogeneous networking with multiple frequency bands, multiple sites and multiple beams."

These factors allow the optimization of the network according to network load and congestion. The unprecedented level of customization which IntelligentRAN provides means that network resources are fully utilized and optimized to be used where and when needed the most. This enables the operator to cater to a larger market whilst maintaining a high standard of delivery and actually improving the end-user experience which can now be configured according to the actual type of network usage.

Elaborating on Huawei's approach in this respect, Zhao said, "We hope that IntelligentRAN solution can utilize intelligent algorithms to identify various scenarios and use the algorithm to find the optimal solution over iterations so that we can use one network to provide the optimal performance for different requirements from diverse service over different frequencies, to meet differentiated SLA requirements for different industries flexibily. Similar to 'flexible manufacturing system' in the manufacturing industry, that contains enough flexibility to allow the system to rapidly react to production changes. IntelligentRAN supports agile service rollout and accelerates the digital transformation of thousands of industries. Carriers can continuously generate revenue by continuously launching new services."

In today's world, where data and network usage is higher than ever before, service providers are often challenged by the competing price points for network services. The most common dilemma is to target network improvement and improvement on customer experience, all while maintaining competitive pricing. Revenue is directly linked towards high speeds that can allow customers to have a good experience, and it would be very accurate to say "Better customer experience = More Revenue".

In such times, telecom operators and their partners strive to find ways to improve customer service on the same network. This is where IntelligentRAN makes the biggest difference. Zhao explained, "We can apply intelligent algorithms of machine learning or deep learning to help the self-learning of the network, through the application of intelligent technology such as Digital Twin, the physical network is digitally mapped to the digital twin network map, and a digital platform for simulation, verification, analysis and decision-making is built.

" Such flexibility has now become the key to a sustainable network. With these capabilities, telecom operators' O&M staff will no longer be buried by tiring, complicated and repetitive everyday tasks. Instead, they can focus on more value adding tasks, such as designing policies, developing the automated diagnosis capabilities and simulated network repair features and over iterations, they can develop a fault tree to provide better full cost of network faults.

As IntelligentRAN establishes itself as the gold standard for the industry, more and more operators are adopting strategies to become autonomous. China Mobile is already on track for a level four autonomous network by 2025 and Vodafone has also proposed a Zero Touch Operation Network (ZTO) which is defined as an important part of their telco strategy.

Zhao concluded the discussion saying, "Intelligent network is an obvious direction of the future, and we are open to working with industry partners to collaborate and innovate together - to identify high value cases and cooperate extensively. Together, we aim to drive the development and large-scale application of the intelligent network, including our IntelligentRAN solution. In the end, we hope to boost the high quality development of the digital economy and to provide fundamental capabilities to support it." T

Leading regional operators and Huawei jointly release IntelligentRAN in the ME

As a step to elevate the intelligence of wireless networks to the next level, stc, Zain, Etisalat UAE, the telecoms pillar of e& in the UAE, du, from Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (EITC), and Huawei jointly release IntelligentRAN in the Middle East. The launch of IntelligentRAN aims to inject intelligence to wireless networks and achieve autonomous driving network in the wireless domain in the future.

Internet of Everything will lead to a 100-fold increase in network traffic and number of services by 2030. Operators are currently facing challenges of providing multiple services, as well as facing operation and maintenance complexities with the potential of higher energy consumption. With IntelligentRAN, Huawei will inject Artificial Intelligence while inheriting SingleRAN. The MIE (Mobile Intelligence Engine) is introduced in IntelligentRAN, which is divided into two functional nodes. In the site layer, MIE is introduced to meet the real-time requirements, and in the network layer, MIE is introduced to provide functions like post data analysis, training on the data gathered, and training of more precise models. Network and base station, MIE coordinate data, models, and decisions, jointly deliver intelligence to wireless networks, hence achieve fast provisioning for services.

Huawei plans to work with stc, Zain, Etisalat UAE, du to implement intelligent identification, intelligent fault detection to prevent predicting faults, and enrich the autonomy and intelligence model database and capabilities that can help the industry to work in the next direction of ICT transformation.

Bader Abdullah Allhieb, Infrastructure Sector VP, stc said, "At stc, we are committed to provide advanced technologies and contribute to building a strong sustainable future for Saudi and the region, and support realizing the Digital Transformation Strategy of the

Bader Abdullah Allhieb
Infrastructure Sector VP, stc

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We strongly believe that such an advanced technology from a leading provider of ICT such as Huawei will help us achieving our commitments."

In their statement, Zain Group said: "As one of the leading pioneers of mobile telecommunications in the Middle East, Zain Group is keen to explore the benefits that IntelligentRAN can bring to our region. We are consistently seeking technologies that bring competitive benefits, robust network performance and world-class experiences to our valued customers across the Middle East."

Marwan Bin Shaker, Senior Vice President of Access Network Development, Etisalat UAE, said: "As we continue to build scalable technological competencies with our robust telecoms expertise to design powerful, seamless digital experiences for our customers this is an integral step with Huawei for the release of IntelligentRAN. At the moment, we are expecting to bring intelligence in the wireless domain to achieve the realization of intelligent prediction based on data correlation analysis, make intelligent decisions based on future prediction, and to achieve network intelligence and optimum evolution to the future."

From his side, Ahmed Al Shal, Acting Head of Technology Planning, du, said: "Accelerating intelligence products and services is an essential effort to achieve an end-to-end digitalization. Considering the capability requirements of the growing Metaverse and Internet of Vehicles, our partnership with Huawei will generate a higher level of network automation and optimal performance to ensure heightened customer excellence, provision and experience. Moreover, IntelligentRAN capabilities will allow us to further grow our 5G network and implement quick service provisioning and service assurance across a diverse segment of beneficiaries."

Vanness You, Vice President of Huawei Middle East Marketing and Solutions, delivered a keynote speech titled "IntelligentRAN — Building a Fully Connected, Intelligent World", and said: "Partnering with the leading telecommunications providers in the region to release IntelligentRAN comes in line with our commitment to continuously offer the best services to our customers. With the capabilities of 5G, we are able to bring in "iService" for agile provisioning, "iOperation" for zero network faults, and "iNetwork" for optimal experience and energy efficiency."

Aaron Jiang, President of Huawei's SingleRAN Product Line, added: "We're more than delighted to provide telecommunications operators with an innovative, and more importantly, an intelligent wireless network architecture. We will continue to explore on innovation of IntelligentRAN, and we expect to cooperate more with operators and industry partners to jointly promote the development of a new world of smart connectivity built with intelligent wireless networks." T

Cybersecurity of 5G networks
European Commission publishes report

"Open RAN concept still lacks maturity and cybersecurity remains a significant challenge"

European Union

The EU Member States, with the support of the European Commission and ENISA, the EU Agency for Cybersecurity has recently published a report on the cybersecurity of Open RAN. This new type of 5G network architecture explores alternative ways of deploying the radio access part of 5G networks based on open interfaces.

Following up on the coordinated work already done at EU level to strengthen the security of 5G networks with the EU Toolbox on 5G Cybersecurity, Member States have analysed the security implications of Open RAN.

The report found that Open RAN could bring potential security opportunities, provided certain conditions are met. However, the Open RAN concept still lacks maturity and cybersecurity remains a significant challenge. Especially in the short term, by increasing the complexity of networks, Open RAN would exacerbate a number of security risks. Those risks include a larger attack surface and more entry points for malicious actors, an increased risk of misconfiguration of networks and potential impacts on other network functions due to resource sharing. The report also notes that technical specifications, such as those developed by the O-RAN Alliance, are not sufficiently mature and secure by design. Open RAN could lead to new or increased critical dependencies, for example in the area of components and cloud.

Thierry Breton
Commissioner for the Internal Market EU

Margrethe Vestager, Executive Vice-President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, said: "Our common priority and responsibility is to ensure the timely deployment of 5G networks in Europe, while ensuring they are secure. Open RAN architectures create new opportunities in the marketplace, but this report shows they also raise important security challenges, especially in the short term. It will be important for all participants to dedicate sufficient time and attention to mitigate such challenges, so that the promises of Open RAN can be realised."

Thierry Breton, Commissioner for the Internal Market, added: "With 5G network rollout across the EU, and our economies' growing reliance on digital infrastructures, it is more important than ever to ensure a high level of security of our communication networks. This report shows that there are a number of opportunities with Open RAN but also significant security challenges that remain unaddressed and cannot be underestimated. Under no circumstances should the potential deployment in Europe's 5G networks of Open RAN lead to new vulnerabilities."

Overall, the report recommends a cautious approach to moving towards this new architecture. Any transition from and coexistence with existing, reliable technologies should be done by allowing sufficient time and resources to assess risks in advance, implement appropriate mitigations and clearly define responsibilities in case of failure or incident.

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2881

"We are investing in the infrastructure to be a major digital enabler in Bahrain"

Interview: Khalid Athar

Ahmed Al Sharif, Chief Technology & Digital Officer, stc Bahrain

Khalid Athar: What is your overall strategy towards strengthening Bahrain's position as a leading ICT hub?

Ahmed Al Sharif: ICT is a pillar of growth for Bahrain, and we at stc Bahrain have been leading the way in strengthening Kingdom's position as a regional leading ICT hub. With our market-leading position as a digital enabler in Bahrain, we continue to invest significantly in ICT projects by tapping into new business categories and evolving our network infrastructure. This has positively impacted the way we digitize service experiences and make them more relevant to the needs of today's fast-moving, digital consumers.

KA: What kind of improvements are you making to the network and how are you approaching digital transformation?

AS: stc Bahrain has recently announced a significant expansion in network infrastructure to support digital transformation across the country, business sectors, and the broader community into becoming a more smart and sustainable society. This is on the infrastructure side.

I would also like to mention that we continue to build our resources and talent capabilities to elevate our people's expertise. Enabling them to master new technologies and

"I believe digital is the key of success for any telecom operator"

reinvent products and services, all in line with ever-evolving our customer needs and technological trends. This allows us to serve the whole industry in Bahrain.

I believe digital is the key to success for any telecom operator in the future, and we are aggressively targeting the digital era and the digital economy through digital operations. We are making everything digital from a customer interaction perspective, making it a fully digital-omni platform. We are also approaching the operation side with a digital vision where we adopt automation on most operational processes. Digital transformation is driving all our strategies and will remain a top priority.

KA: What benefits do you see by having this digital approach towards the network?

AS: Our focus is to move fast toward digital operation adoption, including all network domains – infrastructure, data centers, and application. At the same time, ensure all security measures and resilience operations are aligned. All these measures enable us to add efficiency to the network operations and provide a high-quality experience to the valuable customers at the heart of our business strategy. This added efficiency and digital approach will bring greater results to our network, such as self-healing with a zero-touch network operation. This is critical to maintaining good, reliable connectivity during peak load periods.

KA: Would you like to tell us a little bit about the partnership between stc and Huawei?

AS: stc Bahrain and Huawei have a very strong partnership. We are working together to build a strong infrastructure with a high focus on the latest technology of 5G – in fact, we were the first in our country to be credited with providing a 5G standalone network. Right now, we are building the whole infrastructure to support new services. The next step is to work side by side with Huawei to develop and provide new cases to serve different adjacencies and new use cases for other verticals. In addition to bringing more efficiency and improving the customer experience, we collectively work towards an intelligent network. T

These digital measures enable us to add efficiency to our operation network and in turn, enable us to provide a high-quality experience to our customers who sit at the heart of our strategies

The next step is to work side by side with Huawei to develop and provide new cases to serve different adjacencies and to provide new use cases for other verticals

Leading mobile network operators & technology infrastructure service developers discuss the Future of Mobile Technologies at Mobile 360 in Riyadh

Senior mobile network operators, developers of technical infrastructure services and senior officials in the communications and information technology sector discussed the most important issues of the mobile and technology industries at the Mobile 360 global conference, hosted in Riyadh for the first time in partnership with GSMA and stc Group.

Matt Granryd, Director General of GSMA, opened the conference with a speech in which he reviewed the organization's role to supporting the digital transformation of governments in the Middle East and North Africa region, advancing economic growth and promoting sustainable development.

In his opening speech, Eng. Olayan Bin Mohammed Alwetaid, stc group CEO, welcomed the attendees and stressed the importance of the partnership between the group and the GSMA organization, which resulted in the establishing of the Mobile 360 Conference in Riyadh for the first time, in the presence of a group of international and local experts to discuss the digital world issues and challenges, and emphasized stc group commitment to support the plans of the rapid and ambitious digital transformation around the world

The conference discussed the future of urbanization and sustainability in the ICT sector, the growth of digital entrepreneurs and startups in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as the importance of legislative policies and the regulatory environment in supporting digital transformation.

The first session of the conference discussed the issue of expanding the boundaries of technology through mobile technologies and its leadership in digital transformation in various sectors. Amir Bin Abdulaziz Algibreen, Chief Officer of Regulatory and Compliance at stc stated that government investments in the Kingdom amounted to more than 15 billion in three years, which contributed to providing future information and communication technology services to 99% of the vast area of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, stc has committed to making investments of 20% of its revenues in infrastructure, which confirms stc's commitment to enable digital transformation in the region.

Eng. Saud Bin Abdulaziz Al-Sheraihi, Vice President, Products and Solutions at stc also participated in the second session, which reviewed the readiness of mobile operators to respond to the rapid urbanization in smart cities and building knowledge cities.

The sessions of the first day concluded with a discussion of the future and vision of smart sustainable cities, and the most prominent challenges facing future urban expansion.

On the sidelines of the conference, and in order to enhance stc's leading role in the field of cybersecurity, stc, in cooperation with Huawei, published a research paper in the field of cybersecurity for artificial intelligence systems. T

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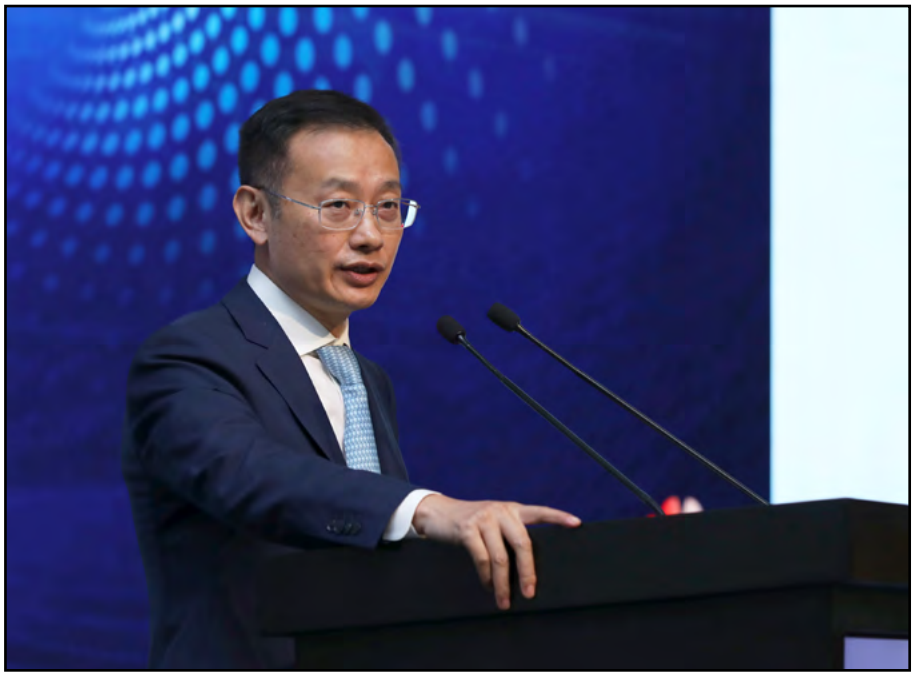
The SAMENA Council Leaders' Summit 2022 addresses critical issues of the ICT industry

The SAMENA Telecommunications Council convened leaders and experts at its 9th Leaders' Summit 2022, which was held at the Atlantis, in the Palm in Dubai on 9 May 2022 under the theme of "Thriving with Resilience & Integration in the New Opportunity Realm." The Summit was hosted by Huawei and focused on many critical issues of the ICT industry, including new business opportunities and challenges of inclusive advanced and sustainable 5G connectivity infrastructure and supporting ecosystems to serve all industries and economic sectors, emphasizing collective leadership and partnership approaches.

The Leaders' Summit 2022 welcomed Chairpeople and CEOs from the private sector, with several one-on-one conversations held with leading personalities and leaders from the region's and the world's leading private sector ICT conglomerates, with top decision-makers from regulatory authorities around the region in attendance.

The Summit had the full participation of global leaders and entities focused on institutionalizing and fostering cross-sector digitization and collaboration, making the Leaders' Summit the year 2022's premier destination for leadership, dialogue, demonstration, and for refining future policy and regulation. Trends and synergies shaping the next decade, and perspectives from Operators and entities contributing to sustainable growth and development, such as through Education, were brought into the spotlight. The Summit's discussions were complemented by a technology exhibition by Huawei, particularly focusing on New Technology, New Opportunity, and New Life.

Bocar BA, CEO of SAMENA Council and Broadband Commissioner during his opening speech stated that with increased dependencies of our economic and social systems on digital communications infrastructure and services, it is pertinent



to address both persisting and emerging challenges associated with new network trends, approaches, policies, regulation, technologies, methodologies, fiber deployment, stakeholder obligations and collective responsibility toward sustainability across all fronts.

He further stated that in the strive for improving and expanding connectivity, decisions should be attentive to ICT sustainability and to climate action, and address Telecom Operators' issues, including rethinking Industry taxation and financing and funding of ICT infrastructure development, emphasizing on partnerships as key to success. In this regard, Mr. Ba took the opportunity to announce SAMENA Council's pledge to the ITU's "Partnership2Connect Digital Coalition", stating that SAMENA Council would use all its advocacy channels to support the objectives and goals of the P2C Initiative.

Many telecoms and multi-industry leaders contributed to the success of the Summit with keynotes, visions statements and expertise, including H.E. Majed Al Mesmar Director General of UAE's Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA) and the chief patron of the Leaders' Summit 2022; H.E. Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, ITU, Eng. Olayan AlWetaid, CEO, stc Group, Saudi Arabia; Bocar BA, CEO of SAMENA Council, as well as leading private sector members such as Steven Yi, President, Huawei Middle East and Africa.

Highlighting the need for more collaboration and concerted efforts to achieve the Broadband Commission's mandate of bridging the digital divide and bringing the goal of universal connectivity to the forefront of policy discussions through the facilitation of impactful public-private partnerships, thought leadership and actionable policy recommendations, the Summit also gathered several Broadband Commissioners and Broadband Commission executives, including Ms. Doreen Bogdan Martin, Executive Director of the Secretariat and ITU BDG Director, Bocar Ba, CEO of SAMENA Council; H.E. Majed Al Mesmar Director General of UAE's Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA); Denis O'Brien, Chairman of Digicel Group; Lacina Koné, CEO of Smart Africa; Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University & President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and Dr. Robert Pepper, Head, Global Connectivity Policy and Planning, of Meta.

"Middle East countries are leading globally in 5G deployment"

Huawei ME President speaks to the Media at SAMENA Leaders' Summit

In an exclusive media gathering with Steven Yi, President of Huawei Middle East during the SAMENA Leaders' Summit, the executive highlighted how Huawei sees the future of IntelligentRAN in the Middle East telecom sector. He expressed how currently, the entire society is undergoing digital transformation. As the infrastructure of the digital world, wireless networks will be diversified in terms of technology development, site form, and service development, which drives wireless networks to become intelligent. He explains that automation and intelligence are the basis for enabling carriers' digital intelligent transformation, hence why therefore, Huawei jointly released IntelligentRAN with leading operators in the region. "The Middle East has a leading telecom network in the world. Many carriers have clear digital transformation strategy. We believe that Huawei IntelligentRAN will create value for carriers in the process", iterated Yi.

During the Summit, leading regional operators and Huawei launched IntelligentRAN, an advanced telecom network solution, which comes in line with Huawei's objective to empower the telecommunication sector with more advanced innovations and value for its own business and other sectors and industries businesses by means of injecting intelligent to wireless networks and achieve autonomous driving network in the wireless domain in the future.

"The intelligentRAN architecture is constructed to develop a mobile network with intelligent service operation, intelligent network optimization, and simplified O&M. This feature helps customers and partners quickly provision services and guarantee user experience, maximize user experience, reduce energy consumption, and simplify O&M in multi-frequency and multi-mode scenarios."

Yi also stressed on the importance of the telecom sector as an enabler for other industries' sustainable development and growth in light of the evolving 5G landscape and the immense opportunities for enterprises in the 5G era. Yi also noted that Huawei, together with carriers and partners, has signed 3,000 5G commercial contracts, and that 5G saw large-scale commercial deployment in many industries, including manufacturing, mining, steel,

port, chemical, cement, power grid, and healthcare.

"Middle East countries are leading globally in 5G deployment. As an end-to-end leader in 5G, cloud, AI, devices and chips, Huawei will continue its commitment to help countries in the Middle East achieve their visions with digitization and sustainable development as key drivers," Yi highlighted.

With digital technologies advancing rapidly, securing networks and cybersecurity continues to be Huawei's top priority.

"We have a sound cybersecurity and privacy protection assurance structure which has a leading global records," Steven Yi said.

"Our practices in cybersecurity have won the continuous trust of our partners including those in the Middle East. We believe that cyber security is a shared responsibility and it's crucial to have an open discussion around cybersecurity governance architecture in line of international standards like 3GPP, GSMA NESAS and others. Last year, we unveiled the largest cybersecurity and transparency center around the world in Dongguan China, and we hope that we will be able to invite you to visit there after the pandemic to experience this open collaboration platform targeted at addressing cybersecurity challenges and come up with joint innovations for improving the future of cybersecurity," Yi continued.

Steven Yi also stressed on Huawei's commitment to support building digital economies in the Middle East region.

"We need to be united to establish unified laws and regulations so that the digital economy can be protected."

"Huawei has worked with customers to deploy 5G technology and hope to see more use cases of 5G in vertical industries in the Middle East region. We are committed to openly collaborate with our customers and partners and extend our innovations and global expertise to the region players for achiving more value in 5G deployement, in-line with the ME countries socio-economic growth," Yi said.

"In terms of R&D, we will continue to invest heavily to serve our smart and intelligent future. In 2021, We invested over 22% of annual revenue in R&D targeted at supporting the long-term sustainable development of the ICT industry, we will continue to invest significantly in intelligent solutions and services such as ICT infrastructure and cloud services," Yi added.

But focusing and expanding the digital space comes with its own concerns over energy consumption, therefore, Huawei has made sustainability as a priority to achieve a low-carbon society through continuous technological innovation. "In the Middle East, Huawei Digital Energy is working with industry partners to develop the digital energy industry, building a low-carbon telecom sector, homes, factors, parks and smart cities, and moving from a low-carbon society to a zero-carbon one."

At the moment, over 100 operators from across the world have deployed Huawei's low-carbon solutions, reducing carbon emissions by 40 million tons.

Steven Yi also highlighted that Huawei is committed to use its global knowledge and expertise in over 170 markets and in mega projects such as the 2018 World Cup in Russia and 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics to the benefit of the Middle East region mega events, including successfully guaranteeing Saudi Arabia's Hajj network for 16 years, accident free and offering unprecendnted experiences to the upcoming 2022 Qatar World Cup.

"We remain committed to collaborate with our suppliers and partners to provide customized, secure, reliable, stable and competitive solutions to our customers in the Middle East Region," Yi concluded. T

One of America's first Open RAN networks is being dismantled

Mike Dano, Editorial Director, 5G & Mobile Strategies

Cellcom is taking down its open RAN network in Wisconsin due to a pricing disagreement between the operator and its vendor Parallel Wireless.

Cellcom, which launched its first 5G services with vendors Ericsson and Cisco earlier this year, explained that its deal with Parallel involved exploring open RAN technology in a greenfield market. "It was a tremendous learning experience, but it also provided solid evidence to support our concerns with the maturity of O-RAN," the company wrote.

Specifically, the company said that it wanted to expand the trial but was "challenged to source the necessary equipment."

Continued Cellcom: "Specific to Parallel Wireless, we have been unsuccessful in adding spectrum since the initial deployment of this equipment. Despite working with Parallel Wireless and a value-added reseller, we were unable to secure additional radios in the needed bands without a significant minimum purchase order. We were forced back to traditional RAN deployments to support spectrum additions in this market."

The company concluded: "Without economies of scale, O-RAN is not a cost-effective approach for regional carriers. We firmly believe the open environment will be a viable option for us when O-RAN matures."

Other small wireless network operators in the US have taken a similar position against open RAN. For example, open RAN has been loudly touted as a cheap option for the FCC's ongoing "rip and replace" program, but most operators have stuck with traditional, classic RAN vendors. T

Huawei reveals Next-Generation Data Center Facility

Huawei revealed the definition of the Next-Generation Data Center Facility, and unveiled PowerPOD 3.0, a brand-new power supply system, on May 26 in Dongguan, China. The new rollouts, based on the collective wisdom and joint efforts between Huawei Data Center Facility Team and industry experts, reaffirm Huawei's commitment to building low-carbon, smart data centers.

Defining the Next-Generation Data Center Facility Charles Yang, Senior Vice President of Huawei and CEO of Huawei Data Center Facility Team, introduced the groundbreaking definition of the Next-Generation Data Center Facility at the launch event. He said that technical experts and industry authorities have reached a consensus on the four characteristics of next-generation data center facilities after extensive and in-depth discussions, that is, Sustainable, Simplified, Autonomous Driving, and Reliable.

Sustainable: Next-generation data center facilities will be fully green and energy-efficient while maximizing the recycling of all data center materials. In this way, the overall data center ecosystem will be eco-friendly and environmentally sustainable. Sustainable data centers can be achieved by utilizing green resources - electricity, land, and water - and maximizing the recycling of used materials throughout the life cycle. In addition to the extensively-used Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE), other indicators, including Carbon Usage Effectiveness (CUE), Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE), and Grid Usage Effectiveness (GUE), will also be used to measure data center sustainability.

Simplified: Simplified architecture, power supply, and cooling embody the evolution of the data center facility.

Simplified architecture brings innovative forms of buildings and equipment rooms. If the prefabricated modular construction mode is used to construct a 1000-rack data center, the construction period can be reduced from more than 18 months to 6–9 months.

Simplified power supply reshapes components and links. It shortens the delivery period from 2 months to 2

weeks. Simplified cooling maximizes heat exchange efficiency by changing multiple heat exchanges to one heat exchange, and shortening the cooling link.

Autonomous Driving: O&M automation, energy efficiency optimization, and operation autonomy reshape the management of data centers' operation and maintenance. O&M automation enables engineers to complete the inspection of 2000 racks in 5 minutes remotely. The energy efficiency optimization means an optimal cooling strategy can be delivered via 1.4 million original combinations within 1 minute, achieving smart cooling. Operation autonomy maximizes the value of resources.

Reliable: Proactive security and secure architecture ensure high quality and sustainable development of data centers. Proactive security means using big data and AI technologies to implement predictive maintenance from components to data centers, based on the visibility and perception of all domains in the data centers. Automatic fault response means it will take only 1 minute to spot a fault, 3 minutes to analyze, and 5 minutes to recover. Secure architecture means security will be ensured at various levels, such as components, devices, and systems.

The energy efficiency optimization means an optimal cooling strategy can be delivered via 1.4 million original combinations within 1 minute, achieving smart cooling

At the system level, the E2E visualizable, manageable, and controllable platform enables the system availability to reach 99.999%.

PowerPOD 3.0: A footprint-saving, time-saving, and energy-saving power supply system At the event, Fei Zhenfu, CTO of Huawei Data Center Facility Team, released a new generation of the power supply system, known as PowerPOD 3.0. The system reduces the footprint by 40%, cuts the energy consumption by 70%, shortens the delivery period from 2 months to 2 weeks, and lowers the SLA fault rate by 38%.

In the pursuit of the next-generation data centers, technological innovation will be a key force in ensuring sustainable development. Looking towards the future, Huawei will keep making breakthroughs in products and technologies through continuous investment in R&D and with extensive cooperation with customers, ecosystem partners, and industry organizations. T

e& announces the future telecom hub 'SmartHub Kalba'

Two new subsea telecom cable systems go live in 2023/24 to connect 33 African countries, the ME and Europe

The African Carrier and Wholesale Services (C&WS) division of e& has announced the readiness of its new Smarthub Datacentre. This datacentre, which will provide disaster recovery to the existing SmartHub facilties in Fujairah and Dubai. The SmartHub Kalba will be the future telecom hub for the region where more submarine cables will be landing strengthening e& position as a leading regional hub.

The announcement demonstrates e&'s commitment to delivering a superior customer experience by creating unique digitalisation services with optimal business benefits.

The state-of-art Tier 3 data centre facility in Kalba is powered by Africa-1 and 2 Africa, two new subsea telecom cable systems providing diverse and reliable connectivity to Africa, the Middle East and Europe. This will enable 2 Africa submarine cable as part of the SmartHub ecosystem enabling easy access to MENA region and global customers from various industry verticals will now have direct access to enhanced connectivity by using SmartHub Kalba for their critical business requirements.

The SmartHub Kalba facility, fully operational at the beginning of this year, has already been powered by Africa-1 subsea telecom system. It gives customers direct access to enhanced connectivity for addressing critical business requirements. The expansion of e&'s SmartHub wholesale data centre follows the opening of facilities in Fujairah and Dubai.

The data centre also offers the opportunity for global players to expand their regional presence through its geo-redundant ecosystem.

With the launch of SmartHub Kalba, e&'s C&WS division has set a benchmark in the region in line with the company's overall strategy to bring transformative technologies and innovative solutions to e&'s customers across various industry verticals. It is also aligned with the UAE leadership's vision to continue leading as an ICT and data hub for the region, addressing the diverse requirements of global telecom infrastructure.

Ali Amiri, Group Chief Carrier & Wholesale Officer, e&, said: "We are committed to making SmartHub a location of choice for carriers, cloud service providers, Internet

exchanges and companies looking for a trusted carrier-grade data centre. As one of the biggest neutral carrier hotels, our SmartHub data centres will be an ICT bridge between continents, supporting critical business activities for global customers. SmartHub Kalba will enable us to increase our capabilities and global capacity further so that we can continue to meet our international clients' evolving needs for infrastructure across Asia, Africa, Europe, Middle East and the Americas."

The addition of the largest subsea system in the world will enable us to continue meeting customer needs for new applications such as cloud computing, on-demand video and social media. It will also increase the capacity, quality and availability of internet connectivity between Africa and the rest of the world.

By directly connecting numerous countries around the entire coast of Africa to Europe and the Middle East region, businesses and consumers will benefit from enhanced capacity and reliability for services such as telecommuting, HD TV broadcasting, internet services, video conferencing, advanced multimedia and mobile video applications. The project will also underpin future mobile and fixed broadband access. This will help countries to implement their 2030 vision and meet many of the SDG-related challenges related to or depending on internet connectivity.

The Africa-1 submarine cable system spans 10,000 km, initially landing in Kenya, Djibouti, Pakistan, UAE, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and France

The SmartHub ecosystem serves almost two billion population aiming to reach another one billion with the addition of the new subsea cable systems and data centre in Kalba.

In addition, the data centre offers the opportunity for global players to expand their regional presence through its geo-redundant ecosystem. The SmartHub serves the carrier, CDN (content delivery networks), and enterprise verticals such as banking, financial services and insurance. It is also aligned with the UAE leadership's vision to continue leading as an ICT and data hub for the region, addressing the diverse requirements of global telecom infrastructure.

The Africa-1 submarine cable system spans 10,000 km, initially landing in Kenya, Djibouti, Pakistan, UAE, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and France. The system also lands in Sudan, across Egypt through diverse new terrestrial routes on the way to France, and further connects other countries in the Mediterranean such as Algeria and Italy. T

Under the patronage of Minister of Transportation and Telecommunication

"MEET ICT" conference and "BITEX" Exhibition expected to draw 3,000 attendees

The Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH) in partnership with "WorkSmart for Events Management", will organize the 10th edition of the Information and Communication Technology Conference (MEET ICT) and the Bahrain International Technology Exhibition (BITEX).

BTECH stated that this event is expected to attract 3,000 participants and visitors over three days and will be held Under the Patronage of the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunication, H.E. Engr. Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, from 14-16 June 2022 at Gulf Convention Center, Gulf Hotel and will focus on the critical role played by the ICT sector in Bahrain's economic recovery.

The Chairman of The Bahrain Technology Companies Society, Tareq Fakhroo, affirmed that the large turnout targeted is owing to the event's prominence and importance as the largest of its kind in the field of ICT in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Adding that this event returns to being held in person after being halted due to the pandemic. He explained that efforts have been arranged to make the tenth session unparalleled in terms of organization and program of events, as well as keynote addresses.

"MEET ICT conference will be held this year under the slogan 'Leading the way towards the digital economy through artificial intelligence' while celebrating its 10th edition following the economic recovery plan's ICT sector strategy 2022-2026" according to Mr. Fakhroo.

Tareq Fakhroo, Chairman - BTECH further explained that this event is a platform that gathers decision-makers from the private and public sectors, key players, IT experts, and those interested in networking, and building valuable partnerships, to achieve common goals of highlighting innovative trends, services, and products for ICT companies and promoting private sector institutions in ICT field.
This year's Meet ICT conference will include six comprehensive conference sessions with 25 influential expert speakers from local and international regions discussing topics such as Digital Transformation, FinTech, cybersecurity, blockchain, smart cities, and others. This is in addition to 40 exhibitors from Bahraini, regional, and international companies working in the field of ICT.

The conference & exhibition features over 30 sponsors and partners, including Gold Sponsors, Huawei and Indra, Silver Sponsors Site24x7, Almoayyed Computers Middle East, Microsoft, ID Sports Ventures, Computer World, and Bronze Sponsors Alba, KPMG, and CTM360. This is in addition to 20+ Event Partners including the University of Bahrain, Information and eGovernment Authority, ThinkSmart for Development and Training, TechoSmart, Teletimes, Bahrain This Month, LocalBH, CXO Knowledge Club, Gulf Future Business, Internet Society Bahrain Chapter, IEEE Society Bahrain ComSoc, Arab ICT Union, IDC, Unido, and more.

Teletimes is the International Media Partner to "MEET ICT" and "BITEX". T

Etisalat UAE to sustain leadership as a digital telco resilient in the future hyper-connected world

At Telecoms World Middle East 2022, Etisalat UAE Chief reiterates the importance of enhanced connectivity and digitisation for consumers and businesses in the next era of digital economy

Etisalat UAE, the telecom pillar of e& in the UAE, aims to sustain leadership as a digital telco and is already making great strides towards remaining resilient in the future hyper-connected world by transforming its technology model and excelling in customer and employee experience, said Masood M. Sharif Mahmood, CEO, Etisalat UAE.

Mahmood shared his insights during his keynote 'Reframing the future for telcos: unlocking growth through an accelerated reinvention in the digital age' at the ongoing Telecoms World Middle East 2022 conference. Held in Dubai, the event gathered leading stakeholders from across the telco ecosystem to collaborate and share insights on how to thrive in the future multi-faceted digital environment.

"The evolution in the telecom sector is all about conquering crossroads by showcasing resilience. The industry has continuously adapted in the face of disruption, adjusting to endure and grow in a drastically evolving ecosystem. At Etisalat UAE, we have continued this leadership as a digital telco by focusing on our core while at the same time curating digital experiences that maximise engagement. During our transformation into a telecom orchestrator, we remained laser-focused on customer centricity, digitalisation, and creating synergies across our businesses," Mahmood added during his keynote presentation.

"Telcos need to evolve into multi-sector digital service providers to maximise their share in the value chain. This entails rejuvenating the core and enabling next-generation verticals and digital experiences. We have started this ambitious journey to ensure sustained value creation by building new capabilities across AI and digital to thrive in an increasingly competitive and ever-changing market environment."

He also highlighted how the telecom industry's challenges during the last decade encouraged telcos to find new opportunities and transition more and more towards techcos, driving digital transformation for their networks and services. In the era of 'connectivity renaissance' the 5G network will enable us to take advantage of the limitless possibilities that we can imagine, innovate and implement ideas that will drive smart connectivity and maximise value creation for our customers in all segments.

The two-day event includes other speakers from Etisalat UAE and e&. Khalid Murshed, Chief Technology and Information Officer, Etisalat UAE spoke about embracing transformation to support an agile, scalable modern telco business; Ali Amiri, Group Chief Carrier & Wholesale Officer, e&, highlighted the evolution of the wholesale business and rethinking international wholesale strategies; and Rashid Ali Al Ali, Vice President, International Sales, e& shared insights on how the future of gaming and metaverse will shape the wholesale business. T

Dubai CommerCity showcases its incorporation of the latest technology trends at Seamless Middle East

As part of its participation at Seamless Middle East 2022 as a partner and exhibitor, Dubai CommerCity, the first and leading e-commerce free zone in the region, highlighted its incorporation of the latest technology trends in its services. The free zone ensures the adoption of advanced technologies to facilitate the process of setting up new e-commerce businesses and drive the growth of the industry.

As part of Seamless 2022, representatives from Dubai CommerCity, part of the Dubai Integrated Economic Zones Authority (DIEZ), and joint venture with the property developer Wasl, delivered keynote presentations and took part in insightful panel discussions.

As part of his keynote presentation on the advantages of setting up an e-commerce business in a free zone, Abdulrahman Shaheen, Senior Vice President of Operations at Dubai CommerCity, discussed the importance of Blockchain for enabling seamless trade, highlighting Dubai CommerCity's collaboration with Dubai Customs to launch the free zone's own blockchain node. The blockchain node will be offered to Dubai CommerCity's tenants, lowering their implementation cost significantly and allowing them to leverage the operational efficiencies.

Shaheen said: "Incorporating blockchain brings major benefits to our clients, which include a reduced cost for e-commerce, allowing importing goods to the local market from the free zone, automated declaration, reduced charges, easy return of goods, automated duty refunds, an integrated and uniform gate-pass process, and reduced documentation."

Shaheen discussed how a free zone could benefit a business through bringing it closer to the customer, and providing ease of reverse logistics and marketplace fulfilment. Shaheen highlighted that 80% of purchased items in the Middle East are fulfilled across the border. He also stressed the significant growth in the e-commerce industry, where e-commerce sales in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region are expected to reach around $50bn this year, an increase of 163% in just 5 years.

Mitch Bittermann, Senior Vice President of Commercials at Dubai CommerCity, delivered a presentation entitled "Global retail and e-commerce trends and their adaptability for the Middle East". According to Bittermann, some of the most significant e-commerce trends include conversational commerce, super-apps, and the metaverse. In addition, some retail trends include the beacon technology, digital experience mall, contactless shopping, micro-fulfilment centres within shopping malls, among others.

On the second Day on Seamless Middle East, Rashed Al Mulla, Senior Director of Marketing and Communications at Dubai CommerCity, will discuss the key factors that will guide companies on how to build trust in the marketplace. T

CABSAT opens against a hugely disruptive industry background, featuring an expensive conference program addressing the future of the industry

H.H. Sheikh Hasher Bin Maktoum Al Maktoum opens CABSAT 2022

H.H. Sheikh Hasher Bin Maktoum Al Maktoum, Director General of Dubai Department of Information has officially opened CABSAT 2022 - the region's leading satellite, broadcast, and content event at Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC).

His Highness was accompanied by several dignitaries as he toured the event, which is hosting over 200 brands from 35 countries and features three main conference pillars, the SATExpo Summit, Content Congress and NextGen Content.

CABSAT 2022 hosted industry leaders including Arabsat, Nilesat, TECOM Group, Turksat, Qvest Media, Ross Video, Evertz Microsystems, and the Space Agency of Azerbaijan Republic as well as dedicated pavilions for Bavaria, Great Britain, and Northern Ireland.

The SatExpo Summit had a multi-national line up which includes c-suite decision makers from the the USA's Kosmic Apple; the Global Satellite Operators' Association; Canada's Satellite Network Technologies Corporation and C-COM Satellite Systems; Israel's Gilat Satellite Networks; the UK's Inmarsat, Satcoms Innovation Group, SES Networks, ETL Systems, Kratos and GVF as well as Arabsat of Saudia Arabia.

Content Congress heard from industry trailblazers who explored the latest trends in the Metaverse, NFT, social content, streaming wars, podcasts, vlogging and music content. The line-up includes representatives of some of the biggest names in the business including Twitter, Meta, Rotana Media Group, MBC, Starzplay, Dubai Media City, Creative Media Authority & Abu Dhabi Gaming, CNBC Arabia, Saudi Media Rating Company (MRC) , Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, Nigeria, Disney Plus. T

Talent acquisition, regional content delivery, and threat of space debris all in the spotlight on opening day of CABSAT 2022

Teletimes Report

The global satellite and broadcast industries focused on the ongoing issues surrounding space sustainability, the threat of space debris, and consumer mindset shifts in content consumption as satellite operators and content producers came together on the opening day of CABSAT 2022, the Middle East and Africa's most competitive event for the satellite, broadcast, and filmed content industries.

Dubai's shift to attracting talent bears fruit

CABSAT'S Content Congress opened with a keynote speech from Majed Al Suwaidi, Managing Director Dubai Media City, Dubai Studio City, and Dubai Production City. Al Suwaidi identified the growing number of entrepreneurs and Dubai's shift to attracting talent, as well as corporations as a driver of the media industry.

"We are fostering the right landscape and ecosystem for entrepreneurs to thrive," he said. "Over the past year, we have seen an influx of business as they invest here and see the potential of government reforms to support the media sector. CABSAT has become a platform of potential, especially this year as it offers numerous opportunities with our focus changing to not only attract companies, but also pioneering individuals.

"Our commitment going forward is entrepreneurship-focused, and at TECOM Group we take it very seriously. We invest heavily in creating the right infrastructure through our In5 arm, which recently saw the introduction of a new dedicated space to accommodate angel investors, venture capitalists, and institutional investors at the heart of in5 Tech Centre in Dubai Internet City."

Consumer demand moving towards quality over quantity

A panel discussion attracted leaders from regional and international broadcasters to discuss how content reaches consumers and the intricate decision-making processes made to ensure consumers are happy and businesses stays profitable in a time where traditional and digital fight for the spotlight.

Wael Mohammed Al Buti, VP & Chief Commercial Officer, ARABSAT believes a focus on localisation and quality is key to consumer satisfaction on the back of continued satellite adoption. "We have been operating since the 1980s and have become the leading satellite service provider in the Arab world," he said. "Usually, at Arabsat, we don't look at quantity, but rather the quality and how we can better serve a specific market. Off the back of new channel launches in Lebanon and Jordan, a recent MENA satellite penetration study we conducted revealed that satellite has a 97 per cent market share in this region. We have seen an increase in the number of HD receivers being used as well."

Also speaking on the panel was Yuliya Fischer, Director at ZDF Studios GmbH, one of the largest broadcasters in Europe. "Our content is predominantly German, but we are looking at co-production opportunities here in the Middle East," said Fischer, who oversees acquisition and sales in Asia, Middle East and Africa. "We produced The Killing, The Bridge etc, which really educated us on what binge-watching is – this was before Netflix and Disney+. There is an appetite for content not only from Hollywood and consumer burnout is becoming a thing. If the quality of content is great, there will be people that want to watch it."

Social Distancing in Space

Running in tandem with the CABSAT Content Congress, the SatExpo Summit

2022 also prompted much discussion with guest speakers from around the world. With more than 900,000 pieces of debris in space, yet only around 20,000 of them catalogued, the issue of orbital congestion and sustainable, responsible space management is one of the hottest topics within the satellite industry. Alessandro Cacioni, director of Flight Dynamics, Inmarsat, noted that a collision with a piece of debris measuring just 1mm can cause power failure, so a need for better tracking and firmer regulation – rather than recommendation without obligation – is essential.

"When I talk about space debris to non-space people, they visualise the movie WALL-E and think there is going to be a huge circle of trash encircling our planet – that's not the case, fortunately," said Victoria Samson, Washington office director at the Secure World Foundation. "What it is going to do is make certain orbits too costly or risky so we will lose the benefit of those orbits."

The impact of losing such orbits can be found in the human reliance on satellites. Whether it is the internet, television, or mobile phones, in the words of Laith Hamad, VP, Government and Regulatory Engagement & Board Member, OneWeb NEOM Joint Venture: "Satellites are embedded in our life."

While Cacioni – charged with keeping the Inmarsat fleet secure – revealed that half of all the debris in space has been caused by just three collisions and none involved active satellites, Hamad urged government licensing. "Just now satellites must be deorbited within 25 years – that is a long time," he said, adding his fleet are all designed to deorbit themselves and use materials that disintegrate on re-entry to the Earth's atmosphere. "There is huge room for cooperation, but there must be regulations, not recommendations that are not binding." T

stc signs accord with IE Business School of Spain

In line with its strategy to invest in its talents and prepare future leaders, and commitment to continuous professional development and ensuring that they are prepared for leadership positions, stc signed an agreement with IE Business School to develop leaders and train cadres of stc group.

The agreement was signed in the presence of H.E. The Ambassador of Spain in the Kingdom, Jorge Hevia Sierra, by Dr. Mudhi Aljamea, VP and stc Academy Dean, and Santiago Iñiguez De Onzoño, President of IE University.

Commenting on the agreement, Dr. Mudhi Aljamea said: "stc Academy's vision is to be a center for learning and innovation in the Kingdom and abroad, in order to achieve stc Group's strategy to contribute to advancing digital and cultural transformation by developing future leaders with strategic capabilities and providing them with innovative educational solutions and experiences."

The agreement is expected to serve more than 2000 employees and all the leaderships programs will be customized to the need of stc Group and based on the company leadership & core competencies. T

In a strategic partnership with stc

Princess Nourah University inaugurates the leadership center and graduates 60 Saudi women leaders

The Women's Leadership Center at Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University launched a leadership program in strategic partnership with stc, the Saudi digital enabler to develop female leaders and enhance their effective role in the labor market. In addition, the center located at the university, will provide a six-month training program, and workshops, field visits, and extracurricular activities, with the participation of 30 male and female trainers.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Director of Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Prof. Dr. Enas bint Suleiman Al-Issa, and the CEO of stc Group, Eng. Olayan bin Mohammed Alwetaid.The inauguration witnessed the graduation of the first batch of the program, which included 60 female leaders. Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University and stc seek to enhance the leadership skills of the national female calibers and support government institutions and agencies to work on developing future leaders, to enable females face the challenges across the Saudi labor market, in addition to promoting the use of effective practices, that provides an enabled working environment, to expanding the scope of their leadership role.

In a speech delivered during the ceremony, Eng. Abdullah Abdulrahman Alkanhl, Group Chief Strategy Officer of stc said: "Saudi women receives great attention by our wise leadership, to develop and enhance their capabilities and in contribution to the vision's goals an allocation has been made to ensure an increase in women's participation in the labor market. From this point, the steps of the relevant authorities have accelerated to cooperate and support female calibers and leaders to become an effective partner in the national development of the economic, social, scientific, cultural and digital fields. stc Group is committed to its vital role in supporting the digital and economic growth of the Kingdom, and stc has launched several initiatives and programs to support and empower women and promising leaders in the ICT sector."

The (Leadership) program aims to introduce trainees to the latest leadership models and concepts, develop their leadership skills, enhance their self-awareness as a leader, as well as identify and study organizational approaches towards leadership and development. Furthermore, the program identifies the leadership requirements in the digital age and shed light on Saudi women's experiences in leadership and the challenges that they face in the work environment, as well as building a supportive professional network.

The inauguration of the center is initiated from the university's strategy to empower women, and the center's contribution to raising the volume of Saudi women in leadership positions, in order to achieve the objectives of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 by supporting women leaders across all fields. stc also places the concept of empowering women as a priority to provide, enable and support the overall environment for women, whether in terms of qualification, training or providing tools and means that enable them to progress and become the partners in the development process. T

Employee engagement - A key driver of the overall performance of a business

Berenice Chassagne

Head of Atos Growing Markets (Middle East, Turkey, Africa, and Major Events) speaks with Teletimes International in an exclusive interview on Digital Workplace

Employee engagement is a key driver of the overall performance of a business. As a Leader in Outsourced Digital Workplace Services, our goal at Atos is to create a revolutionary new intersection between technology, people, and things. Enabling every employee wherever they may be based, to benefit from a personalized way of working underpinned by innovative and holistic engaged employee experience technologies.

Performance, not productivity is key to a strong, resilient, and healthy organization across the board – financially, creatively, and competitively. We must think beyond productivity and create organizations that thrive because they allow their employees to thrive. In a highly competitive world, engaging and empowering employees has become critical for attracting and retaining talent and for driving operational excellence throughout organizations.

Automation, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Robotization, Edge Computing. All these things will impact productivity in its traditional sense. But unlike in the 80's we do not need to ship the adoption of these tools around the world, if we create engaged employees who do not fear these changes but embrace them then we will open new doors for growth and performance.

And to bring performance I think we need inclusive productivity and engagement because we have reached a point where; as we automate more and more, productivity is no longer enough. We need to be more inclusive. Recognize diversity in all its forms: from gender equity, through cultural differences, those with disabilities, and our seniors. And in doing so create a wholly accessible workplace where diversity

leads to creative solutions. Imagine for a minute a world where solutions are not one size fits all, but all manner of shapes and sizes enabling anyone to access them. That will engage people like never before because they will have a personal stake in the work.

Giving end users power requires us to securely open data, in privacy-protecting ways to enable rather than penalize

Engagement & profitability

At the beginning of the pandemic, Atos predicted that 40% of the workforce would work from home. That prediction appears to have been spot on, as in a recent report from Statista, 30% of respondents stated everyone at their company was working from home with another 15% stating that they could work from home "as needed". That situation though has changed a lot with lockdowns and restrictions loosening up as infections went down and vaccinations went up.

What the pandemic has shown overall though, is the need for clear hybrid strategies, organizations must now focus on rebounding stronger, more resilient, and sustainably than ever before. We should not just dream of that. Because embracing it allows us to tackle some of the critical challenges of our age. If we can dramatically change the way we approach work – especially presence at the office, we can make some meaningful impacts toward decarbonization. For example, if everyone in the world worked from home one day a week, we would save 24 million tons of carbon emissions. We should dare to believe in a world where this is not just made possible by organizations, but employees understand and buy into their individual roles. Giving them personal accountability and ownership of their Carbon footprint within organizations. Making an employee aware of the impact of his decisions on commute, travel, on workstations, on storage, gives him the opportunity to align his values with his acts. In the Atos Great Place to Work survey, 84% of employees said it was important to work for a company that embraces social and environment responsibility as a core value.

Atos has been positioned as a Leader by Gartner in its February 2022 Magic Quadrant for Outsourced Digital Workplace Services (ODWS), based on its completeness of vision and ability to execute. This is the sixth consecutive year that Atos has been named a Leader in a Gartner Magic Quadrant report related to outsourced digital workplace services

If we can create the same engaged employees we do on-site from anywhere; we can employ the best talent from around the world, we can prevent burn out, we can make work fun. Gallup tells us that employees who feel highly engaged lead to 10% more engaged customers, other studies mention 81% lower absenteeism and 23% higher profitability.

If we can put more power in the hands of our employees to design their processes, if we can create frictionless work, we can automate the mundane and free our people to do what they do best, solve problems. Anywhere could be a workplace.

Also, telecom service providers play important role in providing an efficient, mobile, and hyper-connected work environment.

For example Vodafone Spain launched 'Vodafone Infinity Workplace' a new Digital Workplace offering that aims to provide a highly secure digital workplace with universal remote access, available anytime, anywhere, and from a variety of devices and operating systems, with optimum security on a subscription basis to all business profiles, from large corporations to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and freelancers.

Orange bank, the 100% mobile bank of the telco operator Orange created a cloud-based advanced Digital Workplace solution to provide Orange Bank employees with a new unified work experience, regardless of their location or device.

To add on WINDTRE, a leading mobile operator in Italy is adapting to innovative internet-based Modern Management solutions, making it easier to manage devices and update applications for 360° management, allowing employees to work more smoothly and efficiently, without compromising safety and performance.

Employees who feel they are heard are 4.6 times more engaged. Creating a caring environment for our people creates a caring environment for our clients, and their clients, and ultimately a more caring, equal society.

Indeed, it's very much about caring for the employees, providing vision and purpose, and building trust.

Secure Collaborative Environment

Giving end users power requires us to securely open data, in privacy-protecting ways to enable rather than penalize. Data can unlock people's potential and boost business performance, but these are not prizes worth having if they diminish the fairness and trust, upon which engagement relies. Productivity is not enough post-covid, it will not happen without employees.

While Telco over Cloud (ToC) and Multi-Access Edge Computing (MEC) enable advanced features tied to distributed digital workplace management, organizations see the rising need to implement flawless security control in real-time. From a telco perspective, these security requirements span across all the IT and Network domains that are undergoing an unprecedented digital transformation journey.

From the outset of the early consulting steps to its META telco customers over this new paradigm, Atos has built key security offerings unleashing Trusted Digital Identities and Data Protection from any access. Such unfailing capabilities, coming alongside a secured Digital Workplace ecosystem, provide ways to proactively mitigate the new set of security risks brought in by multiple accesses, ineffective BYOD policies, shadow IT systems, and unsecured networks border gateways.

Virtual Only Future

In fact, according to Frost and Sullivan, 28% of all businesses surveyed said they would be 100% remote and virtual in the future. These organizations have determined that they can create an engaged workforce wherever they are. That in itself may change the shape of other organizations that come to different conclusions.

Our approach to this new frontier of work is called "Engaged Employee Experience". It is a program of investment and focuses that we believe will make Atos the leading enabler of this new frontier of work. I want us to be more than the leader in Digital Workplace, I want us to create a revolutionary new intersection between technology, people, and things, by combining Digital Workplace with Employee Experience.

From productivity to performance, make technology work for your employees

We have launched a revolutionary new approach with some leading partners and vendors that will enable our clients to go beyond Digital Workplace,

- With Voice of the Employee technology, we're giving clients the ability to measure, analyze and manage the employee experience in real-time from anywhere. Giving them the power to make tangible decisions to improve the experience for all.
- On Citizen Development, we're giving clients and users the low and no-code platforms to rebuild processes, and tailor them to individual needs. With fully integrated training and adoption services to make the most of the platforms, both reducing pressure on IT teams and freeing the diversity of potential for all.
- When it comes to Smart Working, we are building on the consulting work we have been doing during COVID-19 to go beyond safe workplaces. Creating smart spaces deeply integrated into the heart of next-generation workplaces will give us new collaborative and social experiences. The workplace is no longer a 9 to 5 but a hub for creativity and collaboration. But also, connecting those hubs to the rest of the world, through immersive technologies like Augmented Reality, or biometrics to connect clinicians with patient data safely and securely. Smart working is no longer just about being able to book your desk in real-time. It's an era-defining shift in where, when, and how we work.
- For Accessibility we are bringing forward technology to make workplaces easier to use for everyone. From tooling to support visual changes to technologies that aid interactivity. We're working with vendors to enable all our technologies for accessibility. Plus, more accurate data facilitate the interoperability of assistive technologies with mainstream tech.
- On the vitally important topic of Mental Health, we are enabling employees with embedded analysis tools to set boundaries and better balance their work-life. Also, with sentiment analysis tools we could help clients to measure the emotional state of employees and trigger remediation measures again in real-time. In doing so, we can help organizations to become increasingly pro-active about mental health, thus preventing stress, burnout, and worse for their employees and create a safe and healthy workplace where people can be their personal best.
- With Training, we're enabling new approaches to Micro-Learning, building on the lessons of the consumer lead revolution in Massive Open Online Courses or MOOC's. With new gamified micro-learning approaches we're helping clients and users prevent a digital divide in the workplace. Giving people the skills to succeed with the host of new technologies they will be using in the future.
- Finally new HR consulting capabilities with partners will join the dots between technology and people, so we take the lessons of design thinking alongside the cultural challenges of individual organizations to build the best solutions for clients and end-users every time.

We have launched a revolutionary new approach with some leading partners and vendors that will enable our clients to go beyond Digital Workplace

We believe this to be the most comprehensive, intersectional set of services on the market today. A paradigm shift in the focus on either technology OR experience towards technology AND experience, and performance AND experience. It is our ambition to lead this space just as we have done with Digital Workplace before it. By creating this new engagement- and human-focused work environment, we will transform our clients' organizations. One human-centric desktop at a time! T

ST Engineering iDirect positions InterSAT for business growth with significant technology upgrade across Africa

ST Engineering iDirect will provide internet service provider and longtime customer, InterSAT Communication Services with a significant technology upgrade, enabling it to deliver enhanced services to its customers across the African continent. The upgrade to its existing Evolution® platform will allow InterSAT to leverage new technologies and efficiencies to remain competitive in an increasingly challenging market.

InterSAT serves a portfolio of different verticals, providing essential satellite-based connectivity across the entire African continent to NGOs, SMEs, governments, oil and gas companies and the broadcast sector. The company is focused on offering leading edge connectivity, investing heavily in state-of-the-art technology that makes service delivery better and faster. The upgrade of its ground systems has been a pivotal part of this evolution.

The vibrant African market and the huge user demand for connectivity with excellent quality of service are evident continent-wide as people and businesses increasingly use the internet - from providing mission-critical links in the event of a disaster, to enabling news broadcasts and public service information to remote communities.

InterSAT has partnered with antenna manufacturer and ST Engineering iDirect partner Kymeta, and will start to deliver mobile connectivity services to the rail and maritime sectors to connect users on the move. The company is also breaking into the Outside Broadcast (OB) market, offering contribution links to media houses and has kitted out its own OB demonstration truck.

"Through this upgrade, we will be able to deliver on our commitment to serve our customers to the best of our ability and provide the services that they require today and going forward with a futureproof platform. There are a lot of exciting opportunities on the horizon and this upgrade will help us to take advantage of these," said Hanif Kassam, CEO at InterSAT.

"InterSAT is a longtime customer of ST Engineering iDirect and we are delighted that they are undertaking this hub technology upgrade with us," said Pieter Paul Mooijman, Regional Vice President, Africa at ST Engineering iDirect.

"We remain committed to supporting InterSAT, providing the technology and behind-the-scenes knowhow that will underpin their existing and emerging solutions." T

Immersion4 and Blue Innovation collaborate for a future of Immersed AI

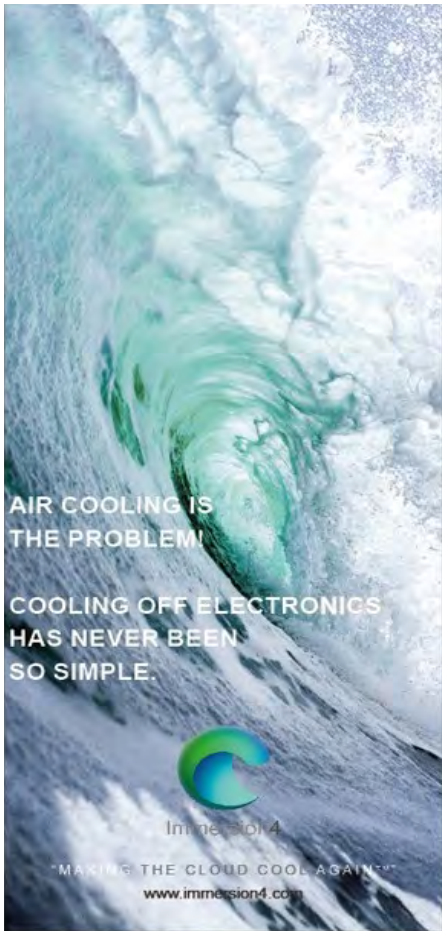
Blue Innovations SA & Immersion4 SA, both based out of Lausanne, Switzerland, are proud to announce their collaboration to develop the "First Onboard Immersed AI Computerized solutions" for complex vessels.

Blue Innovations SA, owner of Porrima, believes "Vessels are intended to become platforms for data collection managed by Artificial Intelligence". Marine environmental conditions require the use of the latest technologies to protect electronics, ensuring the utmost resilience and efficiency under any navigation conditions.

Like all other vessels, Porrima is facing challenges on the power, pollution, resiliency, efficiency and environmental fronts. Immersion4 Technology tackles all those challenges through:

- ***Power optimisation*** – Efficient use of energy only for what needs to be powered (IT Load)
- ***Energy reuse*** – "Liquid to liquidTM" heat transfer using ICETM Coolant
- ***Sustainability*** – Using only recyclable materials and biodegradable liquid with zero impact on humanity and biodiversity
- ***Resilience*** – In the event of a power outage, power scarcity, and temperature swing through intermittent cooling
- ***Efficiency*** – Using onboard electronics at the utmost performance & capacity, enhancing AI energy management propulsion & data collection
- ***Robust Quality*** – Ability to withstand marine environment conditions and avoiding any risk due to humidity, dust, corrosion, oxidation, electrostaticity, outdoor temperature Delta T and mechanical vibrations

Using Immersion4's latest technologies and R&D capabilities, Porrima is defining the premises of the first AI computer based onboard equipment and electronics in general - avoiding obsolete air-cooling infrastructure and chemicals' layers to protect PCBs from outdoor / indoor extreme environments. This initiative aligns deeply with both companies' commitment towards Sustainability and E-waste recycling.



Porrima has chosen CoolLabs, an Immersion4 Lab developing electronics cooling systems based on the 4 "E" principles:

1. ***Eco-conservation*** – The best energy saving comes from removing unnecessary and inappropriate use of energy
2. ***Environmental conservation*** – Preservation of all ecosystems
3. ***Circular economy*** – Gage of worldwide replicability & scalability
4. ***Ecologically sustainable*** – Only recyclable & biodegradable materials

The technology developed by Immersion4 for Porrima is having limitless applications and could be used further by any vessel, whether military or civilian, with the primary application for scientific research and super yachts. T

Hellas Sat awards a Multi Million Dollars order to SpaceBridge to supply Advanced Broadband Satellite Network Infrastructure

***Christodoulos Protopapas**, President and CEO - Hellas Sat.*

***David Gelerman**, President & CEO - SpaceBridge*

Hellas Sat, a premium leading satellite operator based in Greece, awarded SpaceBridge, Canadian corporation designer and manufacturer of broadband satellite communications systems, the end-to-end VSAT project, consisting of the two VSAT Platforms that will provide fully encrypted satellite communication hybrid platform, simultaneously supporting the Star & Mesh network topology. SpaceBridge will provide two fully redundant Teleports and User Terminals to serve important and critical locations for Hellas Sat end customers.

"We selected SpaceBridge to expand an existing network we have deployed since 2018, making efficient use of the advanced capabilities of our satellites, Hellas Sat 3 and Hellas Sat 4," said Christodoulos Protopapas, President and CEO of Hellas Sat."

"The platform that we selected perfectly fits our customer requirements: the Star & Mesh capability and the support of advanced modulation technics provided us with the best efficiency we were looking for the network deployment. At Hellas Sat, we believe that leveraging our deep knowledge and expertise to provide fast, reliable and cost-effective solutions to our customers is at the core of everything we do".

"We are very pleased with this continued expression of trust shown by Hellas Sat, demonstrating the market's confidence in SpaceBridge's integration expertise to deliver the end-to-end systems," said David Gelerman, President and CEO of SpaceBridge.

"We provide our partners and customers with a comprehensive, systemic solutions that always exceed their expectations in overall platform efficiency, security and availability, especially when it comes to high-end fully secured multi-redundancy systems, including MESH functionality for Real Time mission critical tasks requiring fast and reliable communication then people lives depend in it".

SpaceBridge Inc. is an established supplier and global market pioneer in broadband satellite communications systems technologies and infrastructures. Headquartered in Montreal, Canada, the company develops and provides satellite network solutions and managed services. This includes VSAT HUBs and Terminals for Point-to-Point, Point-to-Multi-Point, Star In Star and Mesh topologies, as well as SCPC modems for GEO and NGSO satellite constellations and broadcast modulators/multiplexers and demodulators/ TS extraction from programming bouquet. SpaceBridge Inc. also provides autonomous managed services for its customers, through implementation of creative and collaborative business models to reduce CapEx investments and save on network management OPEX, while speeding time-to-market. T

Huawei's Green Development 2030 report
How digitalization and decarbonization can drive green development

At the recently concluded Huawei Global Analyst Summit 2022 (HAS 2022), Kevin Zhang, CMO of Huawei's ICT Infrastructure Business presented Huawei's Green Development 2030 report during the "Green ICT Empowers Green Development Forum", which was attended by analysts, experts, scholars, and journalists from around the world. The report systematically outlines how ICT can empower green development.

The report comes at a crucial time when carbon neutrality has become a shared mission for the entire world. According to the World Economic Forum, ICT is expected to help other industries cut carbon emissions by 12.1 billion tons by 2030, with more than 1.8 billion tons of this being in the energy sector alone. In terms of power generation, the International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts that the adoption of digital technologies could reduce annual power generation costs by 80 billion US dollars between 2016 and 2040, equal to 5% of the total global cost of power generation.

In line with this, Huawei Digital Power was established to develop the digital power business and accelerate its growth in June 2021. It is committed to integrating digital and power electronics technologies, developing clean power, and enabling energy digitalization to drive energy revolution for a better, greener future. By the end of 2021, Huawei Digital Power had helped

customers generate 482.9 billion kWh of green power and save about 14.2 billion kWh of electricity. These efforts have resulted in a reduction of nearly 230 million tons in CO_2 emissions, equivalent to planting 320 million trees.

In the Middle East, Huawei is playing an instrumental role in the Red Sea Project, a key part of Saudi Vision 2030. It is the world's largest microgrid energy storage project. Huawei is providing PV and storage solutions for this project, including a 1,300 MWh energy storage system and a 400 MWp PV system. This project will see the construction of the world's first city to be powered solely by PV with energy storage, which will supply power to one million people.

The Green Development 2030 report is the latest in a series of Intelligent World 2030 reports that systematically present Huawei's outlook on the future, and provide a general blueprint for the ICT industry's development and how it can contribute to other industries. The report is developed based on the industry insights and best practices Huawei gathered over the years, and supplemented by input from nearly 100 industry experts and more than 30 third-party organizations including policy makers, associations, think tanks, and enterprises.

The Green Development 2030 report focuses on how digitalization and decarbonization can drive green development, as well as potential applications of green ICT in key industries by 2030. Of note are the six outlooks outlined in Green Development 2030 report, namely,

1. Renewables go mainstream
More than 50% of electricity will come from renewable energy. The share of electricity in global final energy consumption will increase to 30%. The global installed capacity of energy storage systems is expected to increase by 20-fold.

2. The industrial sector will go green.
Every 10,000 workers will work with 390 robots.

3. **Comprehensive electrification in transportation**

The Green Development 2030 report focuses on how digitalization and decarbonization can drive green development, as well as potential applications of green ICT in key industries by 2030

"Huawei's green 5G solutions are using intelligent technologies to improve the energy efficiency of base stations, and reduce energy consumption across whole networks."

There will be 145 million new energy vehicles and 100 million private charging piles worldwide.

4. Future buildings will operate at net-zero carbon
All new buildings are expected to operate at net-zero carbon by 2030, with all buildings expected to be net-zero carbon by 2050.

5. Green digital infrastructure is becoming a basic requirement
Digital infrastructure will be 100 times more energy efficient by 2030.

6. Low-carbon living is gaining traction
The global telemedicine market is expected to increase by over 10-fold.

China's online education is expected to increase by about 23-fold. One billion users will take virtual tours.

The report also explains the three main pathways that future ICT innovation should pursue to empower green development: improving the energy efficiency of digital infrastructure, increasing the share of renewables in electricity generation, and enabling green industries. This will provide insights for green development efforts worldwide.

During his speech at the forum, Zhang said, "Digitalization and decarbonization reinforce each other and jointly drive green development. ICT will be key to both digitalization and decarbonization processes. As a leader in ICT innovation, Huawei is committed to building green ICT infrastructure, accelerating the development of renewable energy, and improving energy savings and emission reductions in a wide range of industries. This is how we hope to promote sustainable development within our society at large."

President of Huawei's SingleRAN Product Line Aaron Jiang also spoke at the forum, explaining Huawei's practices to build networks with both optimal performance and high energy efficiency, saying, "Huawei's green 5G solutions are using intelligent technologies to improve the energy efficiency of base stations, and reduce energy consumption across whole networks."

The forum was attended by a number of industry representatives from the Global Enabling Sustainability Initiative (GeSI), China Mobile, State Grid Yancheng Power Supply Company, BYD, etc. They spoke on their organizations' own roadmaps and best practices for empowering green development with digital technologies.

Finally, Kevin Zhang reiterated Huawei's commitment to collaboration and to using green ICT to empower green development, saying that Huawei would work to provide products with higher energy efficiency and lower energy consumption, use bits to manage watts, and shift from carbon footprint to carbon handprint, to drive the green development for the whole world. T

Huawei highlights its commitment to a secure digital world in the region at Milipol, Qatar

Huawei was announced as the Diamond Sponsor of Milipol Qatar 2022, the international homeland security and civil defense event which took place from 24 to 26 May in Doha.

Huawei continuously plays an active role in the digital transformation of industries while also ensuring that cybersecurity and privacy protection remain a top priority. Over the past 30 years, Huawei products have been used in more than 170 countries and regions, 1,500 carrier networks, and serving more than 3 billion users while maintaining a solid track record in security. More than 70 cybersecurity certifications were awarded to Huawei, giving customers internationally recognized security assurances. This resilience is built on heavy investment in R&D; 5% of its R&D budget directly in cybersecurity. Huawei continues to build secure and trustworthy digital products and services through technological innovation and open collaboration.

Maj. Gen. Nasser bin Fahd Al Thani, Chairman of the Milipol Committee expressed his appreciation for Huawei, as one of the main supporters and leading international companies in the field of information and communications technology (ICT). Huawei not only participated in the 14th Milipol Qatar but has supported this event for many years. He said, "Milipol is a success due to the collaboration with partners such as Huawei. We appreciate their important role during the exhibition, especially with cybersecurity being an important topic. We look forward to many more collaborations and partnerships with such companies to achieve Qatar's secure digital future."

Kamal Zian, CSO, Huawei Gulf North, said: "In an accelerating digital era, cybersecurity and data privacy remains

Kamal Zian
CSO - Huawei Gulf North

a key priority. Participating in Milipol Qatar reflects Huawei's commitment to empower our partners and support their digital transformation journey through advanced innovations and solutions to ensure a secure and safe cyber space."

At its booth at Milipol, visitors experienced Huawei's solutions for other sectors. City leaders in attendance learned about Smart City IOC (Intelligent operation center), a centralized platform that offers a visualized panorama of the city, provides city running status, insights into city risks, and makes comprehensive decisions based on data and information. Huawei Converged Command & Control Solution supports voice, video, and data, achieving quick on-site incident detection and efficient cross-department collaboration, ensuring public security in cities. Meanwhile, Huawei also showcased its full-stack smart education solution, including intelligent connectivity as a foundation, a safe campus, a hybrid learning smart classroom, and data governance scenarios as online education accelerates post-COVID.

> ***"Milipol is a success due to the collaboration with partners such as Huawei. We appreciate their important role during the exhibition, especially with cyber security being an important topic. We look forward to many more collaborations and partnerships with such companies to achieve Qatar's secure digital future."***
> *Maj. Gen. Nasser bin Fahd Al Thani*

Huawei highlighted its leading ICT and digital capabilities for the vital energy sector, including solutions such as E&P Cloud, Oil&Gas Field Production Campus, Oil&Gas Pipeline Intrusion Detection, Refining Production Campus, and Gas Station Interconnection and Security Management. Further, with the rapid development of cloud, AI, and 5G, building data centers is challenging for enterprises. Huawei showcased solutions that address long construction periods, high consumption of water and electricity resources, and difficult and inefficient manual O&M. Huawei builds next-generation data centers that are simple, green, smart, and secure through modularization and intelligence.

Huawei also demonstrated its cloud vision to deliver Everything as a Service, underpinned by three pillars - Infrastructure as a Service, Technology as a Service, and Expertise as a Service. This can accelerate digital transformation while also minimizing the carbon footprint of IT infrastructure, speed up the development of new apps and business processes, and enable organizations to innovate faster.

Huawei launches its innovative cloud services during COMEX, 2022

At the 31st edition of COMEX in Oman, Huawei, a leading global provider of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and smart devices officially launched its innovative cloud services in Oman. The company also highlighted how HUAWEI CLOUD can accelerate digital transformation in the public and finance sectors through 'Everything as a Service' model, which can minimize operational expenditure, increase efficiency, and further accelerate the construction of agile capability systems.

Frank Dai, President, HUAWEI CLOUD Middle East, said in his keynote speech, "Huawei believes that cloud transformation is inevitable. It is the future of ICT and the foundation of digital transformation. Huawei adheres to an 'Everything as a Service' model and provides multiple types of cloud to meet customer requirements across various sectors."

"Huawei is committed to working with partners and customers in Oman to accelerate digital transformation across industries," he added.

COMEX is Oman's leading technology show showcasing the government's innovation in technology geared up to meet Oman Vision 2040 goals. It is an open platform for ministries, government entities, and organizations to participate and showcase their achievements, as well as the opportunities for technology innovation and their steps towards reaching Oman's vision.

Oman has seen steady growth in ICT investment and development of infrastructure, individuals, and systems. Oman Vision 2040 has a special mandate to develop the country's technology and communication capabilities, and fuel digital transformation, with a focus on oil & gas, transportation, logistics, investments in ICT, education, healthcare, banking, finance, tourism, retail, and manufacturing, which are all major industries and sectors listed in the national strategy for development.

HUAWEI CLOUD has emerged as an essential platform for internet companies and organizations to go digital. Five years into its development, HUAWEI CLOUD has attracted 2.6 million developers, 28,000 consulting partners, 9,000 technical partners, and released 6,100 Marketplace products. In the Middle East, HUAWEI CLOUD offers more than 220 cloud services, 210 solutions, 19 data centers, over 200 local partners, and a growing list of more than 80 marketplace offerings. T

avia Satellite Industry Forum

Sees the Industry in Strong Shape and Geared for Growth

The Asia Video Industry Association (avia) was finally able to host its annual Satellite Industry Forum in-person in Singapore on 31st May 2022 after a two-year hiatus, bringing together over 120 delegates from around the world and some of the satellite industry's most foremost leaders.

Opening the Forum this year was keynote speaker, Steve Collar, Chief Executive Officer, SES, to address the issue of where future growth was coming from and kicked off the session with his views on demand and supply in the market. As platforms were getting longer to get built and become operational, it showed how difficult it was to get launches done, and how much the industry overestimated supply. Collar added that SES had always been a champion of multi-orbit, and not just having both MEO and GEO satellites, but also constructing a global network for customers to move seamlessly from one to the other to maximize the benefits of both. Collar also shared his excitement on demand, and the new applications and new services that could be run, with a sweet spot being the high throughput and high connectivity services which represented a significant market for SES.

Access to space was also what made the industry exciting, as technology continued to develop both in space and on the ground. However, he also highlighted that space sustainability was critical, with the industry having a duty and moral obligation to treat space in a sustainable way. "Our job is to make sure that space will be used by future generations, and the access to space is equivalent to what we enjoy today and hopefully more in the future," said Collar.

COVID also saw the resurgence of the linear broadcast, with video having done very well over the last two years. Collar remained committed and excited on the long-term aspects of the video

***Steve Collar**, CEO - SES*

***Vaibhav Magow**, VP - Hughes*

business, particularly in Asia. And while it was not going to be the source of growth, it was still overwhelmingly the source of cashflow.

This sentiment was also shared by some of the largest satellite operators in the region during the Satellite Operators' Roundtable. Terry Bleakley, Regional Vice President, Asia Pacific, Intelsat, talked about the importance of satellite to video and how long-term agreements were still being signed with satellite operators. In terms of advertising in Asia Pacific, by 2024, $43.5 billion would come from broadcast and linear television, whereas OTT was only going to bring in $30 - 33 billion, hence linear was still generating more money. Patrick French, Executive Vice President, Global Business Development and Strategy, ABS, added that video still had a long lifetime ahead, and the core of Asia for the longer term. Software defined satellites were also going to be addressing all market segments and would de-risk the business case going forward.

From the manufacturer's perspectives, Vaibhav Magow, Vice President, International Division, Hughes Network Systems, also said this was the most exciting time for the satellite industry, as software defined satellites could change and swap the configuration of what was being offered to the customers, and easily adapted to the change of demand. Joe Bogosian, Vice President, Global Sales & Marketing, Boeing Commercial Satellite Systems International, also agreed that software defined satellites were going to drive much higher utilisation of CAPEX that was going up, and multi-orbits were going to enable more efficient use of this CAPEX and were able to serve different applications more efficiently for LEO and GEO.

Closing off the Forum was Bill Carlin, Senior Manager, Global Sales, AWS Aerospace & Satellite Solutions whose interest in space and satellite was on the vast amount of data that was being collected and created from space, and soon in space, with a future view of launching data centers on the moon and even on Mars. "I see the ability of moving the cloud to space. If we move high speed computing to space, we can do all the things that we do on earth that require high volumes of computing, storage or analytics," said Carlin.

The Satellite Industry Forum is sponsored by AsiaSat, AWS Aerospace & Satellite, Gilat, Hughes, Kymeta, Marsh, MEASAT, Milbank, SES, SpaceBridge, SpaceLogistics and Thaicom. T

Hughes Technologies help bridge the Digital Divide in Mexico

Hughes Network Systems, an innovator in satellite and multi-transport technologies and networks for over 50 years, has announced that its JUPITER™ System platform has been selected by Stargroup, Apconet/Aitelecom, Eutelsat and Globalsat to power satellite connectivity at more than 7,200 sites across Mexico. Additionally, Stargroup chose Ka-band capacity from the Hughes JUPITER high-throughput satellite fleet for an integrated, high-performing solution. The providers won awards under the Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE) Telecomunicaciones e Internet para Todos initiative to bridge the digital divide and independently selected the Hughes JUPITER System to connect Community Wi-Fi and internet access sites.

"We are pleased to utilize Hughes JUPITER System technology and capacity to help connect schools, health clinics and community centers in the most rural and hard to reach areas in Mexico," said Monica Aguirre, Chief Executive Officer, Stargroup. "Hughes has a reputation for integrity and leadership in satellite communications worldwide and a track-record of investment and commitment to connecting the unconnected with satellite solutions across Mexico."

"Hughes is proud to be the trusted supplier of satellite networking technology for this important initiative to help close the digital divide in Mexico," said Ramesh Ramaswamy, Executive Vice President And General Manager, International Division at Hughes. "Each service provider's selection of the JUPITER System is a testament to the value Hughes technology brings in meeting operator needs for high-performing, economical and efficient satellite solutions."

The de facto standard for satellite implementations worldwide, the JUPITER System operates on more than 75 satellites, powering millions of consumer and enterprise broadband, cell backhaul, aero and maritime mobility connections.

Ramesh Ramaswamy
EVP & GM, International Division - Hughes

The de facto standard for satellite implementations worldwide, the JUPITER System operates on more than 75 satellites, powering millions of consumer and enterprise broadband, cell backhaul, aero and maritime mobility connections. Now in its third generation, the system includes hubs and very small aperture terminals (VSATs) that deliver the industry's best cost-to-performance ratio; private, cloud-delivered network management; and dynamic inroute configuration for the highest possible efficiencies.

"Across Mexico, JUPITER System equipment and Ka-band satellite capacity help bridge the digital divide with internet access, community Wi-Fi hotspots and cellular backhaul service to extend mobile operator reach," added Ramaswamy. "With cost-effective broadband connectivity like this throughout Mexico, these operators can help rural communities thrive and enjoy better access to education, healthcare and social services." T

14th Milipol Qatar achieves record-breaking visitor turnout

QAR 592m worth of deals signed on-site during the event

Milipol Qatar 2022, the 14th edition of the Middle East's only dedicated homeland security and civil defense industries exhibition, closed a three-day run at the Doha Exhibition & Convention Centre under the patronage of His Highness the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani.

Held against a background of rising homeland and civil defense expenditures in the region, Milipol Qatar 2022, which spanned over 11,000 square meters of exhibition space, had a record visitor turnout of over 11,500 and the declared on-site sales topped QAR 592 million.

The show, which also attracted 587 media outlets, was inaugurated by Qatar's Prime Minister and Minister of Interior His Excellency Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani, who was accompanied by ministers and dignitaries from several friendly countries, including Qatar. Among the VVIP attendees was Gerald Darmanin, the French Minister of Interior whose presence underlined the strength of co-operation between France and Qatar. The show attracted 389 official delegations representing 33 countries.

Francois Jullien, Milipol Events Director said, "The delegations' program had been a key influencer in attracting a strong exhibitor turnout; the event's strict industry-only policy and the strength of its delegation program assure exhibitors that they are in the right place to meet sector decision makers".

International participation accounted for more than half – 56% - of the exhibitor profile. The show featured five international pavilions representing France, North America, Germany, Italy and, for the first time, Austria.

The event featured a two-day seminar program which focused on major event security and solutions to the growing risk of cybercrime. Local and regional experts took to the seminar stage to deliver 21 inspiring presentations examining potential solutions to pressing homeland security and civil defense issues.

And as the curtain fell on Milipol Qatar 2022, the event's organizers confirmed exhibitor interest was already being received for the 15th show which will be held from 29th to 31st of October, 2024.

"These early expressions of interest bode well for Milipol Qatar 2024 and we are looking forward to growing on the solid foundations Milipol Qatar has already laid down," added Francois Jullien.

Milipol Qatar was organised by Qatar's Ministry of Interior in partnership with Paris-based international event organiser Comexposium, acting on behalf of the GIE Milipol headed by Civipol, the technical cooperation implementer of the French ministry of the Interior. The event meets a large part of the security objectives of the State of Qatar in line with the country's National Vision 2030, while also addressing wider regional needs.

Sheikha Al Zain Al Sabah and Elie Habib join OSN Board of Directors under the leadership of Sheikha Dana Al Sabah, Chairperson OSN

Elie Habib

Sheikha Al-Zain S. Al Sabah

Sheikha Dana Nasser Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah

OSN, the region's leading entertainment brand for premium content, announces changes to its Board of Directors seeing the addition of two new members. OSN shareholders KIPCO and Mawarid, have voted to add Sheikha Al-Zain Sabah Al-Naser Al-Sabah and Elie Habib to their Board of Directors, led by Chairperson Sheikha Dana Nasser Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, reaffirming the Board's backing and commitment to growth and enhancing OSN's collective expertise.

The announcement comes on the heels of major announcements at the company as the business continues to broaden its reach in the Middle East & North Africa region, recently with the appointment of Sheikha Dana Al Sabah as Chairperson of the Board and more recently Joe Kawkabani's appointment to CEO of OSN.

"On behalf of the entire Board, I would like to congratulate and welcome both of these distinguished leaders. Their deep experience and insights in media content and technology will be instrumental in ensuring OSN's continued leadership within the entertainment and streaming technology sector. They bring a wealth of experience that will help OSN continue to be the region's leading home of premium entertainment. We are honored to have these inspirational leaders join the Board and look forward to working together to take OSN to new heights", said Sheikha Dana Al Sabah, Chairperson of the Board.

New member Sheikha Al-Zain S. Al Sabah is appointed Vice-Chairperson of OSN. Her expertise includes expanding creative arts and industries within the MENA region as well as having extensive experience in multimedia and leadership. Sheikha Al-Zain is Chairperson and CEO of the National Creative Industries Group (KSCC). Formerly, Sheikha Al-Zain served as Under Secretary of State at the Ministry for Youth Affairs in Kuwait, under her helm, Kuwait was named the Arab capital of Youth in 2017, and the first national youth policy was drafted. Prior to this, she served as the Chairperson and Managing Director of Eagle Vision Media Group, a multimedia production facility in Kuwait.

Anghami co-founder Elie Habib joins OSN's Board of Directors as an independent member bringing vast technological expertise to OSN. Anghami is the region's first and leading music streaming service, with over 75 million users, 72 million licensed Arabic & English tracks and integrated with 45 mobile operators. Anghami is the first Arab tech company to trade on the NASDAQ. The success of Anghami is a testament to Habib's expertise in streaming and Middle Eastern streamers.

Joe Kawkabani, Chief Executive Officer at OSN Group said: "We look forward to the contribution and impact that Sheikha Al-Zain and Elie Habib will make to the business as they join our Board. Both these key additions to our board add another level of deep industry expertise, diversity, and strategic direction as we navigate through new areas of this sector. They will certainly be key factors in OSN's continued success and performance during this exciting time in the company's evolution."

OSN's board also includes Michael Johnson from Mawarid Holding Co as well as Joe Kawkabani. OSN is a market leader bringing an unbeatable breadth of quality home entertainment, thanks to its long-term worldwide and regional partnerships, ensuring that audiences throughout the MENA will always have first and unique access to premium quality content. T

ABS delivering high-quality satellite connectivity to oil and gas operations in Myanmar

Jennifer Blasko
ABS EVP of Sales & Marketing

ABS, a global satellite operator has secured a multi- year, multi-link contract with Seanet Technologies Myanmar (SEANET), a VSAT service provider to expand its oil and gas communications services. The deal will deliver satellite connectivity to the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea around Myanmar via ABS-2.

ABS offers a high-performance VSAT solution catered specifically to the demanding broadband needs of the oil & gas industry. ABS-2 is capable of supporting critical services and streamline operations, providing multiple offshore platforms with access to real-time monitoring. It can also improve crew welfare, safety and healthcare conditions. In a single satellite link, separate virtual channels can be configured for corporate and crew connectivity.

"Providing connectivity with high availability is essential to the daily operations of oil and gas companies. Satellite remains the only viable offshore connectivity option. We are pleased to play an important role in linking up the oil rigs and maritime industries and support SEANET's expansion efforts for the region," said Jennifer Blasko, ABS EVP of Sales & Marketing. "Using our C or Ku-band capacity, ABS links up oil rigs and service vessels across key markets in Asia, Africa and the Middle East."

"We have two established teleports, one in the heart of Yangon and the other is deployed outside the city to better serve our customers providing geographical redundancy. The oil & gas sector is one of the key drivers that we are focusing on to grow our service portfolio. We are expanding our satellite services with ABS-2 to provide better availability to our customers," said Pyone Maung Maung, SEANET Managing Director. T

INTEGRASYS opens new office in Luxembourg

INTEGRASYS has founded INTEGRASYS SARL, and opened the new Luxembourg facility in Kirchberg, Luxembourg financial district. INTEGRASYS SARL is responsible for commercializing INTEGRASYS technologies in the heart of Europe and innovating in R&D.

The software company has ambitious expansion plans, to achieve a major presence globally. This next step has been Luxembourg, as INTEGRASYS sees great potential in this country, and the location is a strategic point to start the European expansion. The office is at 2 Rue Edward Steichen. The company already has customers in the Luxembourg area and surroundings; therefore, this new opening brings great opportunities, to strengthen these partnerships. The next step for the company is to start serving its customers' demands, understanding in depth the market, and providing adaptable solutions to potential customers as products as a service, and custom projects.

"This year Luxembourg office is our bringing a lot of attention as we see how Luxembourg Space Agency ESA can enable us to bring products faster and serve our customers better, we are looking forward to positioning ourselves as a great partner for R&D projects, as well as for customers, and we think there is no better way of doing it than having presence in this country, which in space is the centre in Europe", says Alvaro Sanchez CEO at INTEGRASYS. T

CRA holds Workshop on ICT sector development in Qatar

Aftab Raza Khan

The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) held a workshop themed as "Enablers of the ICT Sector Development in Qatar". The workshop was conducted at the Digital Center of Excellence, Msheireb Downtown and engaged industry leaders and key stakeholders in an interactive session to discuss perspectives and collect insights on main issues related to developing and growing the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector in Qatar.

The workshop comes as part of a large-scale strategic CRA research study aimed at building measurements and a comprehensive understanding of Qatar's Information Technology (IT) industry and the ICT sector as a whole. The study focuses on collecting data and exploring gaps and challenges, but also opportunities and available potential for future sector development. The research findings and insights will support CRA's efforts on publishing sector data and for targeting further government initiatives and building an effective regulatory framework in support of the sector growth and leveraging its potential.

The workshop was attended by a wide circle of representatives from the entire ICT ecosystem - local industry (both established players and startups), government entities, research organizations, licensing platforms, incubation centers, academia, and other key verticals. The event turned out to be a good opportunity for an engaging discussion between all parties who brought their views and experiences in an interactive discussion centered around key relevant topics such as ICT funding, regulations, infrastructure, talent, and skilling.

The participants discussed the main barriers and challenges for Qatar's ICT sector and highlighted potential opportunities and current good initiatives driving the sector's development. They also showcased relevant use cases from a regional and international perspective and discussed future priorities and perspectives. T

Digital Supply Chain Show showcases Advanced Technologies

The 3rd Digital Supply Chain Show successfully concluded on 25th May in Dubai. The highly anticipated event saw the successful participation of more than 300+ supply chain experts from across the MENA region.

Attendees and sponsors enjoyed the opportunity to network in person, reconnecting with peers and making new connections. Digital innovations that are accelerating visibility, efficiency, and predictability within the supply chain, logistics, and procurement industry were discussed at the event. Organised by Ventures Connect and supported by CIPS MENA, the primary focus of the event was on how companies in the region can set up and implement supply chain and procurement processes for improved resiliency, agility and sustainability.

Exclusive industry insights from 60+ speakers

The Digital Supply Chain Show offered real-world examples and practical insights from supply chain giants like Amazon, DP World, Noon, Unilever, Lulu Group International, Chalhoub Group, ADNOC Group, Emirates Airline, Saudi Telecoms Company, and Mondelēz International. These practical examples demonstrated the efficiency gains possible when companies have a well-planned digital transformation and can access new knowledge by leveraging big data and technologies such as cloud, ERP systems, artificial intelligence, control tower and digital twins.

Organizations have learnt in recent years the importance of de-risking their supply chains, especially if they are heavily reliant on one supplier or country. Digitalisation and data intelligence is giving companies new, faster insights that will support their decision-making.

"65% of the increase in price is due to supply chain issues globally and not because of demand issues," says Dr. Ashraf Mahate, Chief Economist, Dubai Industries and Exports.

Increasingly, multinational corporations and people are pledging to associate only with companies and brands who adhere to social and environmental standards. Companies are expected to have a high-quality sustainability strategy in place that allows them to meet their carbon reduction targets. The Digital Supply Chain Show explored how to build resilient and responsible procurement and supply chain operations, working with supply chains to reduce indirect emissions.

"Leveraging emerging technologies is critical for increased accountability, transparency and efficiency and is one of the first steps towards building agile and resilient digital supply chain transformations," says Baljeet Nagi, Director of SCM Sales Development & Strategy, Oracle. T

Imran ul Haq

ST Engineering iDirect partners with NiAT to deliver critical VSAT connectivity to ACTIVATE Brunei

ST Engineering iDirect and Network Integrity Assurance Technologies (NiAT) will answer the heightened demand for satellite-based broadband communication services across Brunei as a result of the global pandemic.

Like the rest of the world, Brunei experienced a COVID-driven surge of internet traffic as people were compelled to work-from-home, students relied upon remote learning, and the need for internet access in remote or rural areas was markedly increased. To meet this insatiable demand for internet access, NiAT took the initiative and launched its first VSAT service, ACTIVATE, utilizing the ST Engineering iDirect Evolution platform.

The ACTIVATE system is an open, efficient and easily scalable IP-based satellite communications platform engineered to deliver the highest quality broadband connectivity for multiple markets. This will enable NiAT to expand into other sectors including Enterprise, Energy and Offshore, Maritime, Cellular Backhaul and Government and Defense.

"We are striving to connect everyone in Brunei because there are still areas in the country that are not served by any connectivity at all, and this is where ACTIVATE comes in," Siti Nur Aazzah binti Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Aziz, Deputy Chief Executive Officer at NiAT Sdn. Bhd.

The Evolution hub allows NiAT to deliver robust, high-performance, highly flexible services that accommodate changing requirements. It simultaneously accommodates up to 20 universal line cards, each supporting up to 119 Msps in DVB-S2X forward carriers and Adaptive TDMA on the return and connects to two satellites offering services across C-band and Ku-band. The service also features built-in redundancy with hub daisy chaining.

"By introducing ACTIVATE in Brunei via the ST Engineering iDirect Evolution platform, we hope to expand our services further and provide significantly more efficient and flexible bandwidth use, which allows us to offer a more cost-effective VSAT service," said Lim Ming Soon, CEO at NiAT Sdn. Bhd.

"Evolution enables NIAT to operate a shared bandwidth platform with maximum flexibility and highest performance utilizing DVB-S2X and Adaptive TDMA to allocate bandwidth efficiently over distributed networks, while automatically adjusting to dynamic traffic demands and changing network conditions," said John Arnold, Regional Vice President, Asia at ST Engineering iDirect. T

Broadcast Asia 2022, Singapore

Pebble demonstrates effective IP connectivity and cloud playout

Pebble, the leading automation, content management, and integrated channel specialist has confirmed its presence at this year's Broadcast Asia tradeshow, Asia's Largest Broadcast Technology Stage, part of Asia Tech x Singapore – the region's flagship tech fes-tival. Pebble will be at Stand #5K1-09, as part of the UK Pavilion.

In addition to demonstrating its market-leading playout automation and integrated channel solutions, Pebble will be showcasing its award-winning IP connection management tool, Pebble Control. Designed to enable broadcasters and production facilities to create and manage secure operational workflows to configure and monitor IP devices within a broadcast environment, Pebble Control is a self-contained, scalable solution which is easy to configure, deploy and operate using web-based UIs.

Pebble Control delivers immediate benefits to even the smallest IP facility, leveraging open standards to interface with NMOS-enabled devices from multiple vendors, and it's easily re-configurable for when interconnections change, or when devices are added or removed. Excellent, secure device management is a key building block for any broadcast environment, and Pebble Control is designed to make IP as simple as SDI.

Samir Isbaih, VP Sales – Middle East & APAC of Broadcast Asia said, "The events of the last couple of years have obviously meant that we could only engage with our customers digitally. While that has worked well for us, nothing beats meeting new and existing customers face to face and attending Broadcast Asia provides a brilliant opportunity to reconnect with customers and industry peers alike.

"We have a highly valued customer base in the region and we're excited to showcase our newest developments to the market. Having a physical presence at the show underlines our commitment to delivering excellent solutions to this market and we look forward to sharing more on this at Broadcast Asia." T

AVEVA launches enhanced Digital Twin with Wearable Scanning and Robust Document Control

AVEVA has announced that its engineering information management solutions, the core of its digital twin, now deliver greater time and value gains for capital projects and operations. With the seamless integration of AVEVA™ Point Cloud Manager and AVEVA™ Asset Information Management in the cloud, visualizing asset information with real-time data has never been faster or easier. AVEVA customers can now experience a complete digital twin within just 60 days, even in the absence of existing models, thanks to deeper contextualization and enhanced visualization.

Two new industry partnerships will further augment the offering. AVEVA's engineering information management solutions are now combined with the Assai integrated document management system and powered by data captured using NavVis' wearable mobile mapping systems. As a result of the NavVis partnership, laser scans can be delivered much faster than with existing stationary scanners, while Assai's Document Control and Management Solutions expand AVEVA's already data-rich digital twin capabilities with even more robust document information.

"Digital twins have never been more important. They will play a central role

Companies can achieve a fully functional digital twin in less than 60 days by publishing and integrating laser scan data within their engineering and operational performance data on AVEVA's cloud platform, AVEVA Connect.

in uncovering opportunities to unlock ingenuity and achieve the efficiency and sustainability gains needed to enable net-zero carbon emissions," said Amish Sabharwal, Executive Vice President, Engineering Business Unit, AVEVA. "Yet, a digital twin is only as good as the data that composes it. With the new integrations and our cloud-native solutions, customers looking to develop and enhance their digital twin can now design, construct and operate sustainable facilities by using data-driven insights to optimize processes and decisions across the value chain. The result is a scalable solution that allows companies to leverage existing technology investments and accelerate insight through universal, contextualized access of all engineering, operations and maintenance information in the cloud, using any form of visualization (3D-models and/or laser scans), and built-in analytics."

The newly expanded engineering information management solution portfolio is well suited to digital twin creation and utilization throughout the complete project lifecycle, for both capital projects and existing facilities. Sectors set to benefit from the enhanced solutions include oil and gas, energy, power and utilities, chemicals, marine and mining.

Digital twins are virtual replicas of real-life assets, processes, and even full enterprises, and are key enablers of digital transformation. Designed as a lever to deliver sustainability and the circular economy at speed and scale, the AVEVA digital twin solution uses advanced data- and AI-based programs to promote innovation and agility through monitoring, diagnostics and prognostics to optimize asset performance and utilization.

Creating the foundation of the digital twin has never been easier or more robust with the latest developments to AVEVA's cloud-based engineering information management solutions and partnerships.

Companies can achieve a fully functional digital twin in less than 60 days by

Digital twins are virtual replicas of real-life assets, processes, and even full enterprises, and are key enablers of digital transformation.

publishing and integrating laser scan data within their engineering and operational performance data on AVEVA's cloud platform, AVEVA Connect. Further, the NavVis wearable mobile mapping system scans up to 10x faster than traditional laser scanners with comparable accuracy. The Assai integration enables customers to ensure all digital documents remain evergreen and is easy to access.

"The enhanced offering delivers leaner, safer and more transparent capital project execution alongside a decision support system that optimizes plant operations performance, strengthening our complete digital twin proposition," Sabharwal concluded. T

Beyond Technology invests in key MEA and South Asian markets to drive sales and support fiberization projects with Infinera's solutions

To meet the growing demand for bandwidth in the region, Beyond Technology (BT), has announced investments in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia to support regional fiberization projects with Infinera solutions. Infinera is a recognized leader in high-performance optical networking solutions and Beyond Technology, with its presales, deployment, and support engineering expertise will be able to cater to the growing demand for their projects. Moreover, BT has also signed service agreements allowing for 33 warehouse facilities across the region, including in United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Jordan, and Oman.

A partner of leading technology companies such as Google, Juniper Networks, and VMware, Beyond Technology has also been recognized as a Global Gold channel partner by Infinera. The company helps bring its resources and those of its partners for fiber optic expertise in the MEA region and Pakistan while these skilled experts consult, design, implement and support the clients.

Due to the massive increase in data consumption, 5G, social media content, streaming video, and digital transformation initiatives, there are major investments in fiberization projects worldwide. Beyond Technology works closely with Infinera to meet these demands. Moreover, Infinera's industry-leading solutions include ICE6, an 800G coherent optical engine technology that enables customers to meet growing capacity demands and put more revenue-generating services over a given fiber pair at the lowest cost per bit.

Supply chain timelines combined with local logistical service levels across delivery and repair is another critical necessity in today's business environment. To address this particular need, Beyond Technology has partnered with leading regional logistical companies to provide multiple regional warehousing facilities for its service provider clients with the highest service levels in delivery to clients, low cost, data analytics using AI on inventory, and next day turnaround times for critical repair operations.

Zoff Khan
CEO - Beyond Technology MEA

Lorraine Twigg
VP - Partners & Development, Infinera

Zoff Khan, CEO of Beyond Technology MEA, commented, "We are currently seeing massive, accelerated growth in fiber across all markets due to increased data usage. As a result, cloud and service providers need to modernize their transmission networks to cope with these new demands. This is being seen consistently in almost every emerging market we operate in. This trend also appears to be continuing in the foreseeable future. This is why we have ramped up our local sales team, engineers, and logistics capabilities. These investments will consolidate further leadership for Beyond Technology and Infinera within the MEA and South Asia region. We look forward to jointly supporting our customers even better."

Lorraine Twigg, VP of Partners and Development, Infinera said, "We are very excited to expand our global partnership with Beyond Technology to the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia markets. Beyond Technology is a trusted and valued Gold Partner, the top tier within Infinera's PartnerPlus Program. We are truly committed towards investing for growth in these markets by working closely with the team at Beyond Technology."

Beyond Technology enables Business Transformation through technology in over 80 countries (including Pakistan, USA, Spain, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, UAE, and Morocco, among many others) and continues to expand under its campaign "The Year Beyond Technology." Giving its partners and clients a solid opportunity to grow together in a diversity of digital services and many regions. T

GLOBAL ICT, TELECOM & SATCOM EVENTS 2022 - 23

01 - 03 June 2022

ConnecTechAsia

Singapore

03 - 10 June 2022

SMART TECH KOREA

Seoul, South Korea

13 - 14 June 2022

CYBERTECH

Dubai, UAE

14 - 16 June 2022

MEET ICT BAHRAIN – THE LEADING ICT EVENT IN BAHRAIN

BiTEX BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

Manama, Bahrain

29 June - 01 July 2022

GSMA MWC Shanghai • 上海

Shanghai, China

09 - 12 September 2022

Amsterdam, Netherlands

28 - 30 September 2022

GSMA MWC Las Vegas

Las Vegas

09 - 13 October 2022

GITEX GLOBAL

Dubai, UAE

25 - 27 Oct 2022

GSMA MWC Africa

Kigali, Rwanda

08 - 10 November 2022

Global MilSatCom

London, UK

07 - 11 November 2022

Africa Com

Cape Town, SA

27 Feb - 02 March 2023

GSMA MWC Barcelona

Spain

06 - 09 March 2023

capacity

Dubai, UAE

13 - 16 March 2023

SATELLITE 2023

Washington, DC

14 - 16 March 2023

معرض و مؤتمر الخليج العالمي لأمن المعلومات

GISEC GLOBAL

Dubai, UAE

10 - 12 May 2023

CABSAT

Dubai, UAE

23 - 24 May 2023

5G MENA

TBC

06 - 08 Dec 2023

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