

Press Release

BTL LAUNCHES FIRST 4G LTE ADVANCED NETWORK IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

December 16, 2016 – Today, Belize Telemedia Ltd (BTL) formally launched its brand new 4G LTE Advanced network under the company’s DigiCell mobile banner. It is being recognized as the first commercial deployment of an LTE Advanced Network in the Central America and English-Speaking Caribbean.

Together with vendor-partner Huawei Technologies Ltd, this ambitious project saw the total “rip and replacement” of all key hardware and software elements of the previous mobile network at both the core and the periphery - and the full replacement at both the 2G and HSPA+ layers to go along with the introduction of LTE technology.

“Working with BTL has been an outstanding partnership from the start” said Ming He, General Manager of Huawei USA. He continued by stating “we set out to build a special, leading-edge network with the technology that would allow BTL to deliver excellent service to its customers and be a leader in Central America.”

Chairman of BTL Executive Committee, Anwar Barrow, noted: “This outstanding achievement of launching Central America’s most advanced mobile network represents an important milestone for the company. We maintain that it is critical to the ongoing progress and viability of both BTL and the entire country that we are able to equip Belizeans with the telecommunications infrastructure that places the nation on equal footing with anyone anywhere else in the world.”

“You would recall that some two years ago, we had set out and communicated to our shareholders and the public a plan to radically transform the company to a commercially led, customer centric organization. While there remains still much to do, it is accomplishments like this which demonstrate that the BTL team is keeping its word and making good on its promises.”

Barrow added that the project continues past the launch date: “There still remains many underserved communities across Belize in respect of mobile telephony. Thus next year [2017], we will be adding up to 50 additional cell sites in towns and villages across the country so as to boost mobile coverage considerably. We expect to add at least 11 of these sites by end of March”.

The 4G LTE mobile project is part of a \$100 million multi-year capital enhancement initiative by BTL to radically transform and upgrade the company’s mobile, landline and broadband infrastructure so as to bring these platforms up to the standards of leading technology jurisdictions around the world.

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About BTL

Belize Telemedia Ltd. (BTL) is the leading telecommunications provider in Belize. The company provides mobile, PSTN, and broadband services to both the residential and commercial markets, with full reach throughout the country. The company is committed to the development of the Belizean community, and the expansion of its product offerings to ensure that the country of Belize becomes a regional leader in telecommunications – as measured by quality of service - by the year 2020. The company employs 600 persons. It is a limited liability company, with 63 percent of shares held by the Government of Belize on behalf of the Belizean people. The remaining shares are held by domestic institutional investors and individuals.

The company trades in the mobile marketplace under the brand name 'DigiCell'.

www.belizetelemedia.net

www.digicell.bz

About Huawei

Huawei is a leading global information and communications technology (ICT) solutions provider. Our aim is to enrich life and improve efficiency through a better connected world, acting as a responsible corporate citizen, innovative enabler for the information society, and collaborative contributor to the industry. Driven by customer-centric innovation and open partnerships, Huawei has established an end-to-end ICT solutions portfolio that gives customers competitive advantages in telecom and enterprise networks, devices and cloud computing. Huawei's 170,000 employees worldwide are committed to creating maximum value for telecom operators, enterprises and consumers. Our innovative ICT solutions, products and services are used in more than 170 countries and regions, serving over one-third of the world's population. Founded in 1987, Huawei is a private company fully owned by its employees.

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