

press release

13 July 2007

South African operator Neotel selects Cambridge Broadband Networks for country-wide cellular backhaul deployment

Cambridge, UK, 13 July 2007: New operator Neotel is using the VectaStar transmission platform from Cambridge Broadband Networks in its backhaul and access network across South Africa. Operating in the licensed 10.5GHz spectrum band, equipment deployment is beginning in Johannesburg and Pretoria and will be expanded to cover Cape Town and Durban.

Neotel, partly owned by the Indian TATA Group, has a telecommunications license to provide services to carriers, businesses and consumers. Its VectaStar network will offer CDMA backhaul, WiMAX backhaul and corporate access services. Neotel's selection of VectaStar will enable the company to rapidly and cost-effectively deploy a multi-service network over a wide geographical area.

Pravir Dahiya, Executive Head of Technologies at Neotel, explains: "As a greenfield operator, it is essential that we accelerate the implementation of the necessary infrastructure required, to enable us to offer a broad portfolio of services across a large geography. We partnered with Cambridge Broadband Networks because the VectaStar solution supports both backhaul and access services within a single network, and its point-to-multipoint architecture greatly simplifies network planning, deployment and management."

The VectaStar platform also supports multi-band operation, with 3.5GHz, 10.5GHz and the 26/28GHz band used within a single network. This provides a high level of flexibility and scope for capacity expansion as Neotel's network continues to expand.

Neeren Ramharakh, VP Sales, Sub-Saharan Africa, Cambridge Broadband Networks, comments: "As a new and rapidly expanding operator, Neotel is well positioned to address the South African marketplace. We are in wholehearted support of Neotel's mission to expand the country's telecoms infrastructure and reduce the costs of doing business in South Africa. We are very pleased that our VectaStar solution has been selected as a key component of Neotel's infrastructure and that its multi-band, multi-protocol features will help the company achieve its objectives."

Network deployment is underway and continuing over the coming months.

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Media contact

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About Cambridge Broadband Networks Limited www.cambridgebroadband.com

Cambridge Broadband Networks provides telecommunications operators with carrier-class wireless point-to-multipoint transmission equipment. The company's unique approach to backhaul means that its technology provides operators with a highly compelling business case, reducing backhaul costs by up to 60%. To date, Cambridge Broadband Networks products have been commercially deployed and technically proven in more

than 30 countries, and the company continues to expand into new geographical markets as wireless networks become more widespread throughout the world. Privately-held, Cambridge Broadband Networks has headquarters in Cambridge, UK, with offices in Malaysia and South Africa and manufacturing facilities in China and the UK.

About VectaStar

VectaStar is a highly flexible, scalable point-to-multipoint radio transmission system that can be used for 2G and 3G cellular backhaul, WiMAX/WiFi/DSLAM backhaul and Enterprise access. VectaStar is the only transmission solution with integrated Abis and Iub optimisation and dynamic statistical multiplexing to maximise the traffic that can be carried in any given bandwidth. This provides operators with the most efficient use of their radio spectrum and gives substantial operational and capital expenditure savings compared to leased line solutions. VectaStar's additional advantages include its superior capacity, range, service mix, spectral efficiency and built-in support for full redundancy. VectaStar seamlessly supports E1/T1, IP and ATM transmission protocols, providing operators with a comprehensive range of service offerings within a future proof platform. A single VectaStar base station supports simultaneous operation in the licensed 3.5GHz, 10.5GHz and 26GHz (24.5-26.5GHz) spectrum bands.

About Neotel

Neotel is the first national infrastructure-based competitor in the fixed line telecoms sector in South Africa. The company aims to reduce the cost of doing business by enhancing the operational efficiencies of companies through the optimal use of advanced communications technologies, and to extend these benefits into the second economy. Much has changed in the telecoms market in recent months, in South Africa as well as globally. Recognising the changing requirements of telecoms users in South Africa, Neotel is building itself to be a preferred provider of leading-edge telecommunications, well beyond the traditional concept of a fixed line operator. Its various telecom licences, including the PSTS Licence issued to Neotel as the second national operator of South Africa, allow the company to provide the entire range of telecoms services with the exception of full mobility.

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