IMPROVING SATCOM LIFELINES FOR THE MOST REMOTE ISLANDS ON EARTH

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at SpeedCast

The Republic of Kiribati capital, South Tarawa, which consists of a number of islets connected through a series of causeways

When talking about a pacific island; palm trees, white sandy beaches and deep blue seas come to mind. That is indeed part of the beauty of the island nation of Kiribati, located in the central tropical Pacific Ocean. Around 100,000 people live on 32 small atolls and coral islands dispersed over 3.5 million square kilometers. The geographical layout of the Kiribati nation, however, brings about a big challenge when it comes to telecommunications. How to connect the island and make sure its inhabitants can access the Internet to sustain their economic growth, support educational or emergency programs and access typical government services?

In the context of growing data throughput requirements at affordable rates to support these services, Telecom Services Kiribati Limited (TSLK), the local government-owned telecommunications provider, approached SpeedCast to upgrade its existing satellite backhaul link. SpeedCast is a leading global network and satellite communications service provider offering high-quality managed network services in more than 60 countries throughout Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, Europe and Africa.

In order to achieve important throughput enhancements for the satellite backhaul links, we have deployed Newtec's high-speed modem technology. Through the efficiency gains achieved by using Newtec technology in combination with network optimization technology, we improved the performance of the network and mitigated the network bottleneck for TSKL. The results are improved Internet access, decreased download times and more efficient, higher-performing satellite trunking, leading to better communications for the islanders.

A Coconut Wireless Tower. Coconut Wireless is a TSKL ISP, providing wireless Internet services in South Tarawa and five other islands of Kiribati

SpeedCast's Engineering Manager, Dr. Lloyd Wood (middle) with TSKL's employees.

TSKL antenna

TSKL head office in South Tarawa.