

Press Release

Thuraya Users to Benefit from Ericsson Core Network Modernization

- Ericsson to upgrade Thuraya's existing network with new 4G and 5G core network ready equipment
- Majority of the network functions to be virtualized
- Upgrade will enable Thuraya to offer wide-ranging 4G and 5G services to subscribers in the near future with its Next Generation System and Platforms

Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2 July 2020: United Arab Emirates-based mobile satellite services operator Thuraya has signed an agreement with Ericsson (NASDAQ: ERIC) for a [core network](#) modernization and upgrade to a 4G and 5G ready infrastructure. Ericsson will modernize and optimize Thuraya's network to a virtualized core that supports existing and new features and services in the future. The deal will ensure that Thuraya can continue to offer its users the best possible user experience in the most efficient way.

Ericsson will also migrate the existing Thuraya users to the new platform and oversee its integration with existing systems. The operator's mobile-data users, especially those in remote locations or areas where traffic is dense, will benefit from higher availability and reliability.

As a result, Thuraya can provide consumers more flexible and easy-to-use communication services integrated with various terminals, which will work seamlessly when they move between different access points.

Adnan Al Muhairi, Deputy Chief Technical Officer of Thuraya stated: "By modernizing Thuraya's core network, we are looking to build its resilience and enhance overall performance. This would also improve other key aspects like guaranteeing more flexible, reliable and effective services. Our strategy is to make optimum use of existing assets and invest in infrastructure upgrades so that the network is ready to accommodate Thuraya's Next Generation System. We have a longstanding partnership with Ericsson and acknowledge them as a leader in deploying new technologies to enable high-quality mobile broadband solutions."

By selecting Ericsson for the modernization of its existing mobile-core, Thuraya extends its existing partnership, in which Ericsson has been the sole vendor for its circuit-switched core network.

Wojciech Bajda, Head of Ericsson Gulf Council Countries says: "Ericsson and Thuraya have enjoyed many years of successful cooperation, and we are committed to support in further



strengthening our partner's position and support them to introduce 4G and 5G ready core, allowing its users to enjoy the benefits of 4G and 5G technology in the future. Thuraya's upgrade to a virtualized core, will certainly provide a higher-quality experience for end users while streamlining their network operations.”

The upgrade will include deployment of virtual Evolved Packet Core Network, using network functions virtualization, including Ericsson Cloud Packet Core, Cloud Unified Data Management and Ericsson NFVI. The Virtual Evolved Packet Core will provide the capacity and flexibility to cope with network evolution challenges. For the network management aspects, Ericsson Network Manager is deployed to manage the virtual network functions which will secure the automation and provide operational efficiency when managing the network.

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About Thuraya Telecommunications Company

Thuraya, is the mobile satellite services subsidiary of the Al Yah Satellite Communications Company (Yahsat), a leading global satellite operator based in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), fully owned by Mubadala Investment Company. Established in 1997, Thuraya offers innovative communications solutions to a variety of sectors including maritime, energy, government, broadcast media, military, aerospace and humanitarian NGO.

Thuraya's superior network enables clear communications and uninterrupted coverage across two-thirds of the globe by MSS, global VSAT coverage and around the world through its unique GSM roaming capabilities. The company's diverse range of technologically advanced and dependable mobile satellite handsets and broadband devices provide ease of use, value, quality and efficiency. Through relevant partnerships, Thuraya stays ahead by delivering solutions and supporting applications that meet the rapidly transforming nature of market demands. Thuraya remains committed to keeping everyone within reach in any circumstance by making accessible the essential tools required for vital connectivity.

For more information, please visit www.thuraya.com

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About Ericsson

Ericsson enables communications service providers to capture the full value of connectivity. The company's portfolio spans Networks, Digital Services, Managed Services, and Emerging Business and is designed to help our customers go digital, increase efficiency and find new revenue streams. Ericsson's investments in innovation have delivered the benefits of telephony and mobile broadband to billions of people around the world. The Ericsson stock is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm and on Nasdaq New York. www.ericsson.com