#### BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT TO REMOTE CENTRES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

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# **BRIEF INTRODUCTION**

- Broadband services in SI started in June 2004
- Prior to that period we were only using dial-up Internet connection.
- There were less than 100 dial-up customers then.
- First Broadband customers:
  - Government Ministries who were given grace trial period of 4 weeks.
- To promote our new Broadband service we have to knock on the door!
- Today the demand for Broadband services grew from the Provincial centres to the most remote villages as different economic activities emerges – eg. Tourism and eLearning.



### Solomon Islands



### **BASIC OVERVIEW BROADBAND SERVICE DEPLOYMENT – REMOTE SITES**



Huawei - UA5000 Switch - Broadband Interface

# SATELLITE SERVICES USED

- DOMSAT
- VSAT
- iDirect



### DOMSAT



## VSAT



# iDirect



PCs

Customer premises Our Telekon

## CHALLENGES

Some of the challenges we faced when deploying broadband services to the remote islands includes:

- High cost of Satellite Bandwidth
- Geographical settings of the islands
- Weather conditions
- Poor infrastructure development in the country
- Very little Market base



# FUTURE

1. O3B – Fibre in the Sky

Solution for slow connectivity in the rural areas.

#### 2.FIBRE OPTIC SUBMARINE CABLE

- INTERNATIONAL Route:
  - Sydney Australia to Honiara, Solomon Is.
- DOMESTIC Route:
  - Honiara to Noro (Western Province)
  - Honiara to Auki (Malaita Province)



# FUTURE..... (cont)

#### **INTERNATIONAL** Route:

Sydney Australia to Honiara, Solomon Is.





# FUTURE......(cont.)

#### **DOMESTIC** Route:

- Honiara to Noro (Western Province)
- Honiara to Auki (Malaita Province)



# CONCLUSION

- From the humble inception in 2004, the broadband services has become a great demand for the populace in Solomon Islands and this has placed Our Telekom under a lot of pressure to continue to deliver and meet customer demand with quality output.
- Although the geographical layout of the islands makes it the biggest challenge to provide quality broadband services, Our Telekom is committed and continues to invest in new Technologies that offers cheaper but quality broadband services.
- With the highly anticipated undersea Fibre Optic cable operational before 2017, the limited broadband services to the remote islands in the Solomon Islands will be a thing of the past!



# THANK YOU!!



