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CWC TO UPGRADE BAHAMAS SUB-SEA CABLE NETWORK

- **US\$4 million investment**

Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC) is upgrading and expanding its sub-sea cable network in The Bahamas paving the way for the launch of a range of new broadband-enabled services.

CWC, which trades in The Bahamas as The Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC), will invest US\$4 million to upgrade the Bahamas Domestic Submarine Network International (BDSNi) fibre optic network.

The 3,500 kilometre sub-sea cable network connects more than 20 Bahamian islands between New Providence, the country's most populated island, and Haiti. The network is a vital link for the country's outer islands, known as the 'Family Islands', delivering broadband and fixed line services. By upgrading and extending the network the company will increase the number of ways it can route telecoms traffic, improving the network resilience in the event of damage to any part of the cable.

In addition, the upgrade will facilitate the delivery of faster, more cost-effective broadband to the islands it reaches. Over time, this will enable residents of the Family Islands to receive broadband-enabled services not available previously such as internet shopping, online education and telemedicine.

CWC is currently introducing similar 'social telecoms' (telecoms-enabled public services) to New Providence. The company has recently installed a telemedicine lab at a local hospital and is in the process of building a CCTV network.

The upgrade of BDSNi will be undertaken by Huawei Marine Optix and will be completed by the end of 2014.

Geoff Houston, Chief Executive of BTC commented:

"Though it is unseen, our sub-sea cable network is a vital part of our ability to provide new products and services across the islands of The Bahamas which contribute to the social and economic development of our communities."

About Cable & Wireless Communications

Cable & Wireless Communications is a full-service communications business. We operate leading communications businesses offering mobile, broadband and domestic and international fixed line services in most of our markets as well as pay TV, data centre and hosting, carrier and managed service solutions. Our operations are focused on providing our customers - consumers, businesses, governments - with world-class service. We are the market leader in most products we offer and territories we serve. For more information visit www.cwc.com.

About BTC

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) is the leading telecoms operator in The Bahamas. We are jointly owned by Cable & Wireless Communications (51%) and the Government of The Bahamas (49%). Cable & Wireless Communications has both management and Board control.

We are the exclusive mobile operator in The Bahamas, as well as a leading provider of fixed-line, broadband services, enterprise and carrier services.

We are a significant investor into the Bahamian community, supporting organisations such as the Bahamas Association of Athletics Associations (BAAA) and organising events such as the annual BTC Blood Drive and BTC Starmaker contest.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.btcbahamas.com>

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