



**5 May 2011**

## **CWC TO CREATE NEW FIBRE OPTIC CABLE SYSTEM IN MALDIVES**

Dhiraagu, Cable & Wireless Communications' (CWC) business in the Maldives, has commissioned a new submarine fibre optic cable network system which will run north to south across the 90,000 square kilometre country.

The Dhiraagu Domestic Submarine Cable Network (DDSCN) will provide high speed internet access across the country's 200 inhabited islands, increasing the number of households which can access broadband. It will also help Dhiraagu to provide social telecom services (telecoms enabled public services) like e-health, telemedicine and e-government services.

The 1,017 km length fibre optic submarine cable will be installed by the NEC Corporation. It is expected to be operational by mid-2012.

Tony Rice, the Chief Executive of Cable & Wireless Communications, commented:

"Dhiraagu is investing to enable consumers in all islands of the Maldives to enjoy high speed internet and modern telecommunication facilities. This, in turn, will provide opportunities for the development of the Maldives economy and will enable more public services to be provided online."

CWC provides submarine capacity to over 60 countries across the globe.

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### **About the Maldives**

The Maldives has a population of approximately 390,000 people. Its economy is principally driven by high-end tourism, with more than 100 resorts, each of which occupies its own island. The development of its tourist industry has buoyed The Maldives economy which has achieved an estimated average GDP growth rate of 6% during the 2000-2010 period.

### **About Cable & Wireless Communications**

Cable & Wireless Communications is a global full-service communications business. We operate leading communications businesses through four regional units – the Caribbean, Panama, Macau and Monaco & Islands. Our services include 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](http://www.cwc.com).

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