

Swisscom selects Ericsson as strategic supplier for Gigabit LTE and 5G

+++ Swisscom and Ericsson reaffirm their long-standing, strategic partnership by continuing to drive innovation in Gigabit LTE and 5G +++ Ericsson to provide complete digital transformation of Swisscom's network to nationwide Gigabit LTE and deployment of 5G +++ Transformation includes the deployment of Ericsson's full stack telco cloud solution with network slicing technologies, and 5G portfolio offering with Massive MIMO

Swisscom, the leading telecommunications provider in Switzerland, has selected Ericsson (NASDAQ: ERIC) for complete digital transformation and evolution of its entire network to deploy nationwide Gigabit LTE from 2018, and 5G from 2020.

The deployment of Swisscom's Gigabit LTE and 5G network will enable the operator to take their customer's mobile broadband experience to new heights. This includes accelerating the development of innovative enterprise use cases built on Massive Machine Type Communication (MTC) and Critical MTC in fields such as factory automation, smart grids, intelligent mobility and digital health.

Under the terms of the new deal, Ericsson will continue to transform Swisscom's mobile operations using its full stack telco cloud solution including network slicing capabilities that address the cost, efficiency, and flexibility requirements of the future. The evolution of the network will provide increased capacity and ultra-low latency while also enabling Industry 4.0 for Switzerland.

In summer 2017, Swisscom and Ericsson [demonstrated applications](#) based on 5G network slicing and NB-IoT which will empower the digital transformation of enterprise processes and fulfill critical communication needs. Together with the introduction of Gigabit LTE and 5G, these technologies are strengthening the competitiveness of the Swiss economy and will drive the digitization of the country.

Heinz Herren, CIO and CTO at Swisscom says: "We would like to offer the best network to our customers in Switzerland – today and in the future. That's why we invest massively in the latest mobile network technologies such as Gigabit LTE and 5G. Ericsson is a true leader in 5G technology and I am convinced that together, we will achieve our goal to deliver greater innovation and provide customers with the best experiences."

Arun Bansal, Senior Vice President and Head of Europe and Latin America at Ericsson, says: “This agreement is a prime example of our leadership in 5G and will take our partnership with Swisscom to the next level. Swisscom has been leading all generations of mobile technologies – from 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G development – in partnership with us, and now they will continue to lead the market with Gigabit LTE and 5G deployment. 5G is enabling new market opportunities for operators, industries and society as a whole. With its ambitious 5G rollout plans, Swisscom is seizing this opportunity.”

Investing in a digital Switzerland

Ericsson and Swisscom are already working intensively on an upgrade of the network to achieve speeds that will exceed 1 Gbps. The first sites will be upgraded in 11 Swiss cities by the end of 2017. The common goal is to provide ever increasing speeds to the entire population of Switzerland. In addition, customers will also benefit from a boost in network capacity. The nationwide Swisscom 4G network already covers 60 percent of the population with speeds of 450 Mbps and 80 percent with speeds of 300 Mbps.

This latest news is the culmination and true commercialization of the two companies' [5G for Switzerland](#) program activities. Under the program, Ericsson, Swisscom and EPFL (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne) have been working with industry partners to develop and trial industrial applications with 5G and the Internet of Things (IoT).

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About Ericsson

Ericsson is a world leader in communications technology and services with headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. Our organization consists of more than 111,000 experts who provide customers in 180 countries with innovative solutions and services. Together we are building a more connected future where anyone and any industry is empowered to reach their full potential. Net sales in 2016 were SEK 222.6 billion (USD 24.5 billion). The Ericsson stock is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm and on NASDAQ in New York. Read more on www.ericsson.com.