

Guyana and Suriname to invest \$60 million in phone cable

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Global Marine Systems, Ltd., the largest independent provider of submarine cable installation, maintenance and related engineering services in the world, announced today the award of a contract by Telecommunicatiebedrijf Suriname (Telesur) / Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Co (GT&T) for the supply and installation of a 1,240km repeatered submarine system, connecting Trinidad to Guyana and Suriname. In a statement issued by the President of Guyana, His Excellency President Bharrat Jagdeo, it was indicated that he welcomes the signing of the agreement between the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Co. Ltd and Telesur of Suriname. The Government expects that the new cable will positively impact the growth and development of the telecommunications sector in Guyana and will consequently influence the growth and development of the economic and social wellbeing of the country as a whole.

Working with Huawei Marine Networks (HMN), its joint venture with Huawei Technologies, Global Marine will undertake the installation of HMN's next generation repeaters. The system design utilises HMN's cutting edge optical transmission and OptiX BWS 1600S SLTE product which in recent years, has enjoyed significant success in submarine system upgrades.

"In recognition of the tight delivery deadline required to deliver this much-needed capacity to our customers and the complex marine environment we chose a supplier uniquely capable of demonstrating an installation track record and a commitment to deliver." said Major General (ret'd) Joseph Singh, CEO/GM of GT&T. The solution chosen provides a cost-effective solution that utilises the highest levels of system protection and a suite of equipment from suppliers we can trust."

"Global Marine's solution is accepted as the benchmark for excellence in terms of marine installation. We chose them based on their experience, coupled with the innovative and leading edge technology that their strategic partner, Huawei Technologies is able to offer and their proven ability to deliver to spec, meeting a very tight deadline."

"Together with the team from Huawei Marine, we are able to provide Telesur/GT&T with a cost effective, turn-key solution, for the design, supply and delivery of this submarine system. Together with future upgrade requirements, we have clearly demonstrated our ability to reduce the total cost of ownership for our customers," said Gabriel Ruhan, CEO of Global Marine Systems and Vice Chairman of Huawei Marine Networks.

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