

## bmobile-vodafone selects SpeedCast to enhance mobile services to the villagers of the Solomon Islands

SpeedCast deploys a cellular backhaul solution to upgrade bmobile-vodafone network in the Western

Province of the Solomon Islands

**Solomon Islands, 24 May 2016:** <u>SpeedCast International Limited</u> (ASX: SDA), a leading global satellite communications and network service provider, today announced it has been selected by bmobile-vodafone Solomon Islands ("bmobile-vodafone") to upgrade its cellular backhaul network to support 3G data services in the Solomon Islands.

SpeedCast's solution will support the upgrade of the existing 2G services to a new mobile 3G network for the three main urban areas of the Western Province on the Solomon Islands, known for their fishing, factories, tourism and logging trades. This new network will double the current capacity to support 2G and 3G voice and data services for these industries and the local population. To further enhance the mobile data experience, SpeedCast is deploying this service through a high throughput, low latency O3b network, which has been used for all data services on the island since 2014.

This network upgrade comes as the demand for new 3G data services in the Solomon Islands has increased significantly over the last year. SpeedCast's cellular backhaul solution will ensure bmobile-vodafone will be able to respond to these increasing data requirements, offering businesses and consumers of the Western Province an unprecedented user experience. Future network upgrades are expected in order to keep up with the increasing cellular data traffic.

"SpeedCast's solution greatly met our requirements when looking to upgrade our network to 3G in response to an increasing demand for 3G data services from businesses in the more remote areas," said Niall Downey, CEO, bmobile-vodafone Solomon Islands. "Our long term goal is to upgrade the whole network to IP in 2016 and thereby make the network LTE-ready by the end of the year."

"SpeedCast is delighted to have been selected by bmobile-vodafone Solomon Islands to support the mobile 3G network expansion," commented PJ Beylier, CEO of SpeedCast. "This work demonstrates SpeedCast's commitment to providing cellular operators with best-in-class and innovative satellite communications that will make a strong positive impact on their end users."

SpeedCast's cellular backhaul suite of solutions, under the CelCast<sup>™</sup> name, are designed to optimize satellite traffic in telecommunication environments, lowering the Total Cost of Ownership and bringing unrivalled quality of service to its customers' networks. Recent successes in Indonesia and Myanmar have demonstrated SpeedCast's technology leadership in the region.

For more information about bmobile-vodafone, please visit <a href="http://www.bmobile.com.sb">http://www.bmobile.com.sb</a>.

For more information about SpeedCast, please visit www.speedcast.com.

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About bmobile-vodafone

bmobile SI Ltd is one of GSM operators in the Solomon Islands. It was launched in Honiara on the 31st of August 2010. Recently bmobile partnered with Vodafone, a global leader in telecommunication, and is committed to providing quality, cost effective and cheaper GSM services and products to the people of Solomon Islands.

bmobile-vodafone currently operates in four provinces across the country, namely Guadalcanal, Malaita, Western, & Central Province and is rolling out its mobile network to the other provinces in the coming years. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.bmobile.com.sb">http://www.bmobile.com.sb</a>.

Social Media: Facebook

## **About SpeedCast International Limited**

SpeedCast International Limited (ASX: SDA) is a leading global satellite communications and network service provider, offering high-quality managed network services in over 90 countries and a global maritime network serving customers worldwide. With a worldwide network of 40 sales and support offices and 39 teleport operations, SpeedCast has a unique infrastructure to serve the requirements of customers globally. With over 5,000 links on land and at sea supporting mission critical applications, SpeedCast has distinguished itself with a strong operational expertise and a highly efficient support organization. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.speedcast.com">www.speedcast.com</a>.

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