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STOCK EXCHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

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Chorus Q3 FY20 Connections Update

The Q3 period saw the COVID-19 lockdown, from 25 March, confirm the utility role of fixed line broadband.

Monthly average data usage for March grew to 346GB, up 18% from 293GB in December;

- copper broadband usage grew to 225GB vs 429GB for fibre users, and
- the COVID-19 lockdown is reinforcing the value of unlimited datacaps, with 103GB average usage in just the last week of March, while two-way services such as video conferencing drove 85% greater upload usage during daytime.

Broadband connections grew 4k in Chorus UFB and rural areas, while total broadband connections reduced by 4k to 1,202,000 (Q2 FY20: no change; Q3 FY19: +5k);

- fibre demand remained strong with 32k connections added (Q2 FY20: +36k) despite COVID-19 impacts (i.e. fewer returning students and reduced installations during lockdown in late March),
- strong growth in 1Gbps connections to 105k (Q2: 87k), now 15% of mass market fibre connections, and
- UFB uptake rose from 56% to 58% and fibre was extended past 13,000 more customers.

Total fixed line connections declined by 13k to 1,419,000 (Q2 FY20: -12k; Q3 FY19: -14k)

- copper voice line reductions continued to moderate in Q3 (Q3 -8k; Q2 -12k).

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ENDS

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