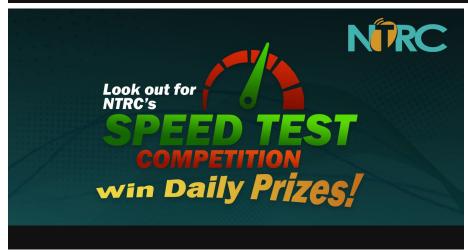


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### NTRC to host Broadband **Speed Test Competition**

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) will be hosting a speed test competition which is scheduled to begin on August 21, 2017 and run until August 25, 2017. To enter the competition, a person must use the Ookla speed test app on any internet enabled device to run a speed test and share their results to the NTRC via email ntrc@ntrc.vc. They will also be required to indicate their location and the broadband package that they are paying for. As an incentive for entering, winners will be selected daily to win various prizes. The prizes to be won are as follows: Monday—\$150.00 body massage at Bamboo spa; Tuesday— \$100 Book voucher from Gaymes Book Store; Wednesday—\$100 Grocery voucher from Bonadie's Supermarket; Thursday-Electricity Bill Payment up to \$150.00; and Friday-Internet Bill Payment up to \$150.00.

The competition was designed to gather data on the broadband speeds that subscribers are receiving around the country in relation to the internet package they are paying for. This initiative is being done noting the numerous complaints that subscribers are making on social media platforms such as Facebook.



### What is Sharenting?

Sharenting is a term used to describe the overuse of social media by parents to share content based on their children. It is related to the concept of "too much information". There is an ongoing debate as to how parents can balance their right to share with their child's interest in privacy. Pediatricians are starting to consider how sharenting affects childhood, well-being and family life.

In extreme forms, parental sharing of their children's information has led to a phenomenon labeled "digital kidnapping", whereby children's photos and details have been appropriated by others who promote such kids as being their own children. Research has shown that millions of innocent photographs, end up on paedophilic and hebephilic websites.



#### Canouan Resident wins NTRC's **Instagram Contest**

Mr. Kenrife Matthias, a resident of the southern Grenadine island of Canouan is now a proud owner of a Samsung Tab compliments the Galaxy National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC). Mr. Matthias entered the competition by following the NTRC on Instagram, liking the contest photo then reposting with the tag #NTRCSVG and tagging ten of their friends. The contest was held as part of the NTRC's public awareness plan for 2017 to improve its audience and engagement on its social media platforms.

Source: NTRC



### 13th Caribbean Internet Internet Governance Society Forum (Remote

The St. Vincent and Grenadines Chapter of the Internet Society will be hosting a remote hub of the 13th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF), which will take place from August 21-23, 2017.

The forum is designed to be informal, inclusive and nonhierarchical, being open to Government policy makers, regulators, public and private sector organisations, telecommunications operators, Internet service providers, academic institutions, Internet stakeholders and civil society Internet users.

The 13th CIGF will assess the status and effectiveness of the new thrust, being pursued since 2014, to enhance Internet governance expertise and capacity at the national level in the Caribbean.

To register and get more information about this event, click here.



### **ECTEL Managing Director retires**

Outgoing Managing Director of the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL) Mr. Embert Charles, is projecting a robust and sustainable framework for consumer protection and empowerment for the multi-state telecommunications regulator.

Charles who retires from his position as ECTEL Managing Director after serving nine years, also looks forward to what he describes as, "greater utilization of the collective competences and experiences of the regulatory team at the NTRCs and ECTEL."

During his tenure as Managing Director, Charles oversaw the development of: new legislative tools to manage the electronic communications sector including a draft electronic communications bill (EC Bill) and regulations on consumer protection and universal service among others; a cadre of regulatory technocrats in the ECTEL Member States who have acquired expert competences through formal training programmes and exposure to policy matters at regional and international fora; and increased awareness of telecommunications quality of service matters by consumers.

Mr. Andrew Millet, a national of Grenada, is replacing Charles as Acting Managing Director for a period of three months, in the first instance. Millet has over 27 years' experience in the private sector in the fields of telecommunications engineering and management. In June 2014, he joined ECTEL as the Director of Technical Services, with responsibilities which include the management of spectrum, numbering, licensing and as a member of the regulatory team.

Millet holds a Masters' Degree in Telecommunications from Coventry University in the UK. Over the next three months, he expects the main focus to be on enacting of the draft Electronic Communications Bill and issuance of new operating licences, charting a strategic plan for the 2017/18 financial year; and launching of a new spectrum management and monitoring system for **ECTEL Member States.** 

Source: ECTEL

### St. Lucian Community launches Taiwan Sponsored ICT Access Centre



H.E. Douglas C.T. Shen was invited by Hon. Dr. Gale Rigobert, Minister for Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable

Development, St. Lucia to attend the official

launching ceremony of Micoud ICT Access Centre on August 2, 2017.

Ambassador Shen congratulated the people of the Micoud community for having a newly built ICT Centre and said that "the Centre was completed on June last year which the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) contributed over 2 million EC dollars to the process. Today, I am more than happy to witness the official launching of the Centre, which will change the lifestyle of the Micoud people for the better."

Hon. Dr. Gale Rigobert thanked the generosity of the government and people of Taiwan and called on the community to cherish the resource and make good use of the ICT facility for education purpose.

Ambassador Shen also noted that several ICT projects have been successfully accomplished under the joint cooperation of Saint Lucia and Taiwan, among which are the Advanced Transport Licensing Authority System (ATLAS), Crime Management System, Agriculture Resource System and Civil Registry System. The Digitisation Centre and 311 Contact Centre will be completed next year. Moreover, a total of 70 WI-FI hot spots will be established before the end of this year under the bilateral GiNet Project, providing citizens and visitors of St. Lucia with affordable and high quality internet service.

The Micoud Community ICT Access Centre will provide local people with linkage to the internet and computer-based services. It will also support education and training functions for the communities, providing low cost access to IT tutoring programs.

Source: St. Lucia Times via ICT Pulse

## Caribbean Organized Developers & Entrepreneurs "Enhancing Caribbean Innovation"



Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 24th July, 2017 - On July 16th-19th, 2017 CANTO, DSS and PIEDATA hosted their 3rd Annual CANTO C.O.D.E 3.0 Coding Competition at the Hardrock Hotel and Casino, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

This year they decided to take a different approach to CANTO C.O.D.E and it was indeed a winning one. "Our aim, like always, is to bring the best developers and designers from the Caribbean together to ignite innovation. However, this time around, we wanted to go full circle in developing a tangible product that can be sold on the local, regional and international markets", said Sergio Pengel CEO of PIEDATA.

Applicants were incubated for a one-month development process, which involved a Virtual Hackathon, Pre-Acceleration Stage and a final stage of Growth Hacking. "What we have realized through this entire process is that, once a gateway has been created for Caribbean youth to shine there are no boundaries to their success", Shamir Saddler CTO and Hack Coach of PIEDATA.

The end goal for PIEDATA is to promote Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technology within the Caribbean and among the youth of the Caribbean. Through this competition PIEDATA is pleased to announce the success of two "Caribbean Made" innovative products, SONAR and WAWA. SONAR is a social disaster and emergency communication management platform that enables quick response and efficient communication before, during and after an event and which was developed by the winners of the Hackathon, LXJ Code from Belize.

Capturing second place was team Goombay Smash from Bahamas who developed WAWA application that analyzes the tone of customer feedback and provides businesses with actionable insights geared towards protecting customer retention and brand reputation.

Source: CANTO

### M1 launches Singapore NB-IoT network

Telecommunications
Provider, M1 has
commercially launched
its nationwide
Narrowband Internet of
Things (NB-IoT)
network across



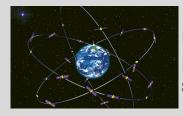
Singapore, along with Keppel Electric that is piloting an energy management meter on the platform.

The launch came a year after the Singapore telco first unveiled plans to build the network in partnership with Nokia, touting it as a more efficient way to support IoT communications. Such M2M (machine-to-machine) communications were low-bandwidth, needed robust indoor penetration, and had low power consumption.

M1 CEO Karen Kooi said the launch would "accelerate" Singapore's journey as a digital society, with IoT creating new opportunities and innovation. "We look forward to working closely with government agencies, technology partners, and customers to enable smart solutions for everything and everyone," Kooi said in a statement on Monday, August 7, 2017.

Keppel Electric already had hopped onboard to pilot an energy management meter on M1's IoT network. The deployment was expected to allow Keppel to roll out power and water meters to customers' premises more quickly and cost effectively. The meters also would enable commercial, industrial, and residential customers to monitor their energy usage.

Source: Zdnet



# Four parties to bring GNSS positioning services to Mass Markets.

Bosch, Geo++, Mitsubishi Electric and blox (SIX:UBXN) on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 announced the creation of Sapcorda Services GmbH, a joint venture that will bring high precision Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) positioning services to mass market applications. The four parties recognized that existing solutions for GNSS positioning services do not meet the needs of emerging high precision GNSS mass markets. As a result, they decided to join forces to facilitate the establishment of a worldwide available and affordable solution for System Integrators, OEMs and receiver manufacturers. Each partner brings its unique expertise to the joint venture Sapcorda Services.

Sapcorda will offer globally available GNSS positioning services via internet and satellite broadcast and will enable accurate GNSS positioning at centimeter level. The services are designed to serve high volume automotive, industrial and consumer markets. The real time correction data service will be delivered in a public, open format and is not bound to receiver hardware or systems. More information will be made available later this year.

"We are looking forward to collaborating with our partners in this joint venture. Together, we want to create a GNSS positioning service that fully supports the requirements for positioning sensors in the automotive sector. Only with built-in safety and the highest levels of precision will we be able to make automated driving reality," says Jumana Al-Sibai, member of the executive management of the Chassis Systems Control division of the Robert Bosch GmbH.

Source: <u>U-blox</u>



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