

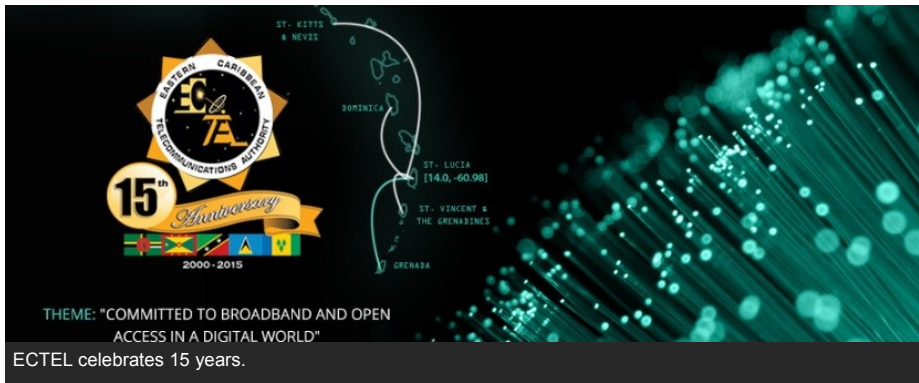


THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY COMMISSION

ICT NEWSLETTER

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Cyber Ethics



Cyber-ethics is the discipline of using appropriate and ethical behaviors and acknowledging moral duties and obligations pertaining to online environments and digital media. Here are some ethical cyber tips to consider:

Demonstrate appropriate strategies for avoiding plagiarism (e.g., quoting, citing, acknowledging source and/or paraphrasing).

Make informed choices about acceptable use of technology, technology systems, digital media, and information technology when confronted with usage dilemmas.

Exhibit responsibility and Netiquette (i.e., appropriate digital communication skills) when communicating digitally.

Understand that content posted to the Web or sent through other digital means (e.g., cell phone or camera) is accessible to a wide audience and can be permanently archived.

Demonstrate and advocate for ethical and legal behaviors among peers, family, and community.

ECTEL Celebrates 15 Years

The Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority began its 15th Anniversary celebration on May 11, 2015 with a two day conference at the Bay Gardens Resort, Gros Islet, Rodney Bay St. Lucia.

The Theme of the conference was “Committed to Broadband and Open Access in a Digital World”. Topics that were addressed during the two-day event included Broadband Development in the Caribbean; Contributions and Obligations of Service Providers to Broadband and ICT policies and plans; Regional Collaboration in Broadband and Open Access; Broadband and Internet Neutrality and the vision for ICT in the OECS. OECS Ministers as well as other regional and international telecommunications delegates were in attendance. The Fifteenth Anniversary Conference coincided with the ECTEL Council of Ministers Meeting, on May 13, 2015.

Prime Minister, Hon. Dr. Kenny D. Anthony was the feature Speaker at the Opening Ceremony on Monday, May 11, 2015. During his remarks, the Prime Minister honoured those he described as “warriors of liberalization” for fighting and toiling for the formation of ECTEL and reflected on the journey to achieving the liberalization of the telecommunications industry.

During the conference, there were various speakers from the region including, Mr. Apollo Knights, Director of NTRC, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Mr. Knights spoke on the topic “Emerging Technologies & Services, Opportunities and Challenges. Mr. Knights said the current state of technology is cloud and software driven in this era where there is more network connectivity. He indicated these emerging technologies bring challenges to service providers in supporting these technologies. On closing his presentation, Mr. Knights gave the following points as recommendations on the way forward:

- We have to make change a routine task just like annual budgets in our institutions.
- We need to involve, educate and empower the youth within an enabling environment of relevant resources and have them provide the disruption.
- We need regional and national Broadband plans as soon as possible.

ECTEL was established on May 4, 2000 by Treaty signed in St. George’s, Grenada by the Governments of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. ECTEL is the regulating body for telecommunications in its Member States and the world’s only multi-state telecommunications regulator.

Source: NTRC

Promotions for the NTRC's 3rd Annual Ideas and Innovation Competition are underway



Ms. Shanka Edwards (USF Project Officer) at NTRC speaking to a student about the i² competition.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) has started its promotion for its 3rd Annual Ideas and Innovation Competition (i² Competition). The Commission has visited several schools that have never participated to get an opportunity to speak to students about the nature of the competition and how they can benefit from participating. Students were also enlightened about the various prizes available and plan to start brainstorming ideas for entering the competition. Registration for the competition is scheduled to be opened on September 10, 2015 and closes October 9, 2015.

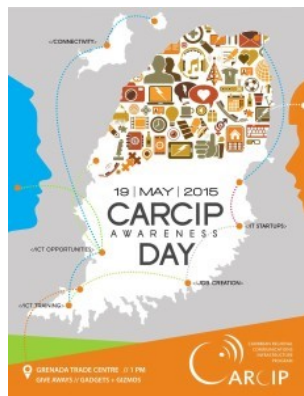
The NTRC's i² competition is intended to give students an opportunity to change the world by using their imagination and creativity to showcase their inclination towards innovation. The Competition encourages students from various secondary and tertiary institutions to put forward ideas that can implement new systems or improve systems in the departments within the public service of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and other state agencies that provide services to the public. Such improvements can lead to cost savings or result in a faster delivery of service provided by the departments.

Students can win up to EC\$3,500 in prizes and the school with most entries can win EC\$1,000.

The NTRC also visits these schools to educate students about the function of the NTRC, projects implemented by the Universal Service Fund and Cyber Security related matters.

Source: NTRC

Grenada launches business grants for innovators and entrepreneurs at CARCIP Awareness Day



Innovators and entrepreneurs in Grenada can now benefit from a suite of new grant funding opportunities.

The Grenada Ministry of Communications, Works, Physical Development, Public Utilities, ICT and Community Development launched the business grants and outline the application process at an event

called CARCIP Awareness Day.

"Innovative firms and individual drive new products, processes and services that create growth and employment. Innovation boosts productivity, which is the key to faster economic growth and rising living standards," said Alice Bain, who coordinates the Caribbean Regional Communications Infrastructure Program (CARCIP) in Grenada.

The Grenada government, through CARCIP, has promoted collaboration between industry experts, the private sector and government to generate new opportunities for technology-enabled businesses.

Held at the Grenada Trade Centre Annex on May 19, the event started with an opening ceremony at 9.30 am, and continued with interactive sessions throughout the afternoon. A slate of technology experts shared perspectives on the potential of telecommunications technology to transform regional business, government and society.

"Technology is a cross cutting sector and has implications for all individuals and businesses. The fact is that the Internet is growing rapidly and no one should be left behind," Bain said.

The event is part of the wider ongoing effort by the Grenada government to support Internet-based economic growth, under the umbrella of CARCIP. The objective of CARCIP is to increase access to regional broadband networks and advance the development of an ICT-enabled services industry in the Caribbean Region.

Funded by the International Development Association of the World Bank and coordinated by the Caribbean Telecommunications Union, CARCIP seeks to help governments and private sector to harmonise the development of critical telecommunications infrastructure across three participating Eastern Caribbean countries—Grenada, Saint Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

Source: [Silicon Caribe](#)

ISPs sign IXP MOU in Barbados



Representatives of Cable and Wireless (Barbados) Limited; Digicel (Barbados) Limited; and Columbus Barbados signing the MOU.

Three Internet Service Providers (ISPs) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish the Barbados Internet Exchange (BARIX).

Representatives of Cable and Wireless (Barbados) Limited, Digicel (Barbados) Limited and Columbus Barbados were all signatories to the document.

Minister responsible for Telecommunications, Senator Darcy Boyce congratulated the companies on reaching consensus on the issue, noting that establishing the Barbados Internet Exchange Point (IXP) would bring great benefits to Barbados, including reduced costs, improved network capacity and cyber security.

The result of the Barbados IXP is that locally-generated internet traffic destined for local recipients will no longer have to go via the Internet Exchange Point in Miami, but will be done locally.

Boyce said that Barbados would also be able to improve the speed of communication with its Caribbean neighbours as more of them establish their own IXPs. Grenada, Haiti, Cuba, Dominica and St. Lucia are among countries which already have IXPs.

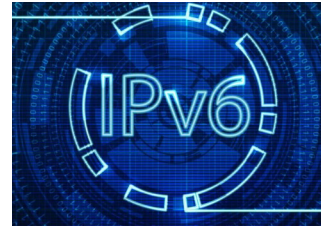
Chief Financial Officer at Cable and Wireless Patrick Hinkson described the initiative as an important step for Barbados, and promised that customers would experience vastly improved connectivity.

Niall Sheehy, Managing Director of Columbus Barbados, added that the establishment of BARIX was a major step towards positioning Barbados competitively, while Mark Linehan of Digicel said he looked forward to the advantages that BARIX would bring to Barbados.

Chief Telecommunications Officer in the Telecommunications Unit, Reginald Bourne, said the new exchange will be formally launched at the end of May 2015.

Source: [Caribbean360](#)

Caribbean among slowest in the world to adopt new Internet standard



With its high penetration, heavy consumption and hefty fees, the Caribbean provides Internet service providers (ISPs) with some of their best-paying customers. The region's Average Return Per User rates, called ARPUs, are among the world's highest.

But if you live in the Caribbean, the greatest obstacle standing between you and the next big evolution of the Internet could be that ISP you're paying so handsomely.

The next generation of the web is already here, and it's called Internet Protocol version 6, or IPv6. Internet Protocol addresses are the unique numeric addresses assigned to any device that sends or receives information over the Internet. The current protocol, IPv4, does not have the amount of address space necessary to deal with the rapidly increasing number of connected devices—smartphones, watches, tablets, laptops communicating online.

Allocation ≠ Adoption

As the stock of available IPv4 addresses approaches depletion, IPv6 deployment is being encouraged by the two regional Internet registries with responsibility for the Caribbean—the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) and the Internet Addresses Registry for Latin America and the Caribbean (LACNIC). In a pair of exclusive interviews with the Guardian, top officials from ARIN and LACNIC discussed Caribbean ISP's slow rate IPv6 deployment.

Leslie Nobile, Senior Director of Global Registry Knowledge at ARIN, told the Guardian that about 43% of ARIN's Internet Service Provider (ISP) members in the Caribbean had already received their IPv6 allocations. That figure compares well with the percentage of allocations already given to ARIN's U.S. and Canadian ISP members, about 47%.

However, LACNIC chief technology officer Carlos Martinez told the Guardian that, compared to their North American neighbours, Caribbean ISPs have been relatively slow to actually deploy the new technology. Studies on Internet traffic show a global average IPv6 adoption rate of around five per cent, while the region lags at less than one per cent, he said.

Source: [Guardian](#) via [ICT Pulse](#)

China to spend over £100bn to boost internet by end of 2017

China will spend more than \$182bn (£117bn, €163bn) to boost internet speeds by end-2017, a top government body has said.

The government will invest more than CN¥430bn (\$69.3bn) this year on network construction, according to the State Council, with at least another CN¥700bn spent over the following two years.

The aim is to expedite the development of fibre optic broadband and high speed 4G mobile networks, the governing body said on its website.

On 19 May, China unveiled a vision for the next stage of its economic ascent, moving from low-tech manufacturing to advanced industry in areas such as space, e-commerce, renewable energy and bioengineering by 2025.

Earlier this month, China's three state-owned wireless carriers -- China Mobile, China Unicom (Hong Kong) and China Telecom Corp -- said they will cut mobile data prices and boost data speeds this year, potentially triggering a mass migration of customers to more lucrative 4G contracts.

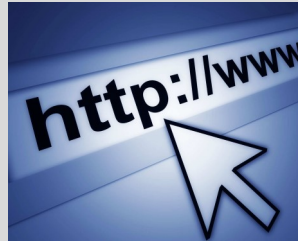
Li, addressing the opening of China's rubber-stamp parliamentary meeting in Beijing, in March, outlined China's "Internet Plus" strategy, which includes promoting cloud computing, online banking, mobile internet, along with logistics to aid e-commerce expansion.

He also stressed the need for more state investment in the internet sector.

China ranked 82nd in the world for average internet connection speed, slower than Malaysia, Thailand and Taiwan, according to cloud computing services provider Akamai's State of the Internet report for the fourth quarter of 2014.

Source: [IBTimes](#)

Nearly half of the global population will be using the internet by the end of this year



The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a United Nations body, predicts that 3.2 billion people will be online. The population currently stands at 7.2 billion.

About 2 billion of those will be in the developing world, the report added.

But just 89 million will be in countries such as Somalia and Nepal.

These are part of a group of nations described as "least developed countries" by the United Nations, with a combined population of 940 million.

There will also be more than 7 billion mobile device subscriptions, the ITU said.

It found that 78 out of 100 people in the US and Europe already use mobile broadband, and 69% of the world has 3G coverage - but only 29% of rural areas are served.

Africa lags behind with just 17.4% mobile broadband penetration.

By the end of the year 80% of households in developed countries and 34% of those in developing countries will have internet access in some form, the report continued.

The study focused on the growth of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector over the past 15 years.

In the year 2000 there were just 400 million internet users worldwide, it said - an eighth of the current figure.

"ICTs will play an even more significant role in the post 2015 development agenda and in achieving future sustainable development goals as the world moves faster and faster towards a digital society."

Source: [BBC](#)

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