

**TELSTRA: Claims 5G Home Internet averaging 378Mbps, taps Casa Systems for CPE**

**OPTUS: Debuts click and collect option for eSims**

**KALOOM: Targets Australian 5G, datacentre edge opportunities**

**10,043 opens  
yesterday\***

# COMMUNICATIONS DAY

11 May 2021

What's happening in telecoms today

ISSUE 6158

## TelSYte: Mobile SIOs fall for first time in a decade, but 5G users pass 2m

The COVID-19 pandemic reversed a decade-long streak of growing mobile subscriptions in Australia, with total mobile SIOs falling 1.7% during 2020 and likely to stay in the doldrums for two years. On the bright side, there are now more than 2m 5G connections. **EXCLUSIVE**

That's the verdict from Telsyte's latest mobile services analysis.

The decline in SIOs was mainly due to a sharp decrease in prepaid handset SIOs due to international border closures and slowed population growth, the company said in a new report.

TPG/Vodafone and Optus were hardest hit, losing 15% and 9% of their total mobile SIOs respectively, Telsyte said.

Telstra bucked the trend with a 1.5% growth in mobile SIOs, but this growth was entirely due to mobile IoT connections. Excluding these, Telsyte estimates that Telstra's total mobile base fell 4% year-on-year.

While Telsyte believes the downward trend in total SIOs will ease in 2021, with the negative impact of the loss of temporary visitors and migrants mostly having been felt in 2020, the market is still in for a turbulent two years ahead, with the market expected to remain under pressure.

"The current climate is challenging for low-margin with volume plays and it will be increasingly difficult for mobile service providers that continue to compete primarily on price," Telsyte senior analyst Alvin Lee said.

The MVNO market outperformed the MNO segment, with total SIOs growing 13% as consumers looked for cheaper deals, the report states.

"If we exclude the carriers' sub brands, the 'MVNO' segment still grew during 2020 as many Australians looked for better deals and to manage their telecom services spending," Lee told CommsDay.

"MVNOs have been successful in meeting growing demand for sub-\$40 mobile plans, especially since the pandemic and changing consumer behaviour. The segment is increasingly important to carriers and Telsyte expects carriers to capture growth through partnerships, sub-brands and acquisitions."

But Telsyte is also predicting that not all MVNOs will survive the economic downturn, with further market consolidation expected over the next two years.



PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS



# AUSTRALASIA SATELLITE FORUM 2021

**Fullerton (Westin) Hotel,  
Martin Place, Sydney  
22 & 23 JUNE 2021  
Register at [www.commsday.com](http://www.commsday.com)**



SPONSORS



The Hon Mark Coulton  
MP, Minister for  
Regional Communications



Luke Brown, Assistant  
Secretary Space Services  
from JCG, Defence



Enrico Palermo  
Head, Australian Space  
Agency



Myra Sefton, Assistant  
Secretary Space Systems  
Branch, CASG



Nick Miller,  
Director of Sales  
Satellite, Optus



Glen Tindall, CEO,  
EOS Communications  
System



Terry Bleakley,  
Regional Vice President  
Asia, Intelsat



Robert Curbeam,  
SVP, Space Capture,  
Maxar Technologies



Vivian Quenet,  
Managing Director Asia,  
Arianespace



Todd McDonnell, President,  
Global Government,  
Inmarsat



Peter Girvan,  
Vice President Asia Pacific,  
Viasat Inc



Ruth Pritchard-Kelly  
VP, Regulatory Affairs,  
Oneweb

Australasia's top satellite industry conference returns in a hybrid format: allowing in-person attendance for executives based in Australia and New Zealand and viewing via videostream for those overseas and unable to attend in person. This year's event features the above speakers as well as representatives from Geoscience Australia, ST Engineering, Vodafone Cook Islands, Hughes Network Systems, Speedcast, Telstra, DMTC, Lockheed Martin, Integrasys, Asia Pacific Aerospace Consultants, Hypersonix Launch Systems, SES Networks, Av-comm, Satsol, NSR, Airbus plus many many more.

register at [www.commsday.com](http://www.commsday.com)

Commenting on the recent trend towards Optus poaching a number of MVNO deals from Telstra, Lee said the main draw has been the opportunity to offer 5G fixed wireless services. “Telsyte anticipates more ISPs will consider 5G for home internet services in the next 12 to 18 months. as more service providers [seek] to differentiate in a challenging environment.”

Overall, Telsyte estimates that total 5G connections grew to about 2m as of the end of 2020, with adoption growing fivefold over the second half of the year as the availability of 5G handsets improved.

The research firm is predicting that by 2024, over 55% of mobile devices will be on 5G. This strong growth in adoption will be driven by improved network coverage, the pending availability of gigabit speeds over mmWave spectrum, and the launch of 5G by more MVNOs.

In addition, if 5G can deliver the anticipated gigabit speeds and providers price services competitively with the NBN, Telsyte estimates that over 1m homes could opt for fixed wireless broadband services by 2023.

“5G home internet service is increasingly critical to carriers as a new revenue stream, especially when it’s difficult to charge consumers more for 5G mobile services,” Lee said.

Dylan Bushell-Embling

## Telstra reveal more details on its 5G Home Internet plans

Telstra has revealed invitation-only 5G Home Internet’s typical evening speeds were sitting at between 50Mbps – 600Mbps, with the average from its own speed tests at around 378Mbps.

Group executive - product and technology Kim Krogh Andersen said initial customer feedback for the service was “awesome” and confirmed the telco will be expanding the service to further areas in the coming months.



“We have enough users on the network now to get an accurate look at the performance customers can expect on 5G Home Internet,” he said. “We have also been refining the service and network, bumping up average download speeds by 19%...Based on feedback from our early 5G Home Internet customers, we’re also doubling the included data each month on these plans from 500GB to 1000GB.”

Krogh Andersen said Telstra was working with Casa Systems on the next evolution of its 5G fixed wireless using mmWave technology. Specifically the carrier will utilise Casa’s AurusAI mmWave High-Power CPE featuring a compact cylindrical form-factor that is mounted on a home and hard-wired to a gateway inside the home. AurusAI was the first consumer product using the 3.8km peak millimeter wave transmission technology giving Telstra a lot of options on how it configures its towers. It also features intelligent, steerable, active beam-forming antennas that automatically scan 360 degrees each



day to identify the strongest signal in the area and lock onto that to optimise performance.

The Telstra deal is a great win for Casa which has been championing 5G mmWave since CommsDay Summit in 2019.

“We have already begun deploying 5G mmWave in selected sites in five capital cities and have achieved record-breaking download speeds using this technology in testing earlier this year,” said Krogh Andersen. “5G mmWave gives us unparalleled opportunity to provide a home broadband service over 5G which will meet the performance and capacity as everyone’s data and internet needs continue to grow.”

“Our goal is very simply to offer the right internet connection to deliver the best experience for our customers – one that is based on their needs, their location, and what technology is available to connect them,” he added.

**MOBILE PACKAGES:** Telstra has also updated its mobile broadband portfolio plans, with the largest now offering 400GB at \$85 per month, effectively replacing the previous highest plan of 200GB for \$75 per month. Now, only Telstra's \$55 per month and \$85 per month upfront mobile broadband plans include 5G network access.

Simon Dux

## **Optus debuts ‘click and connect’ prepaid plans for eSIMs**

Optus has introduced the ability for new customers with eSIM capable smartphones to sign up to the company’s Flex prepaid plans in minutes, without needing to visit a store or purchase a physical SIM.

The new ‘click and connect’ Optus Flex plan allows mobile device owners to join Optus and receive a new mobile number in just a few taps through the My Optus app. Customers will be able to choose a daily, weekly, monthly, fortnightly or monthly no lock-in plan, with prices starting at \$1 for 1GB of data per day. The app can also be used to purchase add-ons such as unlimited data days or international voice minutes.

Optus MD of marketing and revenue Matt Williams said the initiative is aimed at making it easier for new customers to sign up to Optus Flex plans.

“Creating unique customer connections is what drives us day-to-day at Optus, which is why we’re making it easier for our customers and delivering a ‘digital everywhere experience’ with the option to purchase, set up their new plan, add more data or make updates entirely within My Optus app,” he said.

“We also know that finding ways to practice sustainability and being environmentally friendly is of the utmost importance for our customers. We are keen to make these changes as simple as possible to integrate into their everyday lives, and by selecting to activate digitally, customers can save another bit of plastic from our oceans and another delivery truck on our busy roads.”

Based on the requirements of the My Optus App, the 'click and connect' service is available for all e-SIM compatible iPhones running iOS 12 or later – iPhone 11s and newer – as well as eSIM compatible devices running Android 5 or later.

While existing Optus customers are able to switch to the Optus Flex plans, they must currently speak to a customer care agent.

Dylan Bushell-Embling

## Kaloom aims to disrupt Aussie MNOs' 5G edge options

Automated datacentre networking software company Kaloom has chosen Melbourne-based RedFig Networks as its exclusive Australasian partner to target service providers building out 5G edge and cloud-native infrastructure. Montreal-based Kaloom is behind a fully programmable and automated cloud-native edge centre networking software solution that it says will disrupt how networks are built, managed and operated. **EXCLUSIVE**

Kaloom CTO Suresh Krishnan (right) told CommsDay: "Australia is very important for us given that the market has traditionally been a leader in industry adoption of new technologies and network architectures. The solution requirements from ANZ can be leveraged to other geographies around the world with these unique needs."

Faced with the need to construct 5G network infrastructure over large distances for limited populations, the cost to bring connectivity highlights the need to build out the edge and monetise new services.

"Given ANZ's unique distributed geographic network requirements and the associated costs in delivering services, it becomes imperative that the edge solution has the capacity to deliver the services required while ensuring the real estate and power requirements are as small as possible," he said. "Our unified edge solution enables providers to build this edge network while also ensuring it meets the exponential increase in traffic generated by more connected devices, number of sessions per device and types of traffic that 5G will enable."

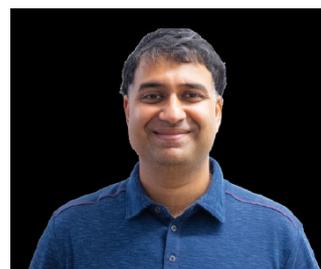
Kaloom is working with Norwegian-incumbent Telenor and RedHat in a first-carrier trial built around a multi-vendor, 5G SA core environment running on a vendor-neutral platform. The trial includes a programmable networking fabric and network/5G slicing all running under Telenor's chosen Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform. The telco will use the trial to deliver enterprise 5G services to its current and target customer base.

RedFig Networks CTO Kim Rea (right) told CommsDay that neutral platforms represented an opportunity for MNOs to embrace leading innovation in the networking space, to take advantage of the capability and low-cost approach to deploying these networks, without risking their core services.

"This enables flexibility to offer internal and external customers products and services at the datacentre or edge that current vendors might not be able to support with traditional fabrics. For example, the ability to spin up a completely isolated network slice with operational separation, to host any type of platform or application within seconds, he said.

"Kaloom's solution allows providers to consolidate their disparate networks into fewer networks, allowing them to manage those networks in more efficient, robust ways," he said. "Most importantly, while the market and other providers are talking about implementing these sorts of technologies, we're ready to deploy them right now."

"Most service providers [in Australia] we're talking to that currently run Open-



Stack platforms have told us they're planning to move to OpenShift Container Platforms in the near future," he said. "As you would expect, some customers are more advanced than others. However, we're seeing deployment on a global scale from the likes of Verizon, Telenor, STC, TELUS and Bell Canada, so it follows that the local ANZ market will also adopt the shift as customer need and demand grows...We're already working with a number of providers to showcase the technology."

**5G USER PLANE:** Krishnan said Kaloom's 5G focus is delivering: "the industry's highest performant, scalable, lowest latency and interoperable User Plane Function, while reducing total cost of ownership by 10 times."

"Thanks to containerisation, open standards, and control and user plane separation, many of the network elements that had once been part of a closed base station appliance are now disaggregated and open. This makes them scalable and more cost-effective for deployment at small cell locations," he said.

Kaloom has focused on 5G standalone networks for its initial deployments as they support the user plane separation natively.

Rea said the initial target markets will be datacentres and edge datacentre players in addition to telcos and towercos. "We see a lot of customers making the move to new containerised platforms and we're looking to underpin that move," he said.

"Mobile operators can take advantage of Kaloom's 5G User Plane Function [while] towercos can utilise Cloud Edge Fabric which provides embedded support for 5G network slicing that enables a physical edge datacentre to be partitioned into multiple independent virtual datacentres, each with their own virtual fabric."

Simon Dux

## **36% of Australian adults used telehealth in 1H20: ACMA**

More than one in three Australian adults engaged in telehealth consultations during the initial waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the Australian Communications and Media Authority.

Newly released research from the regulator, based on its consumer survey completed in June last year, found that 36% of Australian adults had taken part in a telehealth consultation in the preceding six months

Of these, 48% had used telehealth consulting for the first time and 38% increased their use of the technology.

Meanwhile 64% of respondents indicated that they had conducted at least one videoconference call during the first six months of 2020, with 23% placing such a call for the first time. Likewise, 42% had worked from home and 33% had studied from home, with 15% and 10% respectively doing so for the first time.

Other online activities also saw a significant boost during the pandemic, with 83% of Australian adults shopping online, compared to 78% during the last survey in May. Watching videos increased from 83% to 89%, banking rose from 83% to 89%, and web browsing grew from 94% to 96%.

ACMA's report asserts that the increases across most internet activities were likely driven by the initial COVID-19 lockdowns.

The report also found that 98% of Australian adults were accessing the internet

at least once per day by June 2020. The most commonly used devices for daily access were mobile phones (86%), followed by laptops (51%) tablets (43%), internet connected TVs (46%) and desktop computers (33%).

Nearly half (46%) of Australian adults accessed the internet using five or more different types of devices during the period.

Finally, the report estimates that 7.4m terabytes of data were downloaded over fixed networks in the three months to June, with 6.3m terabytes downloaded over the NBN and 1.1m terabytes on non-NBN DSL and cable networks. Total mobile data downloads grew to 0.8m terabytes, with 0.5m of this attributable to postpaid customers.

These data consumption figures are based on the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's Internet Activity Report, which uses data from the 13 CSPs required to self report under the Record Keeping Rules.

Dylan Bushell-Embling

## **Thales and Senetas partner on quantum-resistant encryption**

Thales and Australia's Senetas have announced they are collaborating on a quantum-resistant network encryption solution that they say will be able to protect customer data at speeds up to 100Gbps against future quantum attacks.

The US National Institute of Standards and Technology in 2016 issued a call for public-key cryptographic algorithms capable of resisting attacks employing quantum computers. In July 2020 NIST announced round three candidates as part of the process.

Thales and Senetas said they supported the current finalists in the NIST process including Thales' Falcon algorithm, which will enable "an easy transition to the winning formula expected to be chosen by NIST in 2022".

A statement from the company added: "The solution also supports the latest European Telecommunication Standards Institute standards for how quantum keys are created, protected and distributed – an important and emerging security capability that has application usage in 5G networks."

Senetas CEO Andrew Wilson said: "As quantum computing becomes a reality, organisations around the world should develop a quantum security strategy and start planning to implement quantum resistant encryption sooner rather than later.

"This is the first to market high-speed network encryption platform that provides quantum resistant encryption with today's encryption technology. Our government, defence and business customers can make a secure transition to a future quantum-safe world knowing data is protected for the long-term."

Rohan Pearce

## **Gartner analyst backs phased approach to network slicing**

At the end of 2020 there were 140 telcos with commercial 5G networks deployed in some 59 countries, but despite that 5G network slicing has had not progressed beyond proofs of concept, trials and limited "commercial pilot projects" due to the

limited adoption of 5G Standalone, according to Gartner analyst Susan Welsh de Grimaldo.

A research paper prepared by De Grimaldo argues that with standards for dynamic, end-to-end slicing still in flux, carriers should take a phased approach to deployment.

“The maturity level of slicing varies across network domains, and E2E dynamic slicing in a multivendor network is a key challenge being worked on to enable the full promise of network slicing in a later phase,” the Gartner analyst wrote.

“Although standards and technologies do not currently support full slicing capabilities, it is important to get started with early-stage slicing and to use a vision of what is desired in the longer term to guide progress and focus.”

The three-phased approach envisaged by De Grimaldo begins with proof of concepts and early commercial offerings — creating early wins through supporting use cases such ‘VIP’ mobile broadband, private mobile networks and fixed wireless — through to horizontal and vertical slices to support mission critical use cases, and then finally more sophisticated approaches such network slicing as a service.

“The maturity level of slicing varies across network domains, and E2E dynamic slicing in a multivendor network is a key challenge being worked on to enable the full promise of network slicing in a later phase,” De Grimaldo wrote.

“Although standards and technologies do not currently support full slicing capabilities, it is important to get started with early-stage slicing and to use a vision of what is desired in the longer term to guide progress and focus.”

The analyst cited China Unicom, China Mobile, Telefónica and Verizon as telcos that are representatives of leading practices.

Rohan Pearce

## **Geodata firm Fugro completes first phase of marine survey for Bifrost cable**

Fugro, a global geodata specialist, said it has completed the first phase of the marine site characteristic project it is carrying out for Alcatel Submarine Network on the Bifrost cable connection Singapore and North America.

According to Fugro, the transpacific route segments off the west coast of North America have now been surveyed and the project will soon continue on the Indonesia segment through the Celebes and Java seas.

Fugro is contracted by ASN, which in turn is building the cable for a consortium featuring Singapore’s Keppel, Facebook and Telin, the international arm of Telkom Indonesia.

“By delivering reliable, high-quality Geo-data in a safe and efficient manner, we are helping ASN and their customers better connect businesses and citizens across the globe,” said Fugro marine site characterisation commercial manager Malte Ceson.

The latest milestone follows a desktop study of the Bifrost system last November and is part of the ongoing geophysical and geotechnical campaign for the cable. Fugro involvement in Bifrost will span the life of the development, from initial planning and cable design to routing and installation, the company said. “Fugro’s integrated acquisition, processing and analysis capabilities are providing ASN with near

-real-time Geo-data deliverables to inform the cable manufacturing process and guide optimal cable routing and burial depth.”

Tony Chan

### **ACCC INTERVENES IN EPIC V APPLE APPEAL**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has sought leave to appear in an appeal launched by Epic Games over a Federal Court decision staying the software publisher’s case against Apple. Epic last year launched action against Apple after the iPhone-maker removed Fortnite from the iOS app store (it later launched a separate but similar case against Google). At issue was an update by Epic allowed the game’s users to bypass Apple’s in-app payment system. Last month the case was stayed after Apple successfully argued that Epic was contractually obliged to take legal disputes between the pair to courts in the Northern District of California. “The ACCC has taken the unusual step of seeking leave to appear in this appeal because the stay application raises significant public policy issues about which, as the statutory agency responsible for administering Australia’s competition law, we believe we can be of assistance to the court,” ACCC chair Rod Sims said. A report released in late April by the ACCC revealed that the regulator holds significant concerns over the app store policies of Apple and Google.

### **DXN SIGNS SISCC CONTRACT, EXTENDED SUB.CO DEAL**

DXN will supply a small prefabricated modular datacentre in Honiara, Solomon Islands as part of a circa \$350k deal with Solomon Island Submarine Cable Company Limited. The company also revealed it has signed a circa \$650k deal with Sub.Co for the civils build of the Cocos Keeling Island landing station for the Oman Australia Cable system. DXN CEO Matthew Madden said: “We are thrilled to be selected by both Sub.Co and SISCC. The contract with Sub.Co is an extension to an existing contract announced December 2020 and demonstrates the continued trust in our capability and teams’ performance in delivering. The contract with SISCC is a brand-new relationship and demonstrates how DXN’s prefabricated modular datacentre reputation continues to grow in the region. We are delighted to have SISCC as a customer for this and many projects to come.”

### **IAA PARTNERS WITH WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY WA**

The Internet Association of Australia has announced a partnership with Perth-based Women in Technology WA, a not-for-profit organisation creating a framework for women to be able to extend their knowledge of the tech industry. IAA said the objective of the partnership, which will run over two years initially, is to target women and girls as they move through their career lifecycle starting with awareness of STEM through education programs. The association said it would be sponsoring five Techtrail school ‘incursions’ over the two years. The Techtrail STEM and Future Skills Program is WiTWA’s flagship education program. “With our roots being in Western Australia, partnering with WiTWA seemed the perfect fit for IAA,” said IAA CEO, Narelle Clark.

## OVERNIGHT STOCK PRICES (ASX)

| Name                          | Ticker | Current Price(\$) | Day Change(\$) | Day Change (%) |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 5G Networks Ltd Ordinar...    | 5GN    | 1.040             | 0.010          | 0.97           |
| Aussie Broadband Ltd Or...    | ABB    | 2.870             | 0.020          | 0.70           |
| Chorus Ltd                    | CNU    | 6.030             | -0.090         | -1.47          |
| Comms Group Ltd               | CCG    | 0.076             | -0.002         | -2.56          |
| Field Solutions Holdings L... | FSG    | 0.165             | 0.000          | 0.00           |
| Hutchison Telecommunic...     | HTA    | 0.120             | 0.000          | 0.00           |
| Macquarie Telecom Group...    | MAQ    | 51.000            | -0.200         | -0.39          |
| Megaport Ltd                  | MP1    | 13.400            | 0.200          | 1.52           |
| MNF Group Ltd                 | MNF    | 5.470             | -0.030         | -0.55          |
| Nextdc Ltd                    | NXT    | 10.930            | -0.080         | -0.73          |
| Over the Wire Holdings Ltd    | OTW    | 4.710             | -0.030         | -0.63          |
| Pentanet Ltd Ordinary Sh...   | 5GG    | 0.855             | -0.065         | -7.07          |
| Spark New Zealand Ltd         | SPK    | 4.200             | -0.060         | -1.41          |
| Spirit Technology Solutio...  | ST1    | 0.368             | -0.013         | -3.29          |
| Superloop Ltd                 | SLC    | 0.995             | -0.025         | -2.45          |
| Telstra Corp Ltd              | TLS    | 3.490             | 0.020          | 0.58           |
| TPG Telecom Ltd Ordinar...    | TPG    | 5.180             | -0.250         | -4.60          |
| Uniti Group Ltd Ordinary ...  | UWL    | 2.790             | -0.050         | -1.76          |
| Vocus Group Ltd               | VOC    | 5.460             | 0.010          | 0.18           |
| Vonex Ltd                     | VN8    | 0.140             | -0.005         | -3.45          |

### About Communications Day (including the Line of NZ)

Communications Day is the telecommunications news bible of ANZ. Published daily since August 1994, CommsDay is expertly written and edited by a team of industry writers with a combined 125 years experience in telecoms across Australia, NZ, Asia, the United States and Europe. CommsDay is available by subscription only and read by up to 10,000 industry executives as well as policymakers and parliamentarians every week day.

**PUBLISHED BY DECISIVE PUBLISHING**  
Mail: PO Box 490 Milsions Point NSW 1565  
Website: [www.commsday.com](http://www.commsday.com)

THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT AND ITS CONTENT CANNOT BE REPRODUCED OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT OUR EXPRESS PERMISSION. OFFENDERS CAN BE PROSECUTED. ALL RIGHTS WILL BE EXERCISED.

#### Contacting CommsDay

Chief Editor: Simon Dux: [Simon@commsdaymail.com](mailto:Simon@commsdaymail.com)  
Executive editor: Rohan Pearce: [Rohan@commsdaymail.com](mailto:Rohan@commsdaymail.com)  
Editor at large: Tony Chan, [Tony@commsdaymail.com](mailto:Tony@commsdaymail.com)  
CEO: Grahame Lynch, [GrahameLynch@commsdaymail.com](mailto:GrahameLynch@commsdaymail.com)  
Signal for Grahame: +6141 575 6208

#### Subscription renewal inquiries:

Linda Salameh, [linda@commsdaymail.com](mailto:linda@commsdaymail.com)

#### New subscriptions, advertising and event bookings:

Amy Carswell, [amy@commsdaymail.com](mailto:amy@commsdaymail.com)

#### CommsDay Summit/Congress/Edisons sponsorship:

Veronica Kennedy-Good, [veronica@mindsharecomms.com.au](mailto:veronica@mindsharecomms.com.au)

#### Satellite Forum sponsorship:

Kevin French, [kfrench@talksatellite.com](mailto:kfrench@talksatellite.com)

DOLLAR REFERENCES IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE TO AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED. WE REFERENCE DOLLARS AS AUSTRALIAN IN ARTICLES DEALING WITH MULTINATIONAL OR MULTICURRENCY TOPICS.

## 10 YEARS AGO TODAY IN COMMSDAY

Greenfield fibre builders are looking to take their grievances of anti-competitive behaviour by NBN Co to the competition regulator and some have already lodged complaints with Australian Government Competitive Neutrality Complaints Office.

Corporate carrier Macquarie Telecom has taken steps to become a retail service provider with NBN Co but still hasn't decided if it will deal directly with the monopoly provider in future or use the services of a wholesaler or aggregator.

NBN Co CEO Mike Quigley has confirmed that NBN Co has found a way forward with Telstra to expedite work on NBN second release sites, potentially clawing back some of the time it has lost in extended negotiations with the telco.

The Australian videoconferencing market jumped 33% in revenues in 2010 and industry profits are expected to more than triple by 2017, according to new Frost and Sullivan research.

The NZ Finance and Expenditure Select Committee tabled its report on the Telecommunications Amendment Bill in the House of Representative with little of the changes requested by its opponents during the committee stage. As dissenting minority views from Labour, the Green Party and Act make clear; the government will need the support of the Maori Party to pass the bill.