



NTRC Public Awareness Department Promotes i² Competition

NTRC begins promotion of Ideas & Innovation Competition.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) has begun the promotion of its 5th annual ideas and innovation competition dubbed “i² competition”. On Friday, July 14, 2017, the NTRC Public Awareness Team held a public drive in Kingstown at the Ministerial Building to promote competition to passersby.

The competition is intended to give participants the chance to change the world using their imagination and creativity and to showcase their inclination towards innovation. Innovation powers entrepreneurship.

For 2017, the competition has undergone some structural changes to now include an open category. In the past, the competition was only opened to students attending educational institutions, however, the new open category allows entries from anyone under thirty (35) years in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Entrants to this category can only enter an innovative application which will displayed in an exhibition style allowing them to pitch their applications and interact with the public. Additionally, secondary school students can also enter in this category.

For the open category, persons can win up to EC\$5000.00 while secondary entrants can win up to \$3500.00. Cash prizes are also available for the schools with most entries and mentors.

This year’s competition is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 with an official launch which also marks the opening of the registration period. The competition will conclude on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 with a Grand Finale and Prize Giving Ceremony.

For more information on the competition, please visit our website [here](#).

Source: [NTRC](#)

Important Cyber Security Tips

- Realize that you are an attractive target to hackers. Don’t ever say “It won’t happen to me.”
- Practice good password management. Use a strong mix of characters, and don’t use the same password for multiple sites. Don’t share your password with others, don’t write it down, and definitely don’t write it on a post-it note attached to your monitor.
- Back up your data regularly, and make sure your anti-virus software is always up to date.
- Be conscientious of what you plug in to your computer. Malware can be spread through infected flash drives, external hard drives, and even smartphones.
- Be sure to monitor your accounts for any suspicious activity. If you see something unfamiliar, it could be a sign that you’ve been compromised.



WIN A FREE SAMSUNG GALAXY TAB 8

It's easy to enter!

- 1 Follow @NTRC_SVG on Instagram
- 2 Like this photo
- 3 Repost with tag #NTRCSVG
- 4 Tag 10 Friends* (10 Friends need to be followers of NTRC Instagram Page)

The names of the individuals that tags 10 friends will be entered into a raffle to be chosen at random on July 31, 2017.

NTRC launches first Instagram Giveaway

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) has launched its first ever Instagram Giveaway as part of its public awareness social media campaign. One lucky person will walk away with a free Samsung Galaxy Tab 8 tablet. To be eligible for entry, a person has to Follow NTRC on Instagram @NTRC_SVG, like the contest photo, repost with the tag #NTRCSVG and then tag 10 friends who are also followers of NTRC_SVG. The giveaway is scheduled to end on Monday, July 31, 2017.

Source: [NTRC](#)

Diverse Group of Tech Hopefuls Share US\$25,000 at PitchIT Caribbean Challenge 3.0

St. Kitts and Nevis – June 17, 2017: Tech start-ups from five Caribbean territories scored big at the PitchIT Caribbean Challenge mobile app entrepreneurship competition on June 17, each winning US\$5,000 in seed funding to develop their businesses. All five enterprises have also been awarded spots in PitchIT Caribbean business accelerators across the region.

After two rigorous days of pitching to two different panels of judges and an audience of regional and global investors, SENSI (Grenada), Nstd (Trinidad & Tobago), Kraasimages (Jamaica), Isle&Dine (Barbados) and The Local App (Antigua & Barbuda) were chosen from 25 tech teams representing seven Caribbean territories.

One of PitchIT Caribbean's head coaches, Sergio Escobar, Managing Director of Canada's Founders Institute, also presented three finalists, Kraasimages of Jamaica, nDuna and LoanFren from Trinidad & Tobago with US\$300 worth of Budgeto Access, the institute's online platform that helps entrepreneurs with budgeting.

Source: [PitchIT Caribbean](#)

NTRC Dominica donates tech equipment to public libraries



The National Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (NTRC) Dominica, has donated technological equipment to the Roseau Public Library and other public libraries across Dominica in an effort to support automation and improved internet access within the institutions.

Equipment donated included Desktops, servers, barcode scanner readers, and access points at a cost of EC \$66,322.62.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony of the equipment at the Roseau Public library, Minister for Education, Petter Saint Jean, said that these pieces of equipment will increase the benefits to public users of the libraries.

In addition to this, Saint Jean said that as a benefit to the Dominica Library and Information Service (DLIS), "modern information and communication technology" will come as a result of using the equipment.

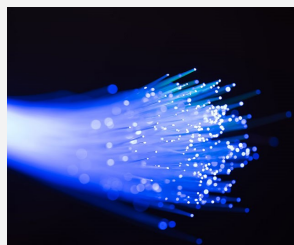
According to Saint Jean, the equipment will assist the DLIS in tackling their challenges such as limited computer terminals for users, internet connection capacity and the slow processing and down time of the server, hence making service provision more advantageous.

Saint Jean encourages young people to make use of the services not only for entertainment, but rather for maximizing the use, and to use the equipment in a responsible manner.

"I want to urge that we take care of what is given to us for free because everything that is given free costs somebody else something...Engage in safe internet practices. I do sincerely hope that this donation will indeed inspire our students to promote learning, to promote information exchange," he remarked.

Source: [Dominica News Online](#)

New fiber subsea system will connect Americas to the Caribbean



Deep Blue Cable, the developer, owner and operator of a subsea fiber-optic system providing connectivity across the Caribbean islands and to the Americas, has announced that they have contracted with

TE SubCom, a TE Connectivity Ltd. company and an industry pioneer in undersea communications technology, to build and deploy the Deep Blue subsea cable system. The pan-Caribbean system design spans nearly 12,000 km with initial landing points in 12 markets throughout the region, including the Cayman Islands, Curaçao, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tobago, and Turks & Caicos Islands, with dual diverse landings in the U.S., which will include the first landing of a cable on the Gulf Coast of Florida.

The Deep Blue subsea cable network, which will offer an initial capacity of 6 Tbps per fiber pair and is projected to be completed in Q4 of 2019, will ensure availability, competitive pricing and capacity resilience. The Deep Blue network will benefit the region's businesses and consumers by offering significantly higher design capacity, lower unit costs, lower latency through direct connectivity, and the ability to leverage advancements in reliability such as improved route planning and installation techniques.

"Deep Blue Cable has great confidence in TE SubCom and its ability to build a state-of-the-art subsea cable system that will provide long overdue advanced connectivity across the Caribbean islands and to the Americas," commented Stephen Scott, CEO of Deep Blue Cable. "The Deep Blue cable system will play a critical role in serving developing Caribbean countries that are now experiencing a surge in demand for advanced telecom services and currently rely on fiber-optic connectivity that is technologically and economically disadvantaged."

The Deep Blue cable system will be a network providing direct fiber connectivity between major traffic hubs, as well as optical add/drop connectivity to many smaller markets throughout the region. Using TE SubCom's proven OADM (optical add/drop multiplexer) branching unit technology, Deep Blue Cable can cost-effectively supply international bandwidth across a range of Caribbean markets, large and small, in a scalable manner over time.

Source: [App Developer Magazine](#)



CTU participates in ICANN 59

Mr. Nigel Cassimire, Telecommunications Specialist of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU), represented this organisation at the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of the 59th Public Meeting of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) – ICANN 59, in Johannesburg, South Africa from 26th to 29th June 2017.

The CTU participates regularly in its capacity as an observer member of the GAC.

ICANN 59 was a regularly scheduled meeting to progress the broad range of policy and operational activities coordinated globally by ICANN, via its constituent supporting organisations and advisory committees, in order to manage the Internet's unique identifiers.

In the GAC, the GAC Underserved Areas Working Group reported on the continued progress made in arranging and scheduling capacity building sessions on ICANN and Internet governance matters for Governments in various ICANN regions.

Two sessions, one in Fiji in April 2017 and the other in Johannesburg in June 2017, were held in the interim since ICANN 58 (March 2017). The working group agreed to liaise with the CTU to hold a session in the Caribbean area in 2018 as scheduled in its tentative calendar of events.

Two cross community sessions of high interest that were held at ICANN 59 addressed data protection and the use of geographic names as top level domains. The data protection session made clear the need for urgent concerted action to bring the Caribbean region up to speed with appropriate, functioning legislation and regulatory structures.

Other items of Caribbean interest included the work of the GAC's Public Safety Working Group related to minimisation of Domain Name System (DNS) abuse, and proceedings of the cross community sessions on use of geographic names as top level domains (TLDs) which would guide progress in ICANN's policy development work for future generic TLDs.

A meeting of the Commonwealth GAC representatives chaired by the Secretary General of the CTO, Mr. Shola Taylor, gave updates of various Commonwealth related activities and planned initiatives in ICT capacity development, including Internet governance.

Caribbean representatives at ICANN 59 included the CTU, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts/Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago. St. Kitts/Nevis was specially recognised as a new GAC member attending their first meeting.

Source: [St. Lucia News Online](#) via [ICT Pulse](#)

Apple acquires German AR Company



Apple has reportedly acquired SensoMotoric Instruments, a German eye-tracking and augmented reality (AR) company, for an undisclosed amount.

SensoMotoric was founded in 1991 and primarily builds eye tracking hardware and software for industrial and commercial use. On its website, the company said its solutions can be deployed across a wide range of fields, including clinical research, neuroscience, VR, and AR.

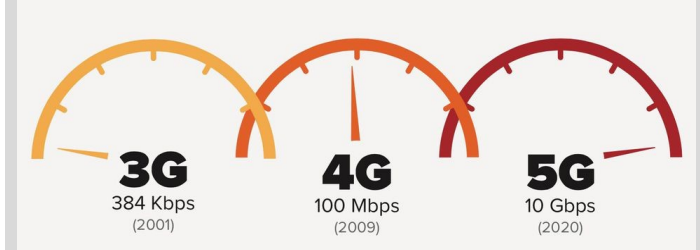
MacRumors originally broke the news, revealing the trail that went from SensoMotoric to Apple. Like most of Apple's small acquisitions, it did not publicize the acquisition, giving the same terse reply: "Apple buys smaller technology companies from time to time, and we generally do not discuss our purpose or plans."

Augmented reality is the next stepping stone for Apple and rumors of AR glasses have been swirling for the past year. CEO Tim Cook has kept excitement high, stating that AR could be as big as mobile and it is investing a lot of time into the new technology.

Apple launched ARKit at WWDC 2017, a framework for app developers to build AR apps for the iPad.

Source: [Readwrite](#)

LeoSat Joins Forces with ESA on "Satellite for 5G"



LeoSat has signed a Joint Statement with the European Space Agency (ESA) and 15 satellite industry leaders to collaborate on "Satellite for 5G".

ESA and the European space industry are joining forces to develop and demonstrate the added value that satellite brings in the context of 5G.

With data traffic predicted to increase almost 4 fold by 2020 to 4 Zettabytes per year, one of the key challenges for the mobility sector is achieving scalable, flexible solutions for their expanding networks. Backhaul for mobile networks is crucial to ensure speed and capacity for data transportation from distributed network sites to the network core. Now with the new developments in satellite constellations, next generation low earth orbit systems such as LeoSat can provide the guaranteed level of connectivity, resilience and security required by 5G for significant sectors of industry.

As part of an ESA "Satellite for 5G initiative" foreseen over 2018-2020 and beyond, ESA and the European space industry will work together on:

5G service trials, including satellite capabilities, with a focus on selected sectors targeted by 5G; transversal activities in the areas of applications development, standardisation, resource management aspects, interoperability demonstration campaigns, supporting technologies; and outreach activities.

Source: [Talk Satellite](#)



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