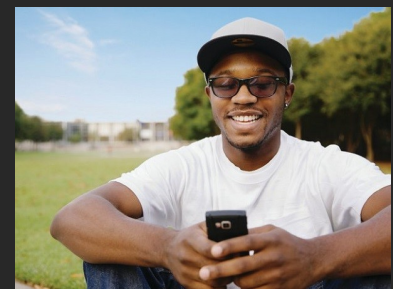




Graduates of myApp Summer Program 2016



### Tips to Reduce Mobile Data Consumption

#### Streaming

Be aware that high quality music streaming can use over 100MB per hour and HD video can consume about 1GB in an hour. If you must stream on data, consider choosing a lower-quality stream if available.

#### Mobile Friendly Websites

Use the mobile friendly version of websites. Most websites have mobile friendly versions that strip out data heavy elements such as animations and large images. You know that you are on a mobile friendly site if the web address has an "m" in front of it.

#### Push Notifications

Turn off push notifications for apps that you do not need notifications for. Apps with push notifications turned enabled can consume data even when they are not actively being used by you.

## NTRC to host third Annual Summer Coding Program to teach youths to code.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) will be hosting its third annual myApp Summer Program which is geared to teach students between the ages of 13—18 years to develop mobile applications. The vision is to provide opportunities to enhance the technological skills of our younger population. It is the NTRC's hope that if provided with the chance to create high quality mobile applications, that the younger population will be the driving force behind a new and competitive technological era in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Furthermore, the program will introduce participants to ways in which they can portray their acquired skills in larger, incentivized forums such as the annual NTRC's i<sup>2</sup> Competition.

This year, the competition would be held in two locations, one at Petit Bordel and the other in Union Island. The programs will run from July 24, 2017 to August 18, 2017 at the Union Island Secondary School and the Petit Bordel Secondary School for the period July 31, 2017 to August 25, 2017 from 9:00am-3:00pm daily.

Interested persons who wish to apply for the program can visit the URL [www.ntrc.vc/myapp](http://www.ntrc.vc/myapp) to download a registration form which should be submitted to the NTRC along with a participation fee of EC\$100.00. In addition, participation fees will be waived for persons who apply for the waiver based on their needs.

## ECTEL Roadshow visits St. Vincent and the Grenadines to promote new EC Bill



The Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL) continued its series of roadshows across its member states in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on May 17—18, 2017). The roadshows were designed to further elaborate on the new suite of legislation that has been developed by ECTEL.

The Electronic Communications (EC) Bill and accompanying regulations for the management of the electronic communications sector will replace the Telecommunications Act when promulgated.

The ECTEL team which comprised of the Managing Director Embert Charles, Director of Technical Services Andrew Millet and General Counsel Deborah Bowers met with several stakeholders. Meetings were held with the Cabinet of Ministers on May 17th and then with civil society organizations and telecommunications service providers on May 18th.

The roadshow was a collaborative effort of ECTEL and the NTRC of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Source: [News784](#)

## NTRC facilitates online voting for Public Service Day Celebrations



The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will join with the rest of the International Community in celebrating World Public Service day on 23rd June; a day

in which public servants are acknowledged for their contribution to national development. The national theme for this year is “**Accelerating Innovative Citizen-Centered Approaches for Improved Service Delivery**”. To commemorate this day, the Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU), will be convening a week of activities from Monday 19th - Friday 23rd June. As part of the activities, the public would be given the opportunity to vote for the department with the best customer service. Voting can be registered on the NTRC’s website: [www.ntrc.vc/vote](http://www.ntrc.vc/vote) and also from Digicel mobile phones. The departments that emerge the winners will receive the Customer Service Excellence Awards.

## New App Will Allow Public to Report, Commend Customs and Excise officials



Basseterre, St. Kitts – Prime Minister and Minister of National Security Dr. Timothy Harris announced last week that a new phone app will allow the public to alert officials on possible illegal activity within the Customs and Excise Department.

“Within the next week, I am advised, [the department] will be employing an added touch to new technology,” Harris said. “They will have an app [available] in the Google Playstore where our citizens can anonymously provide tips to Customs and can express any concerns they may have about an officer’s behaviour.”

He explained that the app would be used to report wrong doing among customs officers as well as providing commendation to the department.

“So, if you think they are allowing the revenue to get away to their friends and neighbours, then we will now have an app in which you can report [anonymously],” he said. “If you think they are doing other wrong things, the app also will suffice for that; and if you think they are doing a wonderful job, we also want you to use the app to extend commendation.”

Harris indicated that rewards may also be offered if the information provided leads to the successful prosecution of any law enforcement official.

“We want to appeal to all with information or concerns regarding any law enforcement officer in our police, defense force, coast guard, our prisons and customs and excise to share that information or concern,” Harris said.. “Information leading to the successful prosecution of any dishonest law enforcement officer will be rewarded.” He indicated this measure had been taken to enhance the integrity of law enforcement agencies.

“The reason is simple,” he said. “Those who are charged with protecting us cannot be the same ones who are undermining the integrity of the system and, by extension, exposing their co-workers and the civilian population to danger and harm. We have to put a stop to this.”

It was just a little more than a month ago when two customs officers, Karim Maynard and Romain Tota, were among four people charged with the importation of an illegal firearm. Maynard was arrested, formally charged and cautioned for the offences of conspiracy to import an illegal firearm (one firearm barrel), one magazine and a quantity of a vegetable material (cannabis). He was also charged with 11 violations of the Customs Act. Tota was arrested, formally charged and cautioned for the offences of conspiracy to import an illegal firearm (one firearm barrel), one magazine and a quantity of a vegetable material (cannabis). He was also charged with seven violations of the Customs Act.

Source: [St. Kitts Observer](#) via [ICT Pulse](#)

## Dominica Mobile Application Developers to participate in Regional Mobile Startup Competition



Four (4) teams of mobile entrepreneurs from Dominica are part of the 25 finalist selected to participate in the PitchIT Caribbean Challenge 3.0 scheduled for June 13 – 17, 2017 in St. Kitts & Nevis.

The finalists were selected from over 200 entries from across CARICOM, seeking partnerships, funding and even buyers for their enterprises, all competitors will pitch to a panel of judges and an audience of regional and global investors. The top 25 Startup for the PitchIT Caribbean Challenge 3.0 include 4 teams from Dominica, 3 teams from Barbados, 7 teams from Trinidad & Tobago, 7 teams from Jamaica, and one each from Antigua & Barbuda, Grenada, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, and St. Lucia.

The main objective of the PitchIT Caribbean Challenge is to identify the top 5 growth oriented mobile start ups in the Caribbean and to provide acceleration activity support for them. The 25 regional finalists will participate in a three-day boot camp that will prepare them to pitch in front of judges and investors and participate in an intense one-day pitch competition, for the chance to win a prize package valued at \$15,000 USD, which includes \$5,000 USD in seed funding, placement in a PitchIT Caribbean mHub business accelerator, all expense-paid trip to international conferences or competitions as well as intense product development and investor readiness training.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commissions (NTRC), the Dominica mobile hub for PitchIT Caribbean, has been working with eleven (11) mobile development startups from Dominica, Grenada and Guyana to provide an intense training course designed to get the entrepreneurs mobile application from idea to reality. Participation in this pre-accelerator program was completely free and provided the mobile entrepreneurs with the opportunity to gain startup funding.

Source: [Dominica Vibes](#)

## CANTO, Bmobile and UTT Host North Eastern Secondary Schools ICT Expo in Trinidad



PORT OF SPAIN, 5th JUNE, 2017 – CANTO in collaboration with the Hon. Maxie Cuffie, MP La Horqueatta/ Talpora, partnered with Bmobile and the University of Trinidad & Tobago (UTT) to host the North Eastern Secondary Schools ICT Expo on Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at the UTT, O'Meara Campus.

The event, which was the brainchild of Minister Cuffie and CANTO's Secretary General Teresa Wankin, was held under the theme "Demonstrating ICTs as a Viable Career Choice!". It was created to expose secondary school students from the North Eastern region to the myriad of career choices in ICTs.

The third and fourth form students from Guaico, Malabar, Matelot, Toco, Brazil, Manzanilla and Valencia Secondary Schools received insightful and encouraging words from major stakeholders in Trinidad's ICT sector namely: C&W Business, Acting V.P., Elizabeth Ammon; TSTT, V.P. Marketing, Camille Campbell; UTT, ICT Programme Associate Professor, Dr. Rodney Rambally and UTT, Manager-Student Recruitment, Dr. Joseph Jacob.

They were also encouraged by the expo's guest speaker, Petriann Trancoso, to "...do something today that the future will thank you for." Miss Trancoso, is the co-founder of RoyallLink Ltd. a software development company based in Arima.

In her speech, she implored students to become tech entrepreneurs, creators of technologies & content, and explained how this career path is very lucrative. Ms Trancoso also cited examples of how popular social media figures have amassed wealth in this field.

The event also hosted a rousing ICT Knowledge Bowl Competition, which saw students vying for prizes of smart phones and tablets along with the coveted ICT Knowledge Bowl first place trophy. After a grueling competition, Malabar Secondary School walked away with the first place trophy, while Matelot and Guaico Secondary won second and third place respectively.

The North Eastern Secondary Schools ICT Expo, had booths on display from Bmobile, (TSTT), Flow, Niherst, iGovTT, Forward Industries Ltd., Guardian Group, TATT, T&TEC

Source: [CANTO](#)

## British Airways technology chaos will cost £80m



Willie Walsh, chief executive of BA owner International Airlines Group, told investors its initial assessment of the gross cost "is in the order of £80m".

He promised to provide an update with more details when appropriate.

The chaos was triggered by an engineer who disconnected a power supply. The major damage was caused by a surge when it was reconnected.

Speaking at IAG's annual meeting in Madrid, Mr Walsh apologised again for the chaos, describing it as a "dreadful experience".

About 75,000 passengers faced severe disruption when BA's system failed over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Mr Walsh said BA was "working hard to ensure that affected passengers are compensated as soon as possible".

He had previously announced an independent investigation "to learn from the experience".

During the outage, the GMB, a union which represents aviation workers, claimed the problems had been caused by BA making IT staff redundant and outsourcing the department last year.

Mr Walsh said: "What we do know at this stage, however, is that this failure had absolutely nothing to do with changes to the way we resource our IT systems and services."

IAG chairman Antonio Vazquez said: "You can be reassured that we will do everything in our powers to avoid similar problems in the future and restore our customers' faith in British Airways."

Source: [BBC](#)

## UK Government stresses continuity of broadband policy after election



Digital minister Matt Hancock has reaffirmed the government's commitment to full-fibre broadband and 5G mobile networking as a fundamental layer of a coherent national digital strategy for a post-Brexit UK. In his first public remarks on the UK's digital infrastructure policy since the 8 June general election, Hancock, who retained his post at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) after prime minister Theresa May's cabinet reshuffle, said broadband connectivity was one of the most frequently raised issues on the doorstep during campaigning. "We support the goal of high levels of UK connectivity delivered by commercial investment within a framework delivered by government," he said. "We all know we need to do more and I am delighted to be back to do just that."

Speaking at the Connected Britain event in London, Hancock said that previously announced measures, such as a £400m fund for full-fibre broadband, the national 5G strategy and the planned broadband universal service obligation (USO), were all still high on the agenda.

Hancock said the new government planned to do more to remove regulatory barriers that have made investment in fit-for-purpose networks uneconomic for industry, and work more closely with regulator Ofcom on matters relating to radio spectrum for 5G and infrastructure.

On Brexit, he added: "We continue to represent the UK's interests in Europe for as long as we remain a member of the EU. The EU is currently reviewing its telecoms regulatory framework and it is crucial the future framework supports investment.

"We are working with allies across Europe and are fully participating in negotiations to get the best outcome for UK companies."

Source: [Computer Weekly](#)



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