

Finals for NTRC's Ideas & Innovation Competition Scheduled for November 15th.



The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC), alongside its partners will be hosting its Grand Finale and Prize Giving Ceremony for the 2017 i² competition. This event will be held at the Kingstony Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday November 15, 2017 from 9:00am - 4:30pm.

Teams representing various secondary schools across SVG and the public will compete in their respective categories. The teams participating in the secondary category will be representing the Union Island Secondary School, Mountain View Adventist Academy, Petit Bordel Secondary School, St. Vincent Girls High School, Emmanuel High School Mesopotamia and the St. Joseph Convent Kingstown.

There will also be an exhibition for the Open Category where members of the public can interact with the teams about their mobile applications. The public can also cast a vote on the NTRC's Facebook page for their favourite team which would contribute to the team's final points.

The prize giving ceremony which is scheduled to begin at 3:00 PM will see teams winning up to EC\$3000.00 in the secondary category and up to \$5000.00 in the open category. Participants will also be awarded prizes from partners in the competition such as tablets and power banks from King Computer Corporation, Vitamalt from St. Vincent Brewery Ltd., and Smartphones from Digicel and Flow.

The day's event would be streamed live via the NTRC's Facebook page for persons who are interested but unable to attend.

Source: [NTRC](#)

Being Smart Online

Check your settings

Use the privacy and security settings on social media sites so that only friends and family can see your pages. Then speak to friends and family and encourage them to tighten their privacy settings too as they could affect you. Even if your account is locked as private, personal information you have shared with others could still be accessed through their pages.

Guard personal information

Don't post any personal information - your address, email address or mobile number - publicly online. Just one piece of personal information could be used by a complete stranger to find out even more. If you want to include your birthday in your profile it's safer not to actually display it publicly - providing your full date of birth makes you more vulnerable to identity fraud.

Anti-virus software

Make sure you have anti-virus software installed on your computer and be careful what you download or install on your computer.

NTRC Awards Winners of Twitter Contest

As part of its public awareness plan for 2017, The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) held a contest on Twitter with an aim to engage its followers on that social media platform.

During the week of October 18th to October 23rd, the NTRC posted a question each day to which followers were expected to respond. The first follower to retweet the question and respond to the question correctly would be selected as the winner.

At the end of the contest, a total of four winners were selected. They were Shyan Martin, Imran Nanton, Omar Wilson and Zekeko Audain. Each of the winners won themselves a sports water bottle.



Source: NTRC

NTRC (Grenada) hosts Satellite Communications Workshop

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (Grenada) in conjunction with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (ITSO) held a satellite communications workshop at the Raddisson Beach Resort, St. George's, Grenada.



The objective of the workshop was to provide participants with in-depth understanding of satellite communication

systems, technologies and protocols as well as a comprehensive introduction to VSAT concepts and systems, including emergent broadband satellite systems and services. Additionally, the workshop focused on the ITU Radio regulations and policy and regulatory guidelines for satellite services.

The workshop took place just a few weeks after a Category 5 Hurricane Maria devastated the Commonwealth of Dominica on September 18, 2017 setting the nation back decades. The Hurricane brought extreme winds across the island which caused much of their housing and infrastructure to be damaged beyond repair. Additionally, the hurricane caused there to be an island wide communication blackout.

The experience in Dominica highlights the importance of satellite technology for emergency communications as they have a wide coverage area and can be deployed within a quick timeframe to restore communications. By enhancing their capacity in satellite communications, Caribbean nations are becoming better positioned to remain in communication with the outside world, even in the face of devastating natural events.

Source: [CTU](#)

St. Kitts PM meets with Amazon execs to advance strategy in making government tech services more modern



Following a successful meeting in the Canadian capital of Ottawa with the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, St. Kitts and Nevis' Prime Minister the Hon. Dr. Timothy Harris arrived in Toronto, Canada's largest city, to participate in the Toronto Global Forum – International Economic Forum of the Americas.

Prime Minister Harris immediately engaged in a series of important meetings, which included sitting down with top executives from Amazon's cloud computing arm, Amazon Web Services. The leader in the cloud computing market reported \$12.2 billion in revenue and \$3.1 billion in operating income profit last year and has brought in \$12.3 billion so far in 2017.

The prime minister met with Jeffrey Kratz, Director of the Worldwide Public Sector for Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean at Amazon Web Services. The two discussed a range of technology-related matters, including the role of information and communications technology (ICT) in education and healthcare delivery, as well as cybersecurity in the public sector, and innovation in disaster preparedness.

Harris welcomed the opportunity to dialogue with high-level representatives of the global leader in the cloud infrastructure services market on issues that are foundational to St. Kitts and Nevis' development.

Recognizing the great importance of information and communications technology, Harris' Team Unity Administration has made great strides toward modernizing government ICT services.

Source: [SKN Vibes](#) via [ICT Pulse](#)



Stronger laws coming to tackle cyber crime in Barbados

Barbados' top judicial officer has warned about a growing class of sophisticated criminals in Barbados who is not only heavily armed but shoring up crimes with technology.

Chief Justice Sir Marston Gibson today further cautioned that law enforcers and the judiciary had to keep one step ahead of criminals who were more organized and technologically savvy.

Insisting there was organized crime in Barbados, Sir Marston told participants in a conference and workshop hosted by the Department of Public Prosecutions at Accra Beach Hotel and Spa, Rockley, Christ Church this morning, the country was no longer dealing with "your run of the mill criminal".

In fact, Sir Marston said today's offender was "organized, and he certainly is going to be acting in concert with other people".

The top level judicial officer noted that apart from guns, criminals were frequently using computers to carry out their nefarious acts.

"You are looking at criminals who, for example, have, and I am just telling you based on an application that was made to me recently . . . who [have] two AK-47s, endless amounts of ammunition, [and] money deposited in the bank," he said.

Moreover, the Chief Justice advised: "A lot of the ways in which you will prevent cybercrime is by making sure that your system is as cyber secure as you can possibly make it. If you are operating your system on Windows XP, you are asking cybercriminals to come into your cyber house and commit crime."

Also addressing the workshop attended by top anti-crime officials, prosecutors and judicial officers, Attorney General Adriel Brathwaite said when Barbados joined Caribbean Community states in adopting a crime security agenda in 2013, cybercrime and transnationally organized crime were not top tier threats to Barbados but he said they had since become significant areas of concern.

At the same time, Brathwaite said the authorities had stepped up their response to such crimes.

"The Minister responsible for telecommunications has declared that the national cybersecurity strategy aimed at providing the robust cyber defence framework and systems is currently being revised for Barbados."

Source: [Barbados Today](#) via [ICT Pulse](#)



FCC Hurricane Relief Taps USF for Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands

The FCC will tap \$76.9 million from the universal service fund (USF) for hurricane relief in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This FCC hurricane relief funding will help the U.S. territories rebuild communications infrastructure destroyed or damaged by hurricanes Irma and Maria.

“The FCC unanimously voted to immediately provide carriers with up to seven-months’ worth of support from the FCC’s Universal Service Fund, which helps lower the cost of deploying service in areas that are costly to serve,” states an FCC press release. “Any funds advanced under today’s action can be used to repair telecommunications infrastructure and restore service to customers across the islands.”

As of October 3rd, approximately 88% of cell sites were out of service in Puerto Rico and 67% in the U.S. Virgin Islands, according to the FCC. Landline and cable TV services were also severely impacted, leaving nearly all consumers without landline services immediately after the September 20th landfall of hurricane Maria.

This FCC hurricane relief effort amounts to an advance of USF funds, equating to about 7 months of typical USF funds for the territories. FCC staff will help coordinate network repair activities to ensure that the greatest coverage is available to the most people, the FCC state

Source: [Telecompetitor](#)



**International
Telecommunication
Union**

New ITU standard to support customized e-learning in future networks

Online learning is unlocking the potential of students across the world thanks to customized programs that help them learn in the style that comes most naturally.

And a new ITU standard aims to help millions of learners worldwide take control of their learning experience and play to their unique strengths.

The new standard, ITU Y.2241, details a web service framework to support ‘ubiquitous self-directed learning’ in future networks. It supports adaptive learning methodologies attentive to the behaviour of the learner, providing for e-learning service features such as self-guided reading, participation in study groups, internships, electronic dialogues and reflective writing activities.

ITU Y.2241 supports ubiquitous access to educational web objects such as text or audiovisual materials. The standard describes the virtualization of these materials necessary to give them an identity independent of underlying hardware. It also highlights means to guarantee their persistence, ensuring that learners’ ability to locate and access materials is not affected by differences in technology generations.

ITU Y.2241 was developed by ITU’s standardization expert group for future networks, ITU-T Study Group 13. The group will meet at ITU Headquarters in Geneva, 6-17 November 2017.

Source: [ITU](#)



Contact Us

National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

2nd Floor NIS Building, Upper Bay Street Kingstown

St. Vincent

Tel: 784-457-2279 | Fax: 784-457-2834 | Email: ntrc@ntrc.vc

