



THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Staff of NTRC share information with students at WTISD Expo at Heritage Square

World Telecommunications & Information Society Day Observed in SVG.

On May 17, 2016, St. Vincent and the Grenadines along with the rest of the world celebrated World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD). The theme for this year's celebration was "ICT entrepreneurship for social impact. The theme reflects the ITU's work in unlocking the potential of ICTs for young innovators and entrepreneurs and innovative Small to Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs). The theme also encompasses start-ups and technology hubs as drivers of innovative and practical solutions for catalysing progress in achieving international sustainable development goals, with a focus on SMEs from developing countries.

The purpose of WTISD is to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) partnered with Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) to host an Expo at Heritage Square in capital city Kingstown. The expo featured several informative displays and booths from entities such as ITSD, NTRC, the major telecommunications service providers, local SMEs and business incubatees. Members of the public including several schools were given the opportunity to visit these booths to be informed how they can use ICT enabled solutions to ensure economic growth in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The NTRC also took the opportunity to publicize its 4th Annual Ideas and Innovations Competition which is scheduled to be launched in September 2016. For the past three years, the competition was focused on having the youths develop innovative ideas or mobile applications that can improve existing services provided by the public sector through modern ICT solutions. For 2016, the competition will be focused on having the youths develop innovative ideas or mobile applications geared towards the private sector.

Source: NTRC

Password:

Password Managers

Passwords, passphrases, PINs, and other forms of authentication have become a fact of life for modern computer users.

If you've used one password for all of your accounts, it just takes one data breach at one of those accounts to expose that password you rely on for everything. One solution to have a different strong password for each account is to use a password manager.

Password managers are applications that store passwords for you. They encrypt the passwords and use a single strong master password that you enter when you want to access your other passwords. This means that you can use a different, strong password (many password managers will generate these for you) on every site that you log in to, without needing to worry about remembering more than one master password.

Here are two open-source password managers that you can consider:

- **KeePass**—An open source software that can be installed on your PC or USB drive.
- **LastPass**—A free browser-based, cross-platform password manager.

Promotions for the 4th Annual i² Competition are underway



Staff of NTRC promoting I squared Competition at a secondary school.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) has begun promoting its 4th Annual Ideas and Innovation Competition (i² Competition) at secondary schools across St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This competition is scheduled to be launched in September 2016.

The Commission has visited several schools that never participated in the past competitions to get an opportunity to speak to students about the nature of the competition and how they can benefit from participating. Students were encouraged to begin brainstorming their ideas for entering the competition over the summer vacation ahead of the registration period which begins on September 15, 2016. The prizes available to students include cash prizes up to EC\$ 3,500.00; smartphones; tablets and other attractive prizes compliments participating sponsors.

Apart from visiting the schools, promotion for this competition will be done on social media platforms such as Facebook in an effort to sensitize the public on the development of the competition as time progresses.

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.

For the past three years, the competition was focused on having the youths develop innovative ideas or mobile applications that can improve existing services provided by the public sector through modern ICT solutions. This year, competition invites students to put forward ideas that can implement new systems or improve systems within the private sector of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Such improvements can lead to cost savings or result in a faster delivery of service provided by the businesses.

Source: NTRC



Caribonix gives Dominican business a boost

Roseau, Dominica — May 9, 2016 — Caribonix, a global service that provides a curated community of expert designers to help less-tech savvy people create professional and mobile-friendly websites, today announced the rollout of Caribonix in Dominica. The platform will enable businesses to quickly and easily create and manage new mobile-friendly websites at a significantly lower cost than going through a professional designer and with far less hassle than a traditional do-it-yourself “DIY” website builders.

Currently utilized by local businesses across the USA and in numerous Caribbean countries, Caribonix dramatically simplifies the process of building and managing hundreds of mobile-friendly websites. The platform provides an easy-to-use content management system (CMS) for a wide variety of applications across all industries including: entertainment, technology, hospitality, professional services, education and retail.

“We realized that building websites can be very expensive and it's often difficult to find a reliable and skilled website developer. It's been hard for those who aren't tech-savvy to create professional sites on their own using the free do-it-yourself (DIY) website builders that are out there,” commented Oudin Samuel, founder of Caribonix. “Caribonix is the real deal: we took the best in consumer CMS, added management features and brought together expert designers – all on a friendly, easy-to-use platform.”

Businesses across the globe are recognizing the Caribonix advantage; the platform is used by non-profits, e-commerce online sellers and a wide variety of marketing agencies to deliver sites faster and at a lower cost to their clients and partners. A popular association representing journalists, media workers and media associations spanning the Caribbean basin is already using Caribonix to share, update content and accept membership payments online. Independent entrepreneurs and professionals are also using Caribonix for an edge on the competition: Trinidad & Tobago's top makeup artist uses Caribonix to quickly showcase her latest work and promote her services.

Caribonix offers a powerful-yet-simple site creation and editing experience; designers and clients have the freedom to design professional mobile-friendly websites. Ready-made building widgets include text, images, buttons, contact forms, maps and videos. Unlike so many run-of-the-mill website builders, site designs can be customized to match an organization's brand identity; all changes are performed online and seen instantly.

Source: [Dominica Vibes](#)

Local Trinidadian companies take advantage of recession

US-based Rockwell Automation, the world's largest company dedicated to industrial automation and information technology, was in Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) recently where they partnered with their only local authorised distributor, Warren-ECM of Charlieville, Chaguanas, to train key people from various industries to improve competitiveness.

With T&T facing an economic downturn, over 70 companies from the oil and gas sectors, food and beverage, water and waste water management/ utilities, HVAC and electrical contractors took part in the two-day programme, geared at leveraging real-time decision-making to drive profitability. Rockwell Automation shared with these companies solutions and trends to help them become industry leaders.

They were exposed to the Industrial Internet of Things (IoT) and advancements in enabling technologies including data analytics, remote monitoring and mobility. This supports the vision of a Connected Enterprise which opens new worlds of opportunity through greater connectivity and information sharing.

"The Connected Enterprise helps operations managers profitably manage and improve manufacturing and industrial processes. It helps IT executives reduce network complexities and exposure to information security risks. It shares productivity-improving information to workers across the organisation in a context that is meaningful for each role.

"The information-enabled Connected Enterprise is a more competitive enterprise. It creates tremendous opportunities for those taking advantage and great risks for those not preparing a strategic response," according to Rockwell Automation.

Further, capitalising the metrics associated with Big Data, these products, solutions and training offerings enable industries to improve their processes and modernise their plant and equipment which can lead to additional cost savings and higher efficiencies.

The organisers concluded that investments taken at this time can lead to positive outcomes that are similar to McKinsey's study of the 1990s. The McKinsey Quarterly (June 2002) published research that tracked nearly 1,000 US industrial companies from a range of sectors from 1982 to 1999, which included the recession of 1990 to 1991.

McKinsey's analysis revealed that lagging companies that became leaders, post-recession invested proportionally more than their competitive set in innovation, and leading companies that retained their leadership position spent proportionally more on research and development during the recession than their peers who lost leadership positions.

Throughout the world, Rockwell Automation flagship Allen-Bradley and Rockwell Software products brands are recognised for innovation and excel in continents and countries such as the Middle East, Europe, Africa, North and South America, Venezuela, and T&T.

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

Digicel And Huawei Technologies Successfully Test 10 Gbps Broadband In Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica, May 20, 2016 /PRNewswire/ --

Digicel Group and Huawei Technologies have successfully showcased the real power of Jamaica's only true fibre to the home network by deploying a technology known as XG-PON on the new fibre network which delivers speeds of up to 10,000Mbps.

XG-PON, which stands for "10Gbps Passive Optical Network" creates a new era in Ultra-Broadband speeds never before seen in the Caribbean region. With the test conducted in Digicel's lab in downtown Kingston using Digicel's new fibre to the home network, these speeds bring Jamaica in line with global leaders like Korea and Singapore in terms of broadband speeds.

Commenting on the blistering fast technology, John Suranyi, CEO of Digicel Play Caribbean and Central America, said: "This was a very exciting trial and we were blown away by the speeds reached and how simple it is to move to these speeds when the region needs it. This shows how we can evolve towards Multi Gigabit speeds as and when our customers demand it and not only puts Digicel Jamaica head and shoulders above all competition, but also places the region alongside the broadband global power houses such as Singapore and Korea."

He continues; "With the direct correlation between broadband penetration and increased GDP widely accepted, this will help attract inward direct investment and promote economic growth. To date we have invested over US\$100m in our FTTH fibre programme in Jamaica and our customers are starting to see the real benefits of our investment."

Stephen Ma, CEO of Huawei Technologies Caribbean office, comments; "Together, Digicel and Huawei have done something incredible in this test. Using Digicel's skills and experience in telecommunications and Huawei Technologies Multi-Service Single FAN platform, we have, for the first time, brought multi-gigabit speeds to the Caribbean. This is a huge achievement and a very proud day for both organisations.

Source: [PR Newswire](#) via [ICT Pulse](#)

Critics charge FCC with suppressing comments on privacy ruling

With a deadline for public comment quickly approaching, critics are charging that regulators on the Federal Communications Commission are trying to suppress debate in a rush to impose new privacy rules on broadband providers.

"Comments are the public's one opportunity to influence the actions of a powerful, but unelected and, largely, unaccountable agency," a coalition of 30 groups said in a letter delivered to the agency late on May 20, 2016. "When that opportunity is stifled or restricted, steps must be taken to ensure that voices of Americans are sufficiently heard in the context of FCC proceedings."

The coalition, which includes organizations like the Center for Integrity and Public Policy, the Competitive Enterprise Institute, and Protect Internet Freedom, are calling on the agency to extend its deadline for comment on the rules, which would restrict how Internet service providers are allowed to use personal information collected from customers. Comments are presently due by May 27, with the deadline for a second round set for June 27.

At stake is the standard to which ISPs will be held when it comes to retaining and sharing consumer data for third-party marketing purposes. The agency assumed authority to regulate privacy practices when it voted last year to reclassify broadband providers as public utilities. Democrats on the commission suggest the rules are needed to protect consumers, while Republicans question what value they would hold when so-called "edge providers" like Google and Facebook would remain exempt under the proposal.

"The ISP is the only market player that has the ability to see all of a consumer's online traffic and behavior," said Ernesto Falcon, a legislative counsel at the Electronic Frontier Foundation. "Consumers can't hide from their ISP even if they tried."

Source: [Washington Examiner](#)

NOKIA

Nokia and STC Conduct Test of Technology to Bring LTE-like Performance to Wi-Fi

Nokia and the Saudi Telecom Company (STC) have conducted a test of MulteFire technology, which combines the performance of LTE with the simplicity of Wi-Fi deployment in unlicensed spectrum bands such as 5GHz.

As data demand continues unabated, mobile operators want to explore more opportunities in other spectrum bands, for example the 5GHz band, to reach more of their subscribers in private enterprise networks such as stadiums, office blocks, shopping malls and airports. However, as the spectrum is shared by numerous technologies and the number of users increase, quality and speed can suffer.

The test - which used Nokia's FlexiZone small cells together with MulteFire software - showed how MulteFire can co-exist with Wi-Fi to deliver the high performance, high speeds and security offered by LTE in a densely populated environment. MulteFire complements heterogeneous networks (HetNets), which use a mixture of macro and small cell radios, allowing operators to meet the increased connectivity demands of future smart cities and the Internet of Things (IoT).

Waseem Al-Marzogi, Head of STC Group Business, Nokia, said: "As one of the founding members of the MulteFire Alliance, Nokia is driving the development of a global technical specification, and this test is a crucial step toward commercialization of the technology. By collaborating with operators like STC, we can develop new ways of utilizing spectrum such as 5GHz to meet the network demands of today and tomorrow."

Source: [Cellular News](#)



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