

Press Release

OneWiFi & Infrastructure Launches Australia's First 5G Neutral Host Platform

Sydney 10/06/2020 – OneWiFi & Infrastructure (OneWiFi), Australia's leading Public Wi-Fi and Smart City solutions provider, today launched Australia's first 5G Neutral Host Service, offering In-Building Coverage (IBC) and Outdoor Small Cell solutions on Property Owners/Developers/Managers, Local Council assets for Mobile Operators.

OneWiFi's 5G Neutral Host Platform brings together the latest mobile network innovations supporting 4G and 5G requirements. The platform is designed to support the consolidation and harmonisation of mobile infrastructure with the environment, at street level and in-building, reducing clutter, whilst delivering high capacity 5G services.

The 5G Neutral Host Platform creates a 'Win-Win' situation for Asset/Property Owners, and Local Councils, who look to facilitate the availability of 5G services for the community and building tenants. It is a market leading model versus traditional Small Cells and Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS), which can be extremely costly to deploy and requires a large equipment footprint. Based on in-field deployment and testing by OneWiFi, the cost under the 5G Neutral Host Platform is up to 30% less than legacy DAS solutions to support 5G. In the outdoor Small Cell environment, the cost savings and benefits are even higher.

At the same time, network services for multiple Mobile Operators can be provided with reduced time-to-market and complexity under a unified platform, compared to current deployments. The 5G Neutral Host Platform delivers superior performance, enables seamless integration using OpenRAN/ vRAN infrastructure in a plug-and-play manner, significantly reducing complexity.

For Government Agencies and Industry Regulators, the Neutral Host model represents an opportunity to review how to facilitate 5G beyond the existing industry frameworks, codes, policies, and commercial models, to drive greater value from the 5G, while improving aesthetics, and maximising asset utilisation through harmonisation of infrastructure.

"The unparalleled opportunities that 5G represents for all industry participants can be best harnessed via a Neutral Host Platform. This purpose built platform was created applying learnings from our other lines of business. The platform not only helps to realise benefits of 5G, but also delivers the lowest total cost of ownership (TCO) and fastest time to market," said Mevan Jayatilleke, Managing Director at OneWiFi. "The time to embrace 5G Neutral Host Platform is now, as the requirements of mmWave in the future will be even more challenging under the current model".

Building on the success in Public Wi-Fi and Smart City, OneWiFi has significantly enhanced its capability in 5G mobile network and infrastructure deployment. Roger Hawke, ex-CEO of telecommunications tower company, Axicom, joined the board as non-executive director to

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provide unparalleled Australian telecommunications infrastructure sharing experience to OneWiFi. He is joined by Neil Robinson, formerly Director of Mobile Network Planning at Singtel Optus, and Dean Karena, formerly a Director at Urbis with vast experience in mobile deployment, to lead the mobile network technology and deployment functions respectively.

“Our Neutral Host offering is based on OpenRAN and vRAN principles and technologies. We chose to do this as these concepts are an embodiment of the future, towards which, the industry is being driven globally,” says Neil Robinson. “The ORAN Alliance includes the world’s biggest network vendors and operators. The advancement of technologies such as virtualisation and network intelligence, combined with feature development based on open interface standards, created through collaborative development, all lead to a more robust and competitive environment, supporting 5G solutions that are flexible, customisable, and available at greatly reduced cost compared to current offerings.”

Dean Karena, Head of Deployment at OneWiFi added, “Deployment costs for 5G are cited as a barrier to extensive network densification and rightfully so. Increased negative public sentiment will also contribute to difficulties as infrastructure clutter will degrade visual amenity. 5G will be important to social and economic development, but it can also be cost effective and a more visually acceptable form under a Neutral Host model, such as OneWiFi’s.”

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About OneWiFi & Infrastructure

Headquartered in Sydney, OneWiFi & Infrastructure (OneWiFi) is Australia’s leading 5G Neutral Host, Smart City and Public Wi-Fi solutions provider. Established in 2012, we are currently delivering best-in-class solutions to over 1,200 locations across Australia, including Retail Precincts, Shopping Centres, Hospitality Venues, and Commercial Buildings. OneWiFi is also a licensed telecommunications carrier offering a range of high-speed fixed and wireless telecommunication services.

OneWiFi continues to invest in strategic relationships with the Mobile Operators, Cities, Municipal and Regional Councils, and Asset/Property Owners all across Australia via a comprehensive suite of services to deliver the desired financial, economic, community, sustainability, and technological outcomes.

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