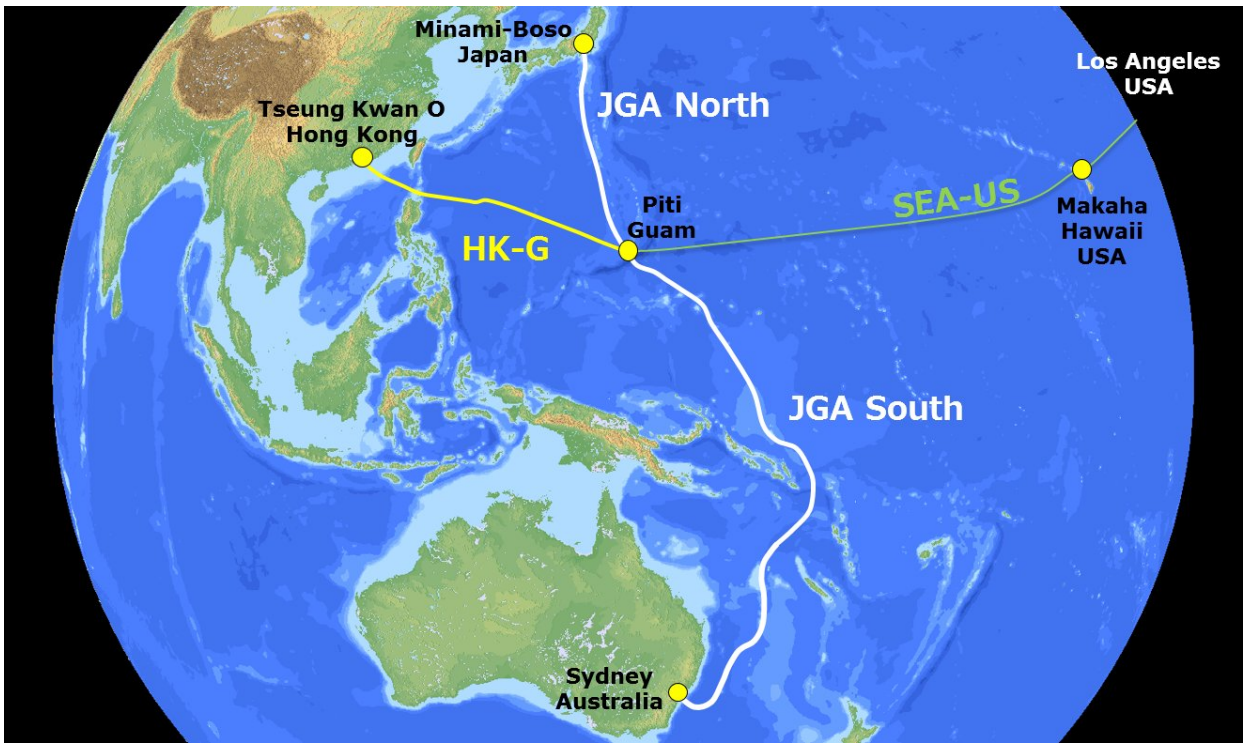
# Construction Begins on the Japan-Guam-Australia Cable System

*- 36Tbps capacity to serve bandwidth growth in Asia -*




**JGA Route Map**

- JGA interconnects with SEA-US and HK-G cables -

**San Francisco, Paris, Singapore, Tokyo, and Sydney, 4 April 2018** – A consortium including RTI Connectivity Pte. Ltd. (RTI-C), AARNet Pty Ltd (AARNet) and Google, together with Alcatel Submarine Networks (ASN), part of Nokia, and NEC Corporation (NEC: 6701) announced that the construction of the Japan-Guam-Australia Cable System (JGA) has officially commenced. The 9,500-kilometer undersea fiber optic cable system will deliver a design capacity of more than 36 terabits per second (Tbps) and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2019.

JGA will further enhance and contribute to the much-needed expansion of communications networks from Japan and Australia, to Asia and the United States, thereby improving network redundancy, ensuring highly reliable communications, and expanding onward connectivity options in Guam.

RTI-C's investment in JGA will be built utilizing capital from the Fund Corporation for the Overseas Development of Japan's ICT and Postal Services Inc. (Japan ICT Fund), along with syndicated loans from Japanese financial institutions, including NEC Capital Solutions Limited.

Russ Matulich, RTI-C's President and CEO, acknowledged this important milestone stating, "Hyperscale cloud providers and enterprise companies are fueling exponential data-growth between Asia, Australia and the United States. These customers require alternative paths, enhanced quality of service and cost-effective bandwidth solutions. By adding JGA to our existing cable investments, RTI is well positioned to serve these massive data-growth needs. JGA's unique design will also improve latency between Tokyo-Sydney, while greatly reducing provisioning timeframes. Finally, RTI is grateful for NEC and ASN's collaborative and innovative approach, making commercial service likely in late 2019."

Chris Hancock, AARNet's CEO said, "New submarine cable systems are providing a much-needed boost to communications infrastructure into Australia. AARNet's investment in JGA complements our investment in the INDIGO subsea cable system, providing connectivity into North and Southeast Asia to meet the substantial growth in bandwidth demand for science, research, teaching and learning. This will allow Australian universities to have unconstrained access to meet the big data challenges of the future."

JGA is being co-built by ASN and NEC. JGA South (JGA-S), the segment between Sydney, Australia and Piti, Guam, is a consortium cable including AARNet, Google and RTI-C. JGA North (JGA-N), the segment between the Minami-Boso, Japan and Piti, Guam, is a private cable with RTI-C as the sole purchaser. Both JGA-N and JGA-S will interconnect in Guam at GTA's newly built landing station.

Philippe Piron, ASN's President said, "We are proud to work with RTI, AARNet and Google on the JGA project, which will build on ASN's state-of the art technology to further provide high-capacity connectivity in the Asia-Pacific region and the reinforcement of our local presence. This new system adds to the recent successes ASN has achieved in the region and demonstrates our commitment in supporting operators and content providers to cope with their end-users' requirements."

Toru Kawauchi, General Manager of NEC's Submarine Network Division said, "We are honored to be selected once again by RTI-C to construct their third subsea cable. While both SEA-US and HK-G will provide horizontal East-West connectivity across the Pacific, JGA will now provide the much-needed vertical North-South connectivity, enabling high capacity communications to reach all corners. Furthermore, JGA will be the second project after HK-G to be co-financed by the Japanese government-led Japan ICT Fund, and the third project supporting RTI's investment after SEA-US and HK-G for the Japanese loan syndicate. We wish to further utilize these funds for many more cables in the future."

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**About RTI-C and RTI:** RTI-C and RTI are leading independent undersea cable owners providing large-scale network solutions across a wide variety of industries including cloud companies, network operators, regional carriers, global enterprises, content providers, and institutions for higher learning. RTI-C is headquartered in the city-state of Singapore, and RTI is headquartered in San Francisco, California, USA. For more information, visit www.rticable.com

**About AARNet:** AARNet provides high capacity national and international telecommunications infrastructure and collaboration services for the nation's research and education sector, including universities, health and other research organisations, schools, vocational training providers and cultural institutions. AARNet serves over one million end users who access the network for teaching, learning and research. For more information, visit www.aarnet.edu.au, or contact Jane Gifford: jane.gifford@aarnet.edu.au

**About ASN:** ASN, part of Nokia, leads the industry in terms of capacity and installed base with more than 600,000 km of optical submarine systems deployed worldwide. From traditional telecom applications to content provider networks, 'over the top' service provider infrastructure and offshore oil and gas applications, ASN provides all parts of global undersea transmission networks, tailored to individual customer's needs. An extensive service portfolio completes its comprehensive offering for the submarine business, including project management, installation and commissioning, as well as marine operations and maintenance performed by its fleet of cable ships. For more information, visit https://networks.nokia.com/solutions/submarine-networks

**About NEC Corporation:** NEC Corporation has more than 40 years of experience in the submarine cable business and is recognized as one of the world's top submarine system vendors. NEC has laid a total of more than 250,000 kilometers of submarine cable, the equivalent of six trips around the earth. As a total system integrator, NEC produces optical submarine cable, optical submarine repeaters and equipment for connecting optical transmissions to land, in addition to carrying out ocean surveys, route design, laying optical submarine cable and training personnel for the handover of these systems. NEC is a leader in the integration of IT and network technologies that benefit businesses and people around the world. By providing a combination of products and solutions that cross utilize the company's experience and global resources, NEC's advanced technologies meet the complex and ever-changing needs of its customers. NEC brings more than 100 years of expertise in technological innovation to empower people, businesses and society. For more information, visit NEC at http://www.nec.com