

Claro, Ericsson and Qualcomm perform 4.5G trial in Brazil, reaching highest data throughput in a live network in Latin America

Carrier aggregation of 2600 MHz and 1800 MHz frequencies at Araras, Sao Paulo, reached speeds up to 682 Mbps

São Paulo, November 1 – Claro, a pioneer in 4.5G tests in Brazil, announces along with Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., a subsidiary of Qualcomm Incorporated, and Ericsson the completion of network tests aggregating 2600 MHz and 1800 MHz frequencies. The pilot project, which took place in Araras, São Paulo, reached speeds up to 682 Mbps and used a Qualcomm® Snapdragon™ X16 LTE modem test device. The tests showed the possibility of obtaining improved network performance on the road to 5G.

In the tests performed at Rio Verde, Brazil, in December 2015, Claro aggregated frequencies at 2600 MHz, 1800 MHz, and 700 MHz, acquired from a previous auction. At that time, each spectrum had only one band released. For the Araras tests, the 2600MHz spectrum already operates with two released bands, increasing the capacity of utilized frequency.

“This is an important step for the evolution of the mobile networks in Brazil, and one more action from Claro to offer a better experience to our customers. This work started months ago, with the tests at Rio Verde, where we reached speeds of 300 Mbps in our network. Now, we are doubling this result, even without the spectrum 700 MHz spectrum that is still on going. We are pleased be a part of this action along with two leaders of this mobile industry, Ericsson and Qualcomm Technologies,” says André Sarcinelli, Director of Engineering, Claro Brazil.

To reach this speed, in addition to the aggregated frequencies, optimizations of the LTE network software, available today, were performed. The combined features include the use of 4X4 MIMO technologies, which doubles the data transfer capacity to the user’s smartphone, allowing better data transfer capacity; and 256 QAM, which increases modulations in the available spectrum and improves the efficiency of the network, multiplying the transfer rate to 1.33 to the mobile stations.

“The LTE–Advanced and Gigabit LTE patterns will allow operators to offer a speed increase to their customers, as we pave the way toward 5G. Ericsson has a commitment to the evolution of mobile networks and the Brazilian market, bringing the most recent and innovative technologies available internationally,” says Eduardo Ricotta, Vice President of Ericsson Latin America & Caribbean.

“Qualcomm’s Snapdragon X16 LTE modem is one of our most recent technology modem innovations, in addition to being an important step toward 5G. We’re very confident to work with Claro and Ericsson to bring these innovations to Brazilian users,” says Rafael Steinhauser, Senior Vice President and President, Qualcomm Latin America.

This type of architecture and transmission capacity in the access radio require further optical capillarity to the backhaul, fortress that the group has, both on-site access to the Net's network and the long distance with Embratel.

It is with the synergy of infrastructure of Claro, Embratel and Net that can evolve to deliver the best content and applications, in all locations and devices you require. Be it a person, a residence or a corporate user.

Rio Verde

In December 2015, Claro was the pioneer provider in performing tests on the 700 MHz frequencies in an external environment in Brazil. The 4.5G pilot project aggregated three frequencies: 700, 2600 and 1800 MHz. This combination made it possible to reach speeds nearing 300 Mbps.

About Qualcomm

Qualcomm Incorporated (NASDAQ: QCOM) is a world leader in 3G, 4G and next-generation wireless technologies. Qualcomm Incorporated includes Qualcomm's licensing business, QTL, and the vast majority of its patent portfolio. Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., a subsidiary of Qualcomm Incorporated, operates, along with its subsidiaries, substantially all of Qualcomm's engineering, research and development functions, and substantially all of its products and services businesses, including its semiconductor business, QCT. For more than 30 years, Qualcomm's ideas and inventions have driven the evolution of digital communications, linking people everywhere more closely to information, entertainment and each other. For more information, visit Qualcomm's [website](#), [OnQ blog](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

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Our services, software and infrastructure - especially in mobility, broadband and the cloud - are enabling the telecom industry and other sectors to do better business, increase efficiency, improve the user experience and capture new opportunities.

With approximately 115,000 professionals and customers in 180 countries, we combine global scale with technology and services leadership. We support networks that connect more than 2.5 billion subscribers. Forty percent of the world's mobile traffic is carried over Ericsson networks. And our investments in research and development ensure that our solutions – and our customers – stay in front.

Founded in 1876, Ericsson has its headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. Net sales in 2015 were SEK 246.9 billion (USD 29.4 billion). Ericsson is listed on NASDAQ OMX stock exchange in Stockholm and the NASDAQ in New York.

Ericsson has been present in Latin America since 1896, when the company established an agreement in Colombia and delivered equipment for the first time in the region. In the early 1900s, Ericsson increased its presence in Latin America by signing commercial deals in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. Today, Ericsson is present in 56 countries within South America, Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean, which combined count the region as one of the few with complete Ericsson installations, including a Production Unit, R&D Center and Training Center. Ericsson is the market leading telecom supplier, with over 40% market share in Latin America and more than 100 telecom service contracts in the region.

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