

HISPASAT extends its cellular backhaul services via satellite in America

- Thanks to the latest contract renewals and new agreements in the region, the operator will provide capacity to extend mobile networks via satellite in the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Colombia, and Argentina.
- Cellular backhaul connectivity via satellite is essential in regions like Latin America to achieve robust, high-capacity capillary structures that mobile networks need given the boom of 4G and the arrival of 5G.

MADRID, 25 February 2020. HISPASAT, the Spanish satellite telecommunications operator, has sealed new agreements and contract renewals to provide dedicated satellite capacity to extend mobile networks in Latin America. In particular, the operator is consolidating its important role as a provider of these services in the Americas, where it offers connectivity to more than 2,400 base stations, distributed across the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, and Ecuador along with providing service for the first time to Chile and Colombia over the last few months. Additionally, Claro and HISPASAT will use base stations to provide connectivity to 250 rural Argentine communities after the agreement between the two companies was announced last week. HISPASAT is thus extending its business activity to three new countries in the Americas.

For Ignacio Sanchis, the HISPASAT Chief Commercial Officer, "cellular backhaul solutions via satellite are fundamental to ensure robust, high-capacity connections that mobile communications need in regions that lack suitable terrestrial infrastructure or where satellite links are more efficient. These new agreements that HISPASAT has reached in the Americas strengthen our position in this market segment, which is key for our growth".

A highly important vertical in Latin America

The cellular backhaul services who provide the satellites represent a highly interesting solution for mobile telecommunications companies who want to extend their connectivity in areas where terrestrial infrastructure roll out has geographic difficulties or is not viable in economic terms. Thanks to a satellite connection, it is possible to connect remote areas to the global mobile network, thus optimising economic investment and ensuring the capillarity that this type of communications needs.

The implementation of 4G technology and the arrival of 5G will lead to a growth in the demand for these backhaul services. As such, this type of satellite solution is especially ideal for regions like Latin America, with very large countries, challenging geographic features and less-developed terrestrial communication infrastructures in certain areas. Specifically, market studies predict that the demand for geostationary satellite capacity for backhaul services in the region will increase by 21% in the period from 2018-2028.

About HISPASAT

HISPASAT, Red Eléctrica Group's communications satellite operator, is a world leader in content distribution in Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries and its satellite fleet is used by important

direct-to-home television (DTH) and high-definition television (HDTV) digital platforms. HISPASAT also provides satellite broadband and connectivity services, which include broadband access, mobility and backhaul networks, in addition to other added value solutions for governments, companies and telecommunication operators in America, Europe and North Africa. HISPASAT –which is comprised of companies that have a presence in Spain as well as in Latin America, where its Brazilian affiliate HISPAMAR is based– is one of the world's largest companies in its sector in terms of revenue, and the main communications bridge between Europe and the Americas.

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