

Bouygues Telecom achieves download speeds of over 25,2Gbps in 5G tests with Ericsson

The latest demonstration of 5G technology took place at Innovation Days, an event showcasing the latest innovations by Bouygues Telecom and its partners, held at the company's Technopôle complex in Meudon-la-Forêt, France.

It was conducted using two prototype mobile devices, which were simultaneously connected to an Ericsson radio base station equipped with active 5G antennas.

The Bouygues Telecom and Ericsson teams performed simultaneous data transfers to the two devices with aggregate throughput in excess of 25,2 Gbps via the 5G antenna system, with a latency in the order of 3 ms. Two 4K video feeds were also streamed to the devices.

The demonstration showed the benefits of adaptive beamforming technology which, combined with massive MIMO at centimetre-wave frequencies, offers real potential to boost mobile network capacity and signal range in communications to 5G devices.

On a 4G network, all smartphones served by the same antenna must share the available bandwidth within that cell. With 5G, beamforming makes it possible to steer the radio signal in the direction of individual devices. As a result, each user has their own 'mini-cell', which moves with them and ensures they enjoy the highest possible bandwidth.



Alongside the demonstration conducted today at its own facilities, Bouygues Telecom is actively preparing its network for the arrival of 5G, planning the prerequisite operations and prototyping a number of preliminary 5G architectures and configurations:

- Upgrade of links to its radio sites with fibre-optic cable
- Rollout of the first elements of the Cloud RAN network
- Virtualisation of its core network
- Installation of urban micro-cells

"Having established its leadership in France 4G technology, Bouygues Telecom intends to maintain its technological lead with the rollout of 5G planned for 2020," said Yves Legrand, Chief Technical Officer, EVP at Bouygues Telecom.

"In evolution of existing 4G networks, 5G will enable us to meet demand for very high-speed mobile broadband capacity, support massive interconnection of IoT devices, and achieve the ultralow latency required for critical connections between machines and with vehicles," said Franck Bouétard, head of Ericsson France. "5G is also an excellent opportunity, as we have shown with Bouygues Telecom, to deliver ultra high-definition video streaming and virtual and augmented reality to mobile devices and homes"

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About Bouygues Telecom As a full-service electronic communications operator, Bouygues Telecom stands out by providing its 16.1 million customers with access to the best technology has to offer. The quality of its 4G network and its fixed and cloud services provide customers with simple solutions, enabling them to fully enjoy their digital lives, regardless of location. Bouygues Telecom is proud of the innovations it has offered to its customers over the last 20 years. Its strategy will remain the same: provide the best new technologies to as many people as possible.
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