Nurunau to benefit from long-term satellite capacity and network-wide upgrades

KUWAIT, September 23, 2019. Today the SSI Group of Companies, the pioneer broadband provider in Northern Canada, announced $75 million in new capacity upgrades in Nurunau's broadband future. This represents a significant milestone and an unprecedented effort to bolster digital divides in North and South. Of Nurunau, communications, business, the education system, health care, and government – will soon benefit from SSI's commitment to upgraded capacity and next-generation communications technologies.

The investments start immediately and will continue over the next three years resulting in extensive network-wide improvements. Consumers will experience lower latency on all internet activities and see increased overall internet speeds. Simplifying daily life, business productivity and low-bandwidth necessities is in line with that of the past several years. SSI will provide all other funding required for new infrastructure facility upgrades and operating expenses, including the signing of a new long-term contract with Telesat Canada for multiple uplinks of C- and Ku-band satellite capacity.

Key components of the investment program include:

• State-of-the-art satellite and IP LTE broadband wireless technologies in the communities, allowing customers to receive attractive new services, including mobile voice and broadband connectivity, telemetry applications such as smart power metering and remote access security systems, and video conferencing; SSI's current broadband wireless system will continue to operate to support roaming between communities and transition to the new network.
• A measure upgrade to the current satellite broadband connecting Southern Canada to Nurunau, a remote Canadian territory that lies mostly off the Arctic Circle.

• New infrastructures on the ground to support the use of high-throughput satellites (HTS) now in planning that are expected to commence operations over Nurunau in the next few years.
• This will provide a platform to ensure secured capacity for Nurunau's growing communications needs well into the future; and
• New satellite facilities in the communities, known on "Power-Con Link," the first recently installed tap-in - with a revolutionary design that integrates:

  • An energy saving passive cooling system.
  • Backup power generation capacity (diesel, solar, and wind).
  • A high-bandwidth data and power conditioning facility.
  • Terminal equipment for broadband connectivity.

  • Additional coordination on other C-band, Ku-band, and operates telecommunications networks around the world. We understand that fundamental challenges faced in providing effective and affordable communications services to remote and outlying areas.

SSI's history in Nurunau dates back 17 years, when we built our first satellite network linking the five communities of the Kielikregion. Ten years ago, SSI was the first company to launch broadband service in all 25 communities in Northern Canada, doing so under the "GNIS" brand name, offering the same service level and pricing to Nanavut and the Northern Arctic. Since then, we have seen the positive impact of broadband in the North.

The Government of Canada announcement regarding the $35 million investment awarded to SSI under the Connecting Canada program is available at: http://www.gov.ca/artechnic-qc/fn56f4

About SSI: This is the 20th anniversary of the SSI Group of Companies, headquartered in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, and with our business operations in Nunavut, the NWT, and Yukon, the SSI Group of Companies is one of Canada’s leading communication companies, providing broadband, mobile, and multimedia services.

SSI has operated the Qiniq network, providing Internet service to consumers and businesses in all 25 communities since 2005. SSI is the only provider currently engaged in the delivery of high-speed Internet services to the communities, providing people-dependent bandwidth, voice, and video services. SSI is proud to serve the residents of the NWT through our professional, reliable, and dedicated workforce.

The Qiniq network, the first broadband service provider in Nunavut, has been selected by the Government of Nunavut and the territory's communities to deliver broadband Internet services to Nunavut residents. The Qiniq network is a Tier 1 service provider, providing them with the access to a reliable, high-speed Internet service that is essential for businesses and individuals to participate in the global economy. The Qiniq network is committed to providing high-quality, reliable broadband services to Nunavut residents, ensuring that they have access to the latest technology and services available on the market.

Throughout the years, SSI has continued to evolve and improve its services to meet the changing needs of Nunavut's residents. Today, SSI is a leading provider of high-speed Internet services in Nunavut, and it continues to work closely with the Nunavut government and communities to ensure that they have access to the latest technology and services. The Qiniq network is committed to providing high-quality, reliable broadband services to Nunavut residents, ensuring that they have access to the latest technology and services available on the market.

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Click here for the September 23 press conference presentation
Click here for a community information package regarding new communications for Qiniq-

About Telkwa: Telkwa is a leading global satellite operator, providing robust and secure satellite-delivered communications solutions worldwide to broadcast, telecom, corporate and government customers - headquartered in Ottawa, Canada, with offices and facilities around the world, the company’s state-of-the-art facilities consist of 14 satellites and the Canadian payload on ViaSat-3 with another satellite under construction. Telkwa’s satellite operators provide reliable, low-latency, end-to-end connectivity to key markets globally, including Canada. The company is the exclusive satellite operator for Canada's Public Pension Investment Board and Lost & Space Comunicaciones, Inc. (LSCI Corp.). For more information on Telkwa, see www.telkwa.com