

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Djibouti Telecom, Somtel and SubCom announce completion of DARE1 marine survey and addition of Bosaso landing station

Cable system with landing points in Djibouti, Somalia and Kenya will bring increased capacity and connectivity to East Africa

DJIBOUTI CITY, DJIBOUTI, MOGADISHU, SOMALIA and EATONTOWN, NJ, USA, March 27, 2019 – Djibouti Telecom, Somtel and SubCom today announced that the marine survey for the Djibouti Africa Regional Express 1 (DARE1) submarine cable system has been completed and the cable route finalized. The companies also announced the addition of a landing station in Bosaso, Somalia. The DARE1 cable system is the first step in a planned expansion into eastern Africa, which will connect Djibouti (Djibouti), Bosaso (Somalia), Mogadishu (Somalia) and Mombasa (Kenya). With a finalized route length of 4,747km, DARE1 will deliver up to 36 Tbps of capacity to East Africa.

The project is progressing on schedule with the marine survey completed on January 21, 2019. Manufacturing of the undersea cables and repeaters will begin in April 2019 and the system will be ready for commercial traffic in June 2020.

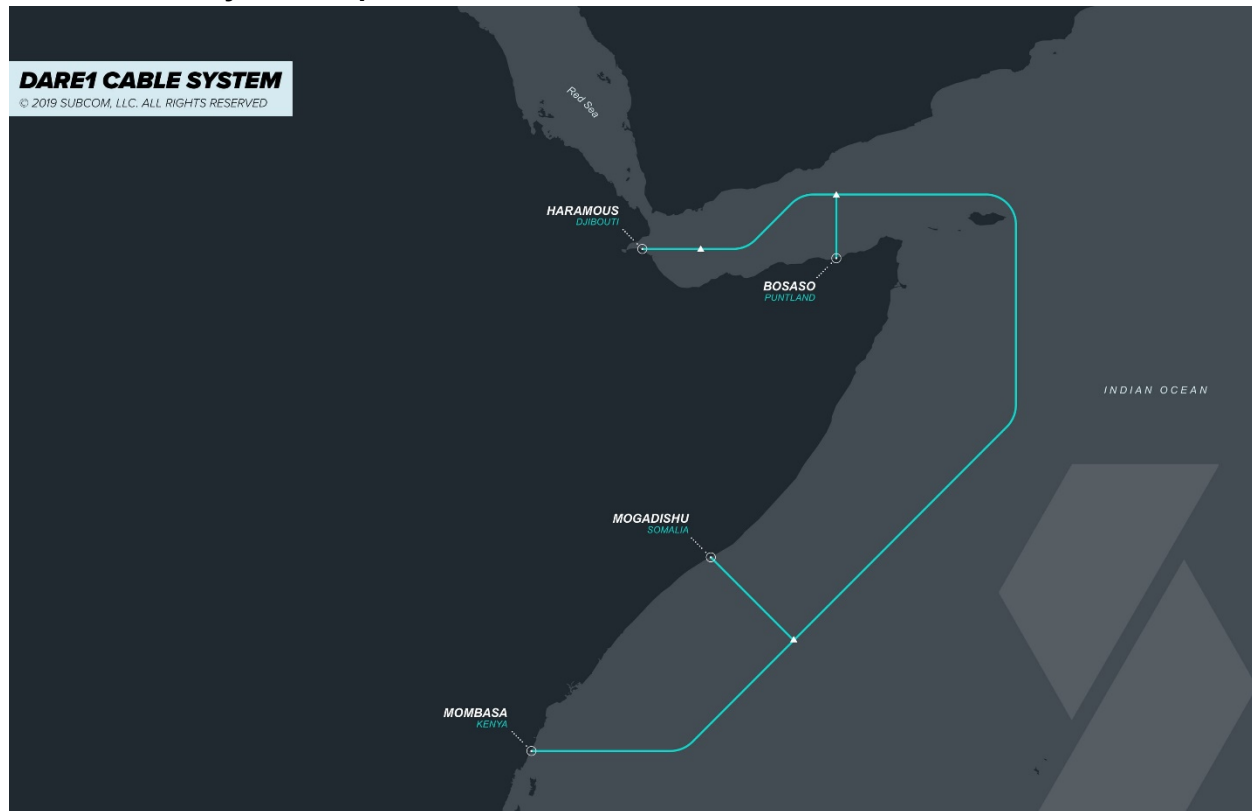
Bosaso is a port city in Puntland, Somalia and is the region's commercial capital and a major seaport within the state. The two fiber-pair, repeatered Bosaso segment of the DARE1 cable will be 108 km and will be equipped with a switched Wavelength Management Unit. The Bosaso branch represents one branch off of the cable system's three fiber-pair trunk, where each pair has a capacity of 40 channels at 300 Gbps.

"We are excited about the completion of the marine survey and the additional landing point for DARE1. We believe this cable system is crucial for the development of the East African region and we are impressed by SubCom's level of dedication and professional project management. We look forward to expanding DARE1 into other regions and connecting it with other cables to increase accessibility in Africa and across the globe," said M Mohamed Assoweh Bouh, Djibouti Telecom Director General.

"With the additional landing point in Bosaso, we are further establishing DARE1 as the first cable of its kind to link these African regions to the global network. We look forward to increasing internet speed and access for those in East Africa and are proud to be bringing unmatched connectivity to the region," said Abdirashid Duale, CEO of Dahabshiil Group.

“We are pleased with the progress of the project and the diligence of all parties to mitigate risk and keep the project on schedule,” said Debra Brask, VP Project Management at SubCom. “We continue to focus on furthering connectivity in the East Africa region and are enthusiastic about building on our successful record there by working on projects such as the DARE1 cable system.”

DARE1 Cable System Map



About Somtel Somalia LTD

Somtel is one of the leading telecommunications companies in Somalia, providing landline, mobile and internet services. Somtel was founded in 1997 and was the first operator to launch a 3G and LTE network in Somalia. Somtel has also transformed the financial system in Somalia through its Edahab system. Visit: www.somtelnetwork.net

About Djibouti Telecom

Djibouti Telecom SA is the primary telecommunications company of Djibouti, providing landline, mobile and Internet services. The company is headquartered in Djibouti City, Djibouti. Djibouti Telecom was founded in 1999 and has ever since established itself as a regional hub responsible for delivering a complete portfolio of voice, data/IP and capacity services over state-of-the-art network infrastructure that reaches out to eastern and southern Africa, the Middle East and Europe. Djibouti Telecom is now the leading strategic hub for international telecommunications services in East Africa. Visit: www.djiboutitelecom.dj

About SubCom

SubCom is the leading global partner for today's undersea data transport requirements. SubCom designs, manufactures, deploys, maintains, and operates the industry's most reliable fiber optic cable networks. Its flexible solutions include repeaterless to ultra-long-haul, offshore oil and gas, scientific applications, and marine services. SubCom brings end-to-end network knowledge and global experience to support on-time delivery and meet the needs of customers worldwide. To date, the company has deployed over 200 networks - enough undersea cable to circle Earth more than 17 times at the equator. Visit: www.subcom.com

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