



NEWS RELEASE

Saudi Telecom Company (STC) and Cisco Sign Strategic MoU to Bring the Benefits of 5G to Saudi Arabia

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- *STC and Cisco to collaborate on next-generation network technologies and services as Saudi Arabia gears up for the first commercial launch of 5G services*
- *The two companies plan to develop a roadmap for advanced applications that enable new services for digital transformation across various industries*

BARCELONA, Spain, Feb. 27, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- **Mobile World Congress** — Saudi Telecom Company (STC) and Cisco today announced they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and intend to collaborate on the development of 5G communication systems and networks. The joint effort aims to facilitate STC's transformation into a digital service provider and supports the pivotal role it plays in enabling Saudi Arabia's 2030 Vision and National Transformation Plan.



The MoU was signed at the Mobile World Congress by Nasser Al-Nasser, Chief Operating Officer, STC, and Ali Amer, Managing Director, Global Service Provider Sales, Cisco Middle East and Africa. Under the terms of the MoU, Cisco intends to work closely with STC on its architectural transformation to help

unlock the commercial potential of 5G mobile networks. This will enable STC to provision advanced network services, such as low-latency, and differentiate its service delivery in the 5G era.

“We are excited about the next phase of our evolution which will pave the way for massive innovation and give rise to a new breed of services that benefit the Saudi economy,” said Nasser Al-Nasser, Chief Operating Officer, STC. “Our new 5G network architecture will enable us to make the next leap forward by delivering inclusive broadband that transforms how people use technology in their daily lives. We look forward to working closely with Cisco to develop a future-ready network that delivers advanced capabilities to help us address increasing customer demands and new service trends.”

The transition to 5G is fundamental for STC’s vision, as it forms the foundation for future solutions including smart city, IoT and other vertical services. Virtualization and network automation will play a prominent role in the service provider’s strategic blueprint, creating the scalable network that supports the creation of new services in the fastest and most agile way possible.

“As businesses increasingly digitize, mobile carriers will need the speed, low latency, reliability and dynamic provisioning capabilities that 5G networks are expected to deliver,” said Ali Amer, Managing Director, Global Service Provider Sales, Cisco Middle East and Africa. “Our collaboration with STC will enable their network infrastructure to evolve into the new era of digitisation by taking advantage of the 5G momentum.”

The two companies will also work on developing use cases that accelerate the deployment of new enterprise and industry 5G services. Another key element of the collaboration aims to address the security needs of the 5G era by building a framework for threat intelligence that underpins STC’s prevention, detection and mitigation efforts.

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About STC:

The Saudi Telecom Company (STC) is a leader in providing integrated communications services in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The company is operating, and continuously responds to market requirements, keeping abreast of technology developments in telecommunications to meet the needs of our customers, especially in light of a changing world in terms of the role of telecommunications and its uses. For more details visit: <http://www.stc.com.sa/>

About Cisco

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