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New *iGR* study forecasts wireless backhaul for North American LTE metrocell deployments

Wireless backhaul deployments will vary significantly due to the diversity of small cell locations

AUSTIN, Texas, April 14th, 2014 – Small cells and heterogeneous networks are a hot topic in wireless backhaul because there is no single, clear solution to where these devices will be deployed or how they will be backhauled. It will vary by country, state and city – and probably even by area within a given city. Internationally, deployments will be at least as complex as they are in the U.S. The main advantages for wireless backhaul, as compared to fiber, are: lower cost, faster (and easier) deployment and sufficiently scalable throughput (depending on the use case and technology chosen).

When operators choose between wireless backhaul methods – LOS versus NLOS, microwave versus millimeter wave versus sub-6 GHz, network topology – it all comes down to the specific challenge they are trying to overcome. Of course there are similarities and best practices across deployments, but the actual technology choice will come down to the specific situation.

“Carriers must provide high capacity, carrier grade reliability, peak performance, and sound network management capabilities in the small cell environment,” said Iain Gillott, president and founder of *iGR*, a market research consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile industry. “A lot of testing has been done on small cells, both by carriers and OEMs, but so far there is a dearth of real-world experience.”

iGR's new market study *Wireless Backhaul Opportunities and Issues for Small Cell Architectures* discusses the wireless backhaul technologies available, the benefits and drawbacks of each, the main market drivers for wireless backhaul to support small cells, and the North American forecast for wireless backhaul to support LTE metrocell deployments over the next five years.

The following key questions are addressed in the new market study:

- What is the anticipated growth of wireless backhaul in North America through 2018?
- How do the major mobile operators view wireless backhaul?
- What are the major concerns of the mobile operators with regard to wireless backhaul?
- How can these concerns be addressed?
- What is the role for wireless backhaul in small cell architectures?
- How is wireless backhaul deployed?
- What are the attractions and drawbacks of wireless backhaul for the mobile operators?
- How do PTP, PMP, NLOS, millimeter wave and traditional microwave solutions differ?
- How does wireless backhaul compare to fiber backhaul?

The information in this report will be valuable for:

- Cellular carriers, particularly those servicing the U.S. market
- Mobile backhaul providers, including telcos and cable MSOs
- Wireless backhaul vendors and solution providers
- Mobile OEMs, particularly those servicing the U.S. market
- Wireless infrastructure vendors, particularly those servicing the U.S. market
- Financial and investment analysts.

The new report can be purchased and downloaded directly from *iGR*'s website at www.igr-inc.com. Alternatively, contact Iain Gillott at (512) 263-5682 or at Iain@igr-inc.com for additional details.

About *iGR*

iGR is a market strategy consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile communications industry. Founded by Iain Gillott, one of the wireless industry's leading analysts, in late 2000 as *iGillottResearch*, *iGR* is now entering its fourteenth year of operation. *iGR* continuously researches emerging and existent technologies, technology industries, and consumer markets. We use our detailed research to offer a range of services to help companies improve their position in the marketplace, clearly define their future direction, and ultimately improve their bottom line.

iGR researches a range of wireless and mobile products and technologies, including: smartphones; tablets; mobile wearable devices; connected cars; mobile applications; bandwidth demand and use; small cell and het-net architectures; mobile EPC and RAN virtualization; DAS; LTE; VoLTE; IMS; NFC; GSM/GPRS/UMTS/HSPA; CDMA 1x/EV-DO; iDEN; SIP; macro-, pico- and femtocells; mobile backhaul; WiFi and WiFi offload; and SIM and UICC.

A more complete profile of the company can be found at www.igr-inc.com.