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New *iGR* study forecasts that U.S. Mobile Operators' spending on LTE infrastructure will total \$138.8 Billion over the next five years

Study forecasts both infrastructure build spending and operational costs

AUSTIN, Texas, October 21st, 2014 – LTE has now been deployed by nearly all mobile operators in the U.S., both large and small. While LTE networks are being expanded, both in terms of coverage and capacity, most already provide ubiquitous coverage in the top 100 markets. As a result, the U.S. is now the leading LTE market in the world, with each operator offering a wide range of smartphones, tablets, MiFi devices and assorted LTE accessories.

iGR expects that the LTE market will continue to grow and eventually dominate the U.S. mobile landscape. In the next few years, mobile operators will increasingly refarm 2G spectrum to deploy LTE, as well as acquire additional spectrum resources. The demand for mobile data bandwidth will continue to rise and mobile operators are continually balancing their network spending between coverage and capacity. The engineers strive to provide sufficient coverage to be competitive and sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the growing subscriber base, while minimizing unnecessary network spending.

“Over the next few years, as the number of subscribers using LTE increases, so the corresponding network spending increases, both on network builds and operating costs,” said Iain Gillott, president and founder of *iGR*, a market research consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile industry. “*iGR* expects that the total LTE network spending of all U.S. mobile operators will total \$138.8 billion over the next five years.”

iGR's new market study, [U.S. LTE Network Infrastructure Spending Forecast, 2013-2018](#), forecasts the total LTE infrastructure investment per operator and network operating costs in the U.S., forecasts the spending split by network component, and gives an update on the LTE rollout for the major U.S. operators.

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

- How much mobile data will the LTE networks carry in the U.S.?
- How will the amount of data traffic carried on LTE networks grow in the U.S. in the next five years?
- What is the forecast for the number of LTE subscribers in the U.S. in the next five years?
- How much mobile data is each LTE subscriber expected to consume and how does this change?
- Which operators are investing the most in LTE networks?
- When do the network build and operating cost curves begin – and begin to trend downward – per operator?
- How much are U.S. operators investing in LTE both individually and in the aggregate?
- How big is the LTE infrastructure opportunity in the U.S. in the next five years?
- What is the share of LTE infrastructure spending on the network components in the next five years?
- How big are the LTE operating costs in the next five years?

The information in this report will be valuable for:

- Mobile network operators
- LTE network infrastructure vendors
- Small cell OEMs
- 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 in 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.