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New *iGR* study forecasts global RAN build spending for both traditional and Open RAN

Study also forecasts RAN spending for 4G and 5G

AUSTIN, Texas, April 13th, 2021 – 5G has been launched by many mobile operators in the U.S., Europe and the Asia Pacific region. The first step of the evolution to 5G involves the RAN (Radio Access Network) with the deployment of the first part of the 3GPP Release 15 standard, 5G NR (New Radio).

Historically, the majority of build spending on the mobile network has been for the RAN and this is not expected to change as 5G is deployed. Therefore, if the wireless industry wishes to cut the cost of building and operating mobile networks, savings must be made in the RAN if significant benefit is to be realized. Many in the industry believe that Open RAN can provide this RAN cost savings.

“Mobile operators will need to spend significantly in the next five years to build needed RAN for both LTE and 5G,” said Iain Gillott, president and founder of *iGR*. “And we believe a growing number of operators will deploy Open RAN in order to reduce their necessary spending on RAN.”

iGR's new market study, [Global RAN Build Spending Forecast, 2020-2025: LTE, 5G and Open RAN in the U.S. Europe and Asia Pacific](#), presents a five-year forecast of RAN build spending in the U.S., Europe and Asia Pacific, which is further split by 4G / 5G RAN spending and traditional / Open RAN spending. The study also includes a status update on auctioned 5G spectrum and 5G network deployments in the three regions and a discussion of Open RAN, virtualization, edge computing and new RAN technologies such as massive MIMO and beamforming.

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

- How big is the RAN opportunity in the U.S., Europe and Asia Pacific in the next five years?
- What portion of RAN spending will be for Open RAN?
- What is the share of RAN spending for LTE and 5G?
- What are the key capabilities for 5G networks and what are some of the goals and use cases for 5G?
- What is the status of the major mobile operators' 5G networks?

- What are some of the technologies being used to support the deployment of 5G RAN, such as dynamic spectrum sharing, MIMO and beamforming?
- What are the new architectures that are being used to evolve the mobile network and support 5G, such as Open RAN, virtualization and mobile edge computing?
- Who are some of the vendors in the Open RAN ecosystem?

The information in this market study will be valuable for:

- Mobile operators
- Infrastructure OEMs
- Small cell product and solution vendors
- Edge computing solution providers
- Backhaul service providers and equipment OEMs
- Financial analysts and investors.

The new report can be [purchased](#) and downloaded directly from *iGR*'s website at www.igr-inc.com.

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 twenty-first 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: 5G, 4G LTE, smartphones, tablets, connected cars, V2X and V2V, mobile applications, bandwidth demand and use, 5G small cell and het-net architectures, 5G new core virtualization, mobile EPC and RAN virtualization, edge computing, in-building wireless, CBRS, mmWave, spectrum farming, DAS, VoLTE, macro-, pico- and femtocells, mobile front/backhaul, WiFi and WiFi offload, and enterprise private LTE / 5G.

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