Canadian operator Eastlink has selected Ericsson as the lead core network supplier for voice over LTE (VoLTE) and Wi-Fi calling. Ericsson will implement a 5G-ready core network with the Ericsson Fast VoLTE solution based on virtual IMS components. Customers of Eastlink will benefit from further enhanced services.

Ericsson (NASDAQ:ERIC) has become Eastlink’s lead core network supplier for voice over LTE (VoLTE). This will enable the Canadian telecom operator to provide enhanced and more resilient services, and lays the foundation for Wi-Fi calling and future 5G services.

Eastlink will deploy the Ericsson Fast VoLTE solution, a complete pre-integrated virtual IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS) solution that facilitates rapid deployment and scaling. It supports high-definition voice (HD voice) and other communication services over LTE and Wi-Fi access networks.

Lee Bragg, Chief Executive Officer, Eastlink, says, “We operate with an overarching philosophy of continuous improvement through investment in our people, our networks, our services, and in advanced technologies. Partnerships like the longstanding one we have with Ericsson, makes it possible for us to leverage the very best expertise and technology to help bring our customers an exceptional and continuously improved experience.”

Graham Osborne, Head of Ericsson Canada, says: “Telecom operators are looking for cost-effective solutions to manage the ever-increasing volume of mobile traffic and demand for enhanced services. Eastlink is dedicated to delivering the best experience possible to all their customers and this network upgrade will bring immediate improvements and position them well to add future services.”

Eastlink will work with Ericsson to deploy a geo-redundant and 5G-ready core network, ensuring robust and reliable services. The project team with Ericsson’s onsite expertise and global resources, will also modernize customer and front-end databases, such as the Home Location Register and Home Subscriber Service. The network upgrade is expected to be completed during the second half of 2018.

The Ericsson Fast VoLTE solution includes products such as virtual Mobile Telephony Application Server, virtual Session Border Controller, virtual Call Session Control Function, virtual Message Resource Function and virtual IPWorks. It is built on Ericsson BSP 8100 telecom grade hardware and the OpenStack-based virtual infrastructure manager Ericsson Cloud Execution Environment.
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ABOUT EASTLINK
As Canada’s largest family owned and operated telecommunications company, Eastlink provides world-class TV, video entertainment and communications services to residential,
business and public sector customers across Canada. Powered by state-of-the-art fibre optic and wireless networks, Eastlink’s advanced services include High Speed Internet, Wireless, Data, Winston Security and Automation, local and long distance Telephone and exclusive, locally-produced programming on Eastlink TV.

One of Canada’s Best Managed Companies for the past 12 years, Eastlink has operations across Canada, and helps raise over $3.5M annually for charitable and community organizations across the country.