DIGI | RCS & RDS and Ericsson go live with 5G mobile service in Romania

- DIGI to switch on a commercial 5G service in the capital of Bucharest, offering higher speeds and better connectivity
- Deployment includes Ericsson’s 3GPP standards-based 5G New Radio (NR) hardware
- Initial 5G services offered via DIGI’s available spectrum within the 3.6 – 3.8 GHz band

Ericsson (NASDAQ:ERIC) and RCS&RDS (DIGI) have launched Romania’s first 5G commercial service in the busiest parts of Bucharest, where 5G can really make a difference by providing increased speeds for mobile broadband to businesses and consumers.

DIGI | RCS&RDS is deploying Ericsson’s 3GPP standards-based 5G New Radio (NR) hardware and software. Built on top of DIGI’s 4G network, the enhanced mobile broadband capabilities enable customers to connect to both 4G and 5G simultaneously to get the best possible experience even in the most crowded areas, depending on the compatibility of the terminal with 5G technology.

Starting on June 27th, customers can make pre-orders on digiromania.ro to purchase terminals compatible with 5G, VoLTE and VoWiFi technology.

This first phase of DIGI’s 5G rollout is a Non-standalone (NSA) deployment focused on using the combined power of 4G and 5G. In the coming weeks, DIGI and Ericsson will activate more 5G radios and base stations in the capital of Bucharest and the city of Cluj-Napoca.

Valentin Popoviciu, Vice President DIGI | RCS & RDS, says: “In 2018, Digi | RCS & RDS took the first step towards 5G, testing the functionality of this technology on a prototype platform. Today, we are experimenting the capabilities of Digi Mobil 5G Smart network, with the commissioning of the first station in our network, in one of the busiest areas of the capital. As usual, our promise is that we will serve our customers with reliable and affordable mobile data services, including 5G, in selected areas in Bucharest and other big cities of Romania already in 2019."

Arun Bansal, President and Head of Europe and Latin America at Ericsson, says: “We are delighted to partner with DIGI as it switches on commercial 5G in Romania, joining other commercial 5G networks around the world that are powered by Ericsson. It is a crucial time for 5G in Europe and Ericsson is focused on making sure the continent is ready to reap the benefits that increased network capacity and ultra-low latency will bring.”
Romania plans to start spectrum auction for additional spectrum needed for 5G wireless networks in the fourth quarter of 2019. DIGI can already start offering initial 5G services through its already available commercial spectrum within the 3.6 – 3.8 GHz band.

NOTES TO EDITORS:
Find out more about Ericsson 5G.
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ABOUT ERICSSON:
Ericsson enables communications service providers to capture the full value of connectivity. The company’s portfolio spans Networks, Digital Services, Managed Services, and Emerging Business and is designed to help our customers go digital, increase efficiency and find new revenue streams. Ericsson’s investments in innovation have delivered the benefits of telephony and mobile broadband to billions of people around the world. The Ericsson stock is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm and on Nasdaq New York. www.ericsson.com

ABOUT DIGI | RCS & RDS:
DIGI | RCS & RDS is the Romanian branch of Digi Communications N.V., Dutch company listed on Romanian Stock Exchange and a leading provider of fixed and mobile electronic communications in Romania, Hungary, Spain and Italy. Company’s portfolio on the main two markets, Romania and Hungary, includes cable and DTH television services, fixed internet and data, fixed-line telephony, mobile telephony.

DIGI | RCS & RDS is the leading pay-tv and fixed internet provider in Romania, owning one of the most extended and state-of-the-art fiber optic networks in the region. Digi’s operations in Spain and Italy consists of mobile telephony (as a mobile virtual network operator - MVNO). Fixed
internet and fixed telephony have been included, since September 2018, in Digi`s offering on Spanish market. Please visit https://www.digi-communications.ro/ for more information.