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LATAM: ROAD TO 5G

LATIN AMERICA: ROAD TO 5G

In our October newsletter, we discuss the evolution towards 5G in Latin America, auctioned spectrum licences requirements, such as the winning operators to satisfy strict coverage conditions; the upcoming 5G auction in Brazil and the spectrum bands considered as the potential ones for 5G development in the region.

5G in Latin America

A Brazilian auction for 5G will be held on November 4th, 2021, and it will be the largest spectrum auction in the world. The auction will comprise 67 lots covering four frequency bands including 700 MHz, 2.3GHz, 3.5 GHz and 26 GHz. Brazilian 5G started with 5G DSS, but will mainly be implemented as:

- 3.5 GHz, which allows for fast connections and enhanced mobile broadband communications
- 26 GHz, which allows for applications with ultra-reliable low latency, yet requires the installation of more antennas as it has a limited signal range.

The development of new mobile technologies in Latin America has been possible thanks to increased private investments and governments allocating additional spectrum.



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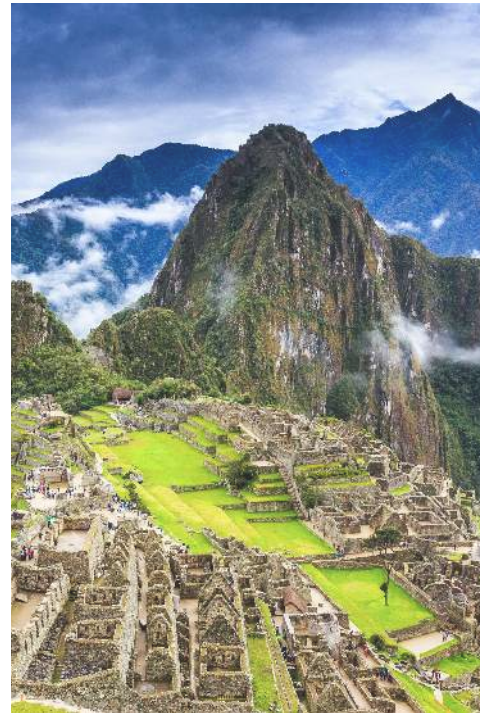
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL CONNECTIVITY

While most of the Latin American population has access to 2G mobile networks, more than half of the rural population lacks access to mobile broadband networks.

Auctioned spectrum licences tend to involve strict obligations for increasing population coverage as part of the countries' digitalisation strategies. Thus, participants of spectrum auctions must plan ahead for providing the required coverage while maintaining scalable and sustainable business models.

Network sharing might be a possible approach for building sustainable 5G network operations in remote regions, as 5G network deployments are expected to be more expensive due to a higher site density.

Omnitele can assist many MNOs by designing high quality shared and consolidated MOCN and MORAN networks.



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