

For Immediate Release

Syniverse study highlights scarcity of LTE roaming outside of the Americas

70 percent of the world's total LTE data roaming traffic originates in North America

MOBILE WORLD CONGRESS AMERICAS, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., USA – Sept. 12, 2017 - A study by Syniverse into global LTE data roaming shows North America and Latin America together account for over 81 percent of all LTE roaming traffic worldwide. The study also highlights the relative scarcity of inter-regional inbound and outbound LTE roaming outside of the Americas.

The study by Syniverse analyzes inter-regional data traffic across more than 1,000 mobile operators in six regions: North America, Latin America, Europe, Asia Pacific, India, and the Middle East and Africa. The results reveal that North America is the origin for 70 percent of the world's total LTE roaming traffic and that 55 percent of the world's LTE data terminates in Latin America.

"Our study shows that the Americas today contribute the lion's share of the world's LTE data roaming traffic," said [Mary Clark](#), Chief Corporate Relations Officer and Chief of Staff at Syniverse. "We can attribute this to North American operators being among the first to launch LTE services at scale several years ago. In Latin America, meanwhile, operators are investing heavily in LTE as a wireless alternative to fixed infrastructure for broadband services."

The Syniverse study shows that a significant majority of the world's total LTE data roaming occurs between the neighboring regions of North America and Latin America.

For North America, 78 percent of its total outbound LTE traffic is exported to Latin America, followed by 12 percent to Europe, and 8 percent to Asia Pacific. India and the Middle East and Africa each receive one percent. Of North America's inbound LTE roaming traffic, 61 percent is imported from Latin America, 24 percent is imported from Europe, 11 percent from Asia Pacific, and 4 percent from the Middle East and Africa.

Latin America's LTE roaming is geared almost entirely for North America. It exports 99 percent of its outbound LTE roaming to North America, and the remaining 1 percent goes to Europe. Similarly, almost all of its inbound LTE roaming traffic (99.9 percent) is imported from North America.

"LTE is on track to become the new standard for mobile voice and data globally," said Clark. "Our study makes clear that LTE roaming is an established fixture between North America and Latin America. What's concerning, however, is the relative lack of LTE roaming between the Americas and the other regions in the study – not just in emerging markets like India and the Middle East and Africa, but the developed markets of Europe and Asia Pacific as well."

Enabling LTE roaming is essential for operators to capture revenue from 4G, and later 5G. Syniverse's data suggests that routes across the globe need to deploy the secure IPX backbone that is central to accelerating the maturity of LTE networks and bringing 5G one step closer.

"The opportunity for operators in the Americas is twofold," Clark added. "First, they must have sufficient IPX capacity to provide secure, high-quality LTE roaming between well-traveled destinations. Second, they must create innovative offers to encourage customers to use their device when traveling."

More details and findings from Syniverse's LTE roaming study, including additional data and supporting visuals, can be found at <http://info.syniverse.com/LP-LTE-Tradewinds>.

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Syniverse IPX Solution

The Syniverse IPX provides the industry's largest global footprint that connects over 820 operators, including over 230 direct connections, to enable seamless voice and data services for their customers internationally, including LTE data and voice (VoLTE) roaming. In addition to unmatched global reach, reliability and security, the Syniverse IPX also incorporates a range of features for operators to test, optimize and perfect services before commercial launch.

About Syniverse

Syniverse is the leading global transaction processor that connects approximately 1,500 mobile service providers, enterprises, ISPs and OTTs in nearly 200 countries and territories, enabling seamless mobile communications across disparate and rapidly evolving networks, devices and applications. We deliver innovative cloud-based solutions that facilitate superior end-user experiences through always-on services and real-time engagement. For more than 30 years, Syniverse has been simplifying complexity to deliver the promise of mobility – a simple, interoperable experience, anytime, anywhere.

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For more information:

Bobby Eagle

Syniverse Public Relations

+1.813.637.5050

bobby.eagle@syniverse.com