

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)
)
Office des postes et télécommunications) File No. _____
de Polynésie française)
)
Application for Authority pursuant to)
Cable Landing License Act)

Cable Landing License Application

Office des postes et télécommunications de Polynésie française ("OPT"), by its attorneys and pursuant to the Cable Landing License Act, 47 U.S.C. §§ 34-39, Executive Order No. 10530, reprinted as amended in 3 U.S.C. § 301, and Section 1.767 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.747, hereby requests authority to land and operate a high capacity fiber optic submarine cable system extending between Papenoo, French Polynesia (Tahiti) and Kawaihae, Hawaii. For the reasons set forth below, OPT respectfully submits that grant of this application will serve the public interest and should be granted on a streamlined basis.

Background. The Tahiti-Hawaii Cable System (called Honotua) will be a common carrier fiber optic cable directly linking Tahiti and Hawaii.¹ The system will span 4,650 kilometers (2,890 miles), linking a new cable station in Papenoo, French Polynesia, which is owned by OPT, to an existing cable station in Kawaihae, Hawaii, which is owned and operated by Pacific LightNet, Inc. ("PLNI"). The cable

¹ An application for authority under Section 214 of the Act to provide international facilities-based and resold services, is being filed concurrently with the instant application.

system, which will deploy next generation dense wavelength-division multiplexing equipment, will provide transmission capacity of up to 1.28 terabits per second between French Polynesia and Hawaii. From Hawaii, the cable system will interconnect with other cable systems providing direct access to the U.S. mainland. Construction of the new cable system is scheduled to begin in 2009, with completion scheduled in 2010.

OPT is a public owned corporation headquartered in Tahiti and existing under the laws of French Polynesia. OPT currently holds no telecommunications licenses issued by the FCC.

Section 1.767(a) Information

The following information is submitted, as required by Section 1.767(a) of the Commission's Rules, in support of OPT's request for authorization.

(1) Name and Address of Applicant (Section 1.767(a)(1)):

Office des postes et télécommunications de Polynésie française
Fare Ute
PO Box 605
Papeete 98713
Tahiti, French Polynesia
Attention: Moana Tatarata, Chairman of the Board
Phone +689 417502
Fax +689 417575

(2) Jurisdictions of Organization (Section 1.767(a)(2)):

OPT is a public owned corporation organized under the laws of French Polynesia.

(3) Correspondence concerning this application should be sent to:

Maui Sanford, Director
Office des postes et télécommunications de Polynésie française

Fare Ute
PO Box 605
Papeete 98713
Tahiti, French Polynesia
Phone +689 414500
Fax +689 417575
e-mail: [Maui SANFORD@opt.pf](mailto:Maui_SANFORD@opt.pf)

and to:

Eric Fishman, Esq.
Holland & Knight LLP
195 Broadway, 24th Floor
New York, New York 10027
Phone: (212) 513-3268
FAX: (212) 385-9010
e-mail: eric.fishman@hklaw.com

(4) Description of the Submarine Cable (Sections 1.767(a)(4) and 1.767(a)(5):

The proposed submarine fiber optic cable network, to be called "Honotua" (a Tahitian name meaning the link towards the open seas, will deliver an ultimate capacity of 32 x10 Gbit/s, and be composed of an international link between Tahiti and Hawaii (4,650 km) and a domestic connection (305 km) linking some of the islands in the French Polynesian archipelago. With completion scheduled in 2010, the Honotua network will increase the availability and accessibility to high quality, innovative broadband applications such as telemedicine, e-learning and on-line tourism programs.

For the US landing point, OPT has entered into an agreement with PLNI to use their Spencer Beach cable landing station at Kawaihae, Hawaii, which is owned

and operated by PLNI. For the Tahitian landing station, OPT will use Papenoo cable landing station near Papeete, which is owned by OPT.

(5) Description of Cable Landing Stations on Shore of United States (Section 1.767(a)(5)):

See response to Item (4) above. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a map displaying a general geographic description of the proposed landing points. The geographic coordinates and addresses of the landing points, beach manholes and cable landing stations on the proposed system are as follows:

A specific description of the cable landing stations on the shore of the United States and in foreign countries where the cable will land:

- PLNI Spencer Beach Cable Station, Kawaihae, Hawaii

The PLNI Spencer Beach Cable Station is located at Kawaihae, Hawaii. The address of the cable station is PLNI Spencer Beach Cable Station, Queen Kaahumanu Highway, Kawaihae, Hawaii, 96743. The coordinates of the cable landing station are: 20 degrees 00'17.49N and 155 degrees 48'47.01 W.

The landing point in Hawaii is an existing cable station. See map attached as **Exhibit A**, which shows a general map of the current active international cables landing in Spencer Beach. The Honotua network will utilize the existing beach manhole and the existing conduit between the beach manhole and the cable station. The beach manhole is located at 20 deg 01' 27.19N, 155 deg 49' 19.67 W. The Honotua system will be installed in the existing conduit between the cable station and the beach manhole.

- OPT Papenoo Cable Station

The OPT Papenoo cable station is located at Papenoo, French Polynesia. The address of the cable station is National Route 1, Papenoo, Tahiti, French Polynesia, and the coordinates of the cable station are: 17 degrees 30' 43.88"S, 149 degrees 25' 08.08'W. The landing point in Papenoo is an existing telecommunications center, but a new cable station. See map attached as **Exhibit A**, which shows a general map of the current active international cables landing in Papenoo. The Honotua network will utilize the existing beach manhole and the existing conduit between the beach manhole and the cable station. The beach manhole is located at 17 degrees 30' 29.65S, 149 degrees 25' 41.16W. The Honotua system will be installed in a new underground conduit between the cable station and the beach manhole.

(6) Cable Operation (Section 1.767(a)(6)):

OPT will operate its submarine cable network on a common carrier basis.

(7) Ownership (Section 1.767(a)(7)):

The owner of the entire proposed cable system, including each of its segments, wet links and landing stations, will be OPT. OPT is a public owned company duly organized and existing under the laws of French Polynesia. OPT presently holds no telecommunications licenses from the FCC.

OPT is wholly owned by the Government of French Polynesia, but financially autonomous from the national government. It is administered by a Board of eight members who are identified in the attached Certification.

(8) Foreign Affiliations (Section 1.767(a)(8)):

OPT is authorized to provide domestic and international telecommunications service in French Polynesia.² French Polynesia is an overseas territory of France and, as such, is represented by France as a member of the World Trade Organization.

(9) Certification (Section 1.767(a)(9)):

OPT hereby certifies that it accepts and will abide by the routine conditions specified in Section 1.767(g) of the Commission's rules.

(10) Other Information (Section 1.767(a)(10)):

OPT respectfully submits that grant of the instant application will serve the public interest by permitting OPT to address the growing needs of its consumers in French Polynesia. OPT is committed to provide state-of-the-art, affordable service between the United States and French Polynesia.

Request for Streamlined Processing

Applicant seeks streamlined processing for the instant application pursuant to the Commission's Report and Order in IB Docket No. 00-106, FCC 01-332, *released* December 14, 2001. OPT respectfully submits that it is qualified for such streamlined processing because OPT agrees to be classified as a dominant carrier to French Polynesia under Section 63.10 of the Commission's rules, without prejudice

² Under the laws of French Polynesia, OPT is obligated to provide telecommunications and postal services to the 118 islands comprising the country. As part of its telecommunications public service obligations, OPT provides fixed telephony analog and digital service for local, national and international voice traffic, leased lines. Although they are not part of its public service obligations, OPT also discharges Internet service, mobile GSM service, and switched voice international service through wholly owned subsidiaries. In 2003, French Polynesia authorized competition for mobile and internet services, and a new entrant, Mara Telecom, has announced plans to initiate 3G mobile service in December 2008.

to its right to petition for reclassification at a later date. OPT further submits that, as an Overseas Territory of France, French Polynesia is a member of the World Trade Organization, and that the Commission has determined that the U.S.-French Polynesia route is benchmark-compliant and exempt from the Commission's International Settlement Policy.³

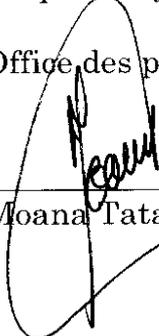
Conclusion

In conclusion, OPT certifies that all of the information in this application is accurate and correct. For these reasons, OPT respectfully requests that the Commission grant this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Office des postes et télécommunications

By:


Moana Tatarata

September 26, 2008

³ See Public Notice, DA 04-2832, released August 31, 2004. See http://www.fcc.gov/ib/pd/pt/isp_exempt.html.

**CERTIFICATION OF
OFFICE DES POSTES ET TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Office des postes et télécommunications (“OPT”) is a newly formed limited partnership duly organized and existing under the laws of French Polynesia. OPT holds no telecommunications licenses. The officers and directors of OPT, all of whom are citizens of French Polynesia, are: Moana Tatarata (Chairman), George Puchon (Vice President), Jules Ienfa, Guy Lejeune, Moehau Teriitahi, Otime Teura, Jacqui Drollet, Hirohiti Tefaarere, and Teiva Chavez. Their business address is the same as the Company: Fare Ute, PO Box 605, Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia 98713.

OPT is a company wholly owned by the Government of French Polynesia.

Interlocking Directorates: OPT has no interlocking directorates.

Foreign Affiliations: OPT certifies that it is an authorized telecommunications carrier in French Polynesia.

Special Concessions: OPT certifies that it has not agreed to accept special concessions directly or indirectly from any foreign or domestic carrier with respect to any U.S. international route where the foreign or foreign carrier possesses market power on the foreign end of the route and will not enter into such agreements in the future.

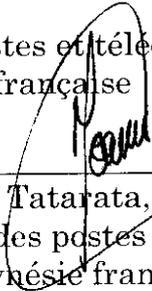
OPT further certifies that, with the exception of French Polynesia, it does not seek to provide international telecommunications services to any destination country for which any of the provisions of Section 63.18(j) is true.

OPT further certifies that no party to this application has been denied federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.

The undersigned respectfully certifies under penalty of perjury that he has read the foregoing application and that the statements contained therein, and in this certification, are true and correct.

Office des postes et télécommunications
de Polynésie française

By: _____


Moana Tatarata, Chairman
Office des postes et télécommunications
de Polynésie française
PO BOX 605
Papeete 98713
Tahiti, French Polynesia

September 26, 2008

Exhibit A
Maps of Cable Landing Stations

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Southern Cross to USA

Southern Cross to NZ

Honotua to Tahiti

Beach Manhole
20deg 01' 27.19N
155deg 49' 19.67W

PLNI Spencer Beach Cable Station
20deg 00' 17.49"N, 155deg 48' 47.01W

Image © 2008 TerraMetrics

Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

© 2007 Google

ter 20°01'00.81" N 155°48'39.50" W elev 82 m

Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 4.16



Beach Manhole
17deg30' 29.65S,
149deg 25' 41.16W

Papenoo Cable Station
17deg 30' 43.88" S
149deg 26' 08.08"W

Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

© 2007 Google

ter 17°30'36.33" S 149°25'53.03" W elev 80 m

Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 1.33