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MainOne and SubCom announce branches to Ivory Coast and Senegal are Ready for Service on MainOne Cable System

Additional system connectivity provides advanced communication abilities in Western Africa

EATONTOWN, N.J., USA, and LAGOS, NIGERIA, December 2, 2019 – <u>SubCom</u> and <u>MainOne</u> today announced that two new branches of the MainOne Cable System are ready for service. The branches, which extend from the MainOne omnibus cable between Seixal, Portugal, and Accra, Ghana, have landing stations in Dakar, Senegal, and Grand Bassam, Ivory Coast, and are connected to MainOne's 7,000km cable system, which runs from Portugal to Nigeria. Both branches utilize SubCom's SL17-A1 cable on the system and is designed to maximize flexibility of wavelength distribution between landing stations.

The branches use SubCom's undersea WSS ROADM technology and a spectrum sharing solution on the omnibus fiber pairs to achieve wavelength distribution. The use of the WSS ROADM technology is not only a first for Africa, but the first to be put into service in a system, worldwide. The WSS ROADM, when applied along with the terrestrial ROADM functionality in Ghana, provides MainOne with direct transmission between the new landings and all of the previous landings, including Lagos, Nigeria. Furthermore, the system has a protected, diverse terrestrial route with automatic protection switching between the cable landing station (CLS) and the PoP in the lvory Coast.

"We're very pleased to have completed the MainOne branch extensions, utilizing some of our new technology to provide more network flexibility," said Debbie Brask, VP Project Management at SubCom.

"After our successful work with SubCom on the base system of the MainOne cable, we were excited to once again collaborate on these additional branches," said Funke Opeke, CEO MainOne. "SubCom's new technological offerings will help us provision broadband access for an array of users, including wholesale providers, improving regional customer options and reduce costs. These developments are consistent with our mission of expanding the reach of fiber optic cables in West Africa, driving digital transformation and boosting economic development in the region."

About SubCom

SubCom is the leading global partner for today's undersea data transport requirements. SubCom designs, manufactures, deploys, maintains, and operates the industry's most reliable fiber optic cable networks. Its flexible solutions include repeaterless to ultra-long-haul, offshore oil and gas, scientific applications, and marine services. SubCom brings end-to-end network knowledge and global experience to support on-time delivery and meet the needs of customers worldwide. To date, the company has deployed over 200 networks - enough undersea cable to circle Earth more than 17 times at the equator. www.subcom.com

About MainOne

MainOne is a broadband infrastructure company providing innovative telecoms services and network solutions across West Africa. Its submarine cable was the first private subsea cable to deliver openaccess, broadband capacity to West Africa in 2010, heralding the explosion in internet access witnessed in the region. The company has developed a reputation as the preferred provider of wholesale internet services to major telecom operators, ISPs, government agencies, large enterprise, and educational institutions in the region. MainOne also owns a data centre subsidiary, MDXi which builds and operates Tier III data centres across West Africa. MainOne's submarine cable system traverses the coast of West Africa with interconnection to leading regional operators and internet exchanges worldwide to provide global reach to its customers.

Contact:	For MainOne:	For SubCom:
	Toyosi Lana	Courtney McDaniel
	+234 (0) 705 682 7371	+1 732 578 7356
	toyosi.lana@mainone.net	info@subcom.com