



# Media Release



6 October 2016

## **JT named as finalist in Guernsey Construction Awards**

JT is one of three finalists in the 'Engineering Project of the Year' category at this year's Guernsey Construction Awards, which will be held at Beau Sejour on Friday 14 October.

The shortlisting relates to two key projects that JT has undertaken to improve connectivity in Guernsey. The first was a three-year project, completed last December, involving connecting 46 States of Guernsey buildings to JT's fibre-optic network, and 120 sites to a MPLS\* Wide Area Network.

This WAN provides a foundation for future connectivity for the States of Guernsey. It has delivered a secure, dedicated connection to share services and information via a robust, superfast broadband network. It means that the Island's schools, for example, now benefit from greater opportunities for digital learning and online collaboration.

It also provides Guernsey with a 31 mile ring of fibre, allowing for businesses and residential customers to begin to connect to JT's new network and experience the benefits of superfast fibre broadband. In 2016, two residential schemes - Royal Terrace and One St Julian's Avenue – were among the first to connect to JT's fibre-optic network, delivering superfast speeds of 50 Mb, 100 Mb and 1 Gb fibre-broadband services. Over £7m has been invested locally in this ambitious project.

The second and complementary project was the completion of a new 4G mobile network, which represented part of a £12m pan-island initiative to replace JT's mobile network in Guernsey. It means that Guernsey customers on JT's network now experience the fastest speeds in the Channel Islands which are ahead of UK operators.

Both projects were completed on time and on budget.

JT Guernsey's Managing Director, Paul D Taylor, said: "We're clearly delighted to be a finalist in this category, which illustrates JT's total commitment to build fibre networks across the Channel Islands. Coupled with our £12 million investment in an advanced 4G CI mobile network, we are doing all we can to make our islands an attractive proposition for digital progression and help future proof connectivity for businesses and residents alike.

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“Engineering projects of this scale only come up every decade or so and to deliver two such significant projects within the same year is a massive undertaking. I’m proud of the teams who worked so hard to deliver these projects, not only on time but with the least disruption as we could for Islanders.”

**ENDS**

## Notes to Editors

For further information, please contact Direct Input, telephone 01534 735253 or email [julien@directinput.je](mailto:julien@directinput.je)

\* Multiprotocol Label Switching: A way of carrying large amounts of data quickly

Growing from the inaugural event in 2015, the Guernsey Construction Awards has moved to the larger capacity Dave Ferguson Hall at Beau Sejour, and now features a number of awards including a Lifetime Achievement Award. The night will once again be hosted by Jenny Kendall Tobias of BBC Radio Guernsey.