

news release



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VODAFONE UK ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL VOICE OVER 4G (LTE) TESTS

- Vodafone makes first successful Voice over LTE call at UK lab in Newbury, Berkshire
- Ongoing trial working towards offering crystal clear calls and even higher quality video calling

Less than a year after the launch of its ultrafast 4G service, Vodafone UK has announced it has successfully tested Voice over LTE at its specialist laboratory in Newbury. 'Voice over LTE', or 'VoLTE', is a universal technology allowing voice calls to be carried across Vodafone's 4G data network, instead of using the 2G or 3G voice network as they do today.

Future development of VoLTE will lead to:

- The ability to receive calls and use data seamlessly and simultaneously, which means customers' ultrafast 4G download speeds won't be interrupted when making or receiving a call.
- Increased voice call quality and performance, providing crystal clear calls across 4G and decreased background noise.
- High quality video calling, without buffering or pixelating - meaning customers will experience their call as though they're really face-to-face with each other.
- A faster call set-up time – connecting customers to their friends and family in an instant.

This successful trial is amongst a number of innovative projects achieved by Vodafone and its partners this year. This includes the deployment of Vodafone's 2.6Ghz spectrum on a small cell system using Huawei's Lampsite technology. This now gives employees and visitors to Huawei's UK headquarters 4G data speeds of up to 82Mbps downlink and 42Mbps uplink.

Vodafone UK

Vodafone House, The Connection, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2FN, England
www.vodafone.com

Vodafone UK Media Relations

Telephone: +44 (0) 1635 666777

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Fergal Kelly, CTO at Vodafone UK said: “We’ve been continually developing and investing heavily in our UK network since it launched nearly 30 years ago. Our trial of VoLTE, less than a year after the launch of our 4G network, is the next major innovation, and is hugely important as we continue our work to build the UK’s best network.”

In the last few months, Vodafone has expanded its ultrafast 4G coverage to 263 larger cities, towns and districts as well as thousands of smaller communities across the UK. This expansion is part of £1 billion it is spending on its UK network and services this year.

Vodafone UK will now continue to test and develop the service as it works toward commercial launch in the future.

What could Voice over LTE mean for consumers? We’ve spoken to the Vodafone UK network team to find out: <http://vdfn.co/4Gvoice>

For further information:

Vodafone UK Media Relations

Telephone: 01635 666777

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