Working with Starlink to connect more people in remote Australia



To help provide additional solutions for our regional customers, Telstra is now working with Starlink to provide voice and fixed broadband services in remote and hard to reach places using Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite connectivity.

This world-first offering means Telstra will be able to provide home phone service and Starlink broadband services to regional Australians as a bundle offer, as well as local tech support and the option of professional installation.

The Starlink agreement will also offer connectivity options for our business customers, with a higher bandwidth business option available in areas without fixed and mobile connectivity. The business offer will be available to purchase from Telstra both locally and in select countries overseas.

We're expecting to be able to present the new USO compliant offer to customers and businesses towards the end of 2023, when we'll also share pricing and plan details and how basic voice calls will work with the modem provided with the service.

Direct to handset capability

Australia has more than 26 million people located across over 7.6 million square kilometres of land. This vast scale creates unique challenges when it comes to connectivity, as it's simply not viable to build mobile coverage everywhere.

We have the largest mobile network in Australia, but there will always be places that are hard to reach, which is why we're similarly collaborating with LEO sat providers on new ways for people in remote locations to connect on their mobiles and in their homes as the technology develops.

While not available for some time, direct to handset capability is evolving quickly. There are providers emerging and that number will grow, and we are committed to bringing this technology to customers at the right time and in the best way. It is important to note that while the technology is exciting and will be capable in reaching remote parts of the country, it will augment the range of services on offer but won't replace terrestrial mobile networks.

We look forward to working with SpaceX and potentially others on direct to handset technology in the coming months and years.

