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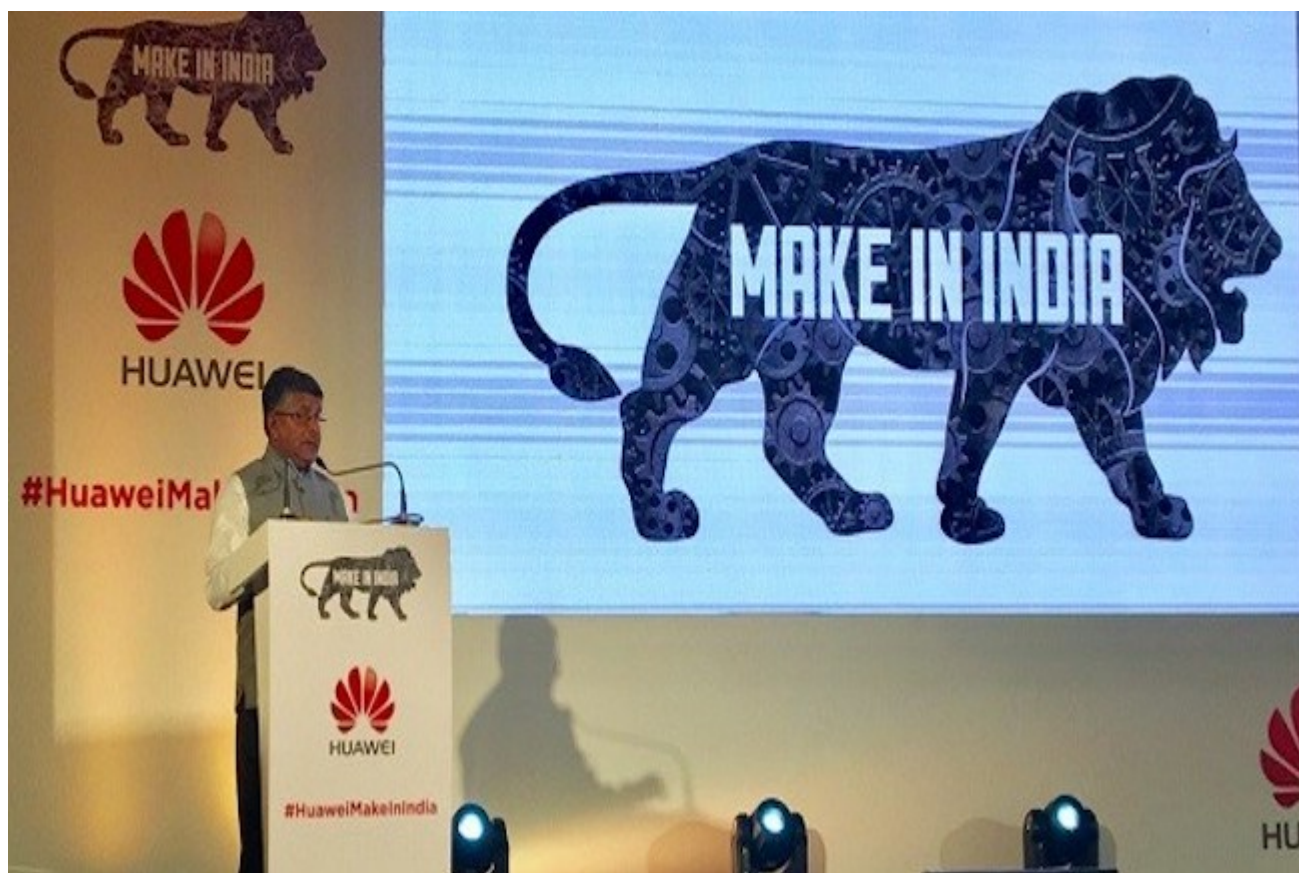
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AUSTRALIA ADVISING INDIA ON HUAWEI 5G BAN



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AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS ADVISE INDIA ON HUAWEI BAN: REPORT

Australian officials have been carrying water for the US, with a team advising India about the reasons for the ban imposed on Chinese telecommunications equipment vendor Huawei Technologies last year, reports claim.

Citing *The Australian* and the *Australian Financial Review*, *Reuters* [reported](#) that a team led by Australian cyber affairs ambassador Tobias Feakin visited New Delhi last week.

The *AFR* was quoted as saying: "Indian officials were keen to get an understanding of how the Turnbull government arrived at the decision to ban Huawei, and multiple discussions have been held over the matter."

It was claimed that Feakin explained "in detail" why so-called high-risk vendors had been banned from bidding for supplying equipment for 5G networks in Australia.



This is the second time that Australian officials have carried the US message to other countries, the first being when deputy head of the Office of National Intelligence, Andrew Shearer, travelled to the UK to try and influence that country's decision on the use of Huawei gear, according to [a report](#) in the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Australia's high commissioner to the UK, George Brandis, has appeared before the Intelligence and Security

Committee and suggested that it would be better for all the Five Eyes nations — the US, Canada, the UK, Australia and New Zealand — to adopt a united front.

The Australian said India had also spoken to the US about the ban imposed on Huawei in that country.

Contacted for comment, a Huawei spokesperson said the company had no response.

Apart from the US and Australia, New Zealand has not gone down the Huawei path either, but still claims that it has not banned the use of the company's gear.

Japan is the other nation that has said it will avoid using the Chinese firm's equipment.

Sam Varghese

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NOKIA, NTT DOCOMO, OMRON COLLABORATE ON 5G FIELD TRIALS

Telecommunications stakeholders Nokia, NTT DOCOMO, and OMRON Corporation are to conduct joint field trials using 5G at their plants and other production sites.

As part of the trial, Nokia will provide the enabling 5G technology and OMRON the factory automation equipment while NTT DOCOMO will run the 5G trial.

Announcement of the trial follows what Nokia says is the increasing demand for wireless communications at manufacturing sites driven by the need for stable connectivity between IoT devices.



With background noise from machines and the movement of people having the potential to interfere with wireless communications, the trial will aim to verify the reliability and stability of 5G technology deployed by conducting radio wave measurements and transmission experiments.

During the trial, Nokia, DOCOMO and OMRON will aim to establish the feasibility of the concept of a layout-free production line

with Autonomous Mobile Robots (AMRs).

In a statement issued on Tuesday, Nokia says that as product cycles become shorter due to fast-changing consumer demands, manufacturing sites are under increasing pressure to rearrange production lines at short notice.

By taking advantage of 5G's high speed, large capacity, low latency and ability to connect multiple devices, the trial will see AMRs automatically conveying components to the exact spot where they are required based on communication with production line equipment.

Nokia says the trial will also leverage 5G connectivity for real-time coaching using AI/IoT – and machine operators will be monitored using cameras, with an AI-based system providing feedback on their performance based on an analysis of their movements.

The three companies say this will help improve the training of technicians by detecting and analysing the differences of motion between more skilled and less skilled personnel.

“This trial will allow us to address some of the biggest challenges facing manufacturers today”, said John Harrington, President and CEO, Nokia Japan.

“Whilst consumers will experience faster, more immediate mobile communications, it is manufacturers that are set to benefit the most from 5G.

“The stable, lower-latency and higher throughput wireless connections that come with 5G allow them to truly embrace the Internet of Things.

“Production lines will be more flexible and adaptable, and productivity on the factory floor can be more easily improved.

“We are dedicated to helping manufacturers enable this Industry 4.0 vision.”

Takehiro Nakamura, Senior Vice President and General Manager of 5G Laboratories, NTT DOCOMO, commented: “NTT DOCOMO has conducted multiple trials creating 5G use cases with a variety of partners, with factory automation emerging as one of the most interesting and challenging fields to explore.

“We are delighted to collaborate with Nokia and OMRON in the co-creation of innovative 5G services for the manufacturing sector.

“We are confident we will be able to prove the feasibility of layout-free factory production lines with Autonomous Mobile Robots and person-machine collaboration, thanks to Nokia’s expertise in 5G infrastructure and OMRON’s manufacturing technology know-how.”

“We are pleased to start this experiment with Nokia and DOCOMO, aiming to bring 5G onto the real manufacturing floor”, said, Shinji Fukui, Executive Officer and Senior General Manager, Technology Development Division HQ, Industrial Automation Company, OMRON.

“OMRON is striving to create innovations in manufacturing through our technologies and solutions based on the industry’s widest range of control devices.

“We believe this collaboration will enable us to create innovative solutions with 5G to address issues in the manufacturing industries by integrating OMRON’s control technology, DOCOMO’s 5G expertise and the cutting-edge technology of Nokia.”

Peter Dinham



John de Ridder

Telecommunications Economist

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BVIVID PAYS \$25K PENALTY OVER CONSUMER CONTRACTS BREACH

Telco BVivid has paid fines totalling \$25,000 for making telemarketing calls to consumers in areas transitioning to the NBN that breached Australian Consumer Law.

The telco was penalised by the competition regulator, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, for making telemarketing calls to consumers in areas transitioning to the NBN that breached Australian Consumer Law.

The ACCC said on Monday it has accepted a court-enforceable undertaking from BVivid after issuing the telco with two infringement notices.

As part of commitments in the undertaking BVivid will contact all affected consumers and offer to release them from their contracts without charge and refund any termination fees already paid.

The ACCC says that from October 2017 to at least May 2018, BVivid cold-called consumers and told them their internet services would be disconnected or they would lose their telephone number if they did not move to the NBN immediately.

“BVivid’s calls likely misled consumers and gave them a

false sense of urgency and need,” ACCC Commissioner Sarah Court said.

“Consumers generally have 18 months from when the NBN becomes available in their area to switch before being at risk of disconnection.”

BVivid also admitted that it likely breached the unsolicited consumer agreement protections in the ACL when it supplied services within the 10 business day cooling-off period and failed to give consumers an official form they could use to terminate the contract.



BVivid's business address, which it was legally required to include in its agreements, was also missing.

"The unsolicited consumer agreement provisions are designed to protect consumers from being pressured by cold-calling telemarketers into signing up to contracts they may not understand," Court said.

"We are of the view that BVivid did not meet all their obligations to consumers who were subjected to their unsolicited marketing practices.

"Consumers who find themselves signed up to a contract as a result of unsolicited marketing can cancel their contract without penalty within 10 business days of signing without needing to provide a reason," Court concluded.

The Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman issued a separate statement welcoming the ruling against BVivid.

Ombudsman Judi Jones said, our [Misleading telemarketing of NBN services](#) report explored investigations conducted by my office into certain telco providers.

"We found threats of being disconnected from phone and internet services, loss of phone numbers, and inaccurate information about NBN plans were the issues affecting consumers."

Jones' comments follow the announcement on Tuesday by the competition regulator, the ACCC, that BVivid has paid \$25,200 in penalties after being issued with two infringement notices.

From October 2017 to at least May 2018, BVivid cold-called consumers and told them their internet services would be disconnected or they would lose their telephone number if they did not move to the NBN immediately.

Jones says all former and current BVivid customers who, as a result of a telemarketing call, transferred their telecommunications services to BVivid between 1 October 2017 and 9 September 2019 should receive a letter from BVivid.

"BVivid's letter will allow former and current customers to contact BVivid to arrange for a costless exit if the customers believe they were misled during the telemarketing call," Jones says in a statement, adding that BVivid has until 10 October to notify affected customers.

Peter Dinham

NBN CO DEPLOYS INFINERA SDN SOLUTION ACROSS NETWORK

Australia's broadband builder NBN Co has deployed Infinera's transcend software-defined networking (SDN) solution across its network.

Infinera says the "self-healing capabilities" of its solution allow network operators to restore customer services by automatically rerouting traffic when faults occur.



According to the company, this will allow NBN Co to increase its network resiliency and reliability by introducing automatic service restoration capabilities across its network.

"The Transcend SDN solution was deployed and integrated with our systems, giving us the capability to increase service availability to some of the most remote locations across Australia," said NBN Co's Chief Network Deployment Officer, Kathrine Dyer.

"This will give our network increased resiliency and help ensure that our customers get the best possible experience when migrating to NBN Co's broadband access network."

Bob Jandro, Senior Vice President, Worldwide Sales at Infinera said, "We are delighted to work with NBN Co by providing innovative software and automation solutions that help them overcome the challenges of operating a large nationwide network."

"Transcend's service restoration and management capabilities are ideal for network operators like NBN Co to differentiate themselves in a competitive market by providing the most reliable services.

Peter Dinham

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