



Press Release  
Kourou, 16 January 2019

## Orange inaugurates its new Kanawa submarine cable in Kourou and strengthens connectivity in French Guiana and the Antilles

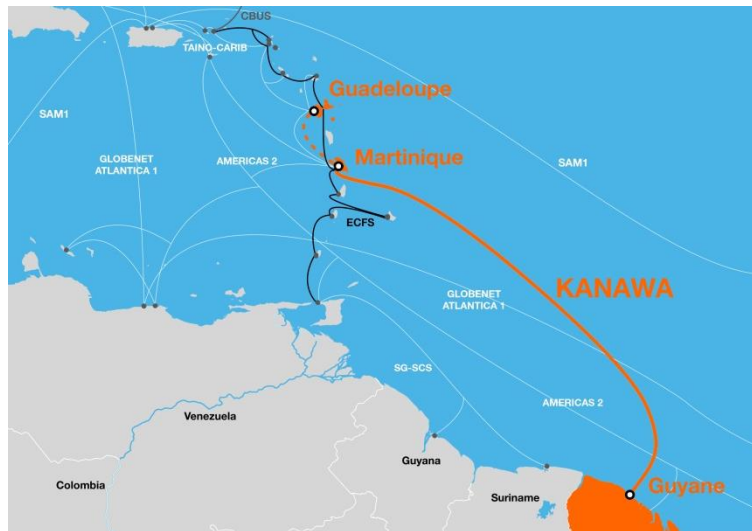
The official inauguration of the [Kanawa submarine cable](#) took place yesterday in Kourou in the presence of François Ringuet, Mayor of Kourou, Thierry Kergall, Orange French Guiana Antilles Director and Stéphane Richard, Chairman and CEO of Orange. This 1,746 km-long cable linking French Guiana and Martinique was financed entirely by Orange. Completed in under two years, this cable will support and anticipate the strong growth in digital uses and improve the quality of the network.



### **Kanawa: from the traditional canoe to the submarine cable**

Following an internal competition open to all Group employees, the cable was named Kanawa in reference to the traditional Amerindian boats that provided a means of exchange between the islands. Now, Kanawa is also a submarine cable that provides a link between French Guiana and the American continent.

The last stages of the installation are being completed. This is the final stage of the project before the operational and commercial startup of the cable - scheduled for the end of January - when Kanawa will be able to play a leading role in the development of new digital services. Kanawa is also accessible to other operators and content suppliers that want to use additional capacities.



Kanawa benefits from the most cutting-edge technology currently used in fibre optics: WDM (Wavelength Division Multiplexing) which can increase the capacity according to needs without requiring any new submarine work. Made up of two pairs of fibres, Kanawa can send up to 100\*100Gbit/s or 10 terabits/s and is one of the most powerful cables in the region.

Engineering, innovation, collaboration: Kanawa is the fruit of Orange's expertise at every stage of the submarine cable project, from the design phase, to laying it across the seabed and then its operational management. Orange Marine, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Orange Group laid the cable connecting Kourou to Schœlcher in Martinique.

### Digital inclusion for every territory

Kanawa, a new internet highway, is also a real driver of growth and development for French Guiana.

*“With its demographic growth and the growth in uses, French Guiana is one of the most dynamic territories for digital technology. We built Kanawa to meet this need for speed and to secure this region's connection to the global network. This submarine cable, which we are inaugurating today, will connect French Guiana and Martinique and represents an investment of €35 million for Orange,”* said Stéphane Richard, Chairman and CEO of Orange.

### Orange continues its submarine cable extension strategy

Through these investments, Orange is contributing to the development of a global high-speed broadband submarine network, providing the company with powerful tools for the benefit of all its customers, allowing them to accomplish their projects and digital uses.

#### About Orange

Orange is one of the world's leading telecommunications operators with sales of €41 billion in 2017 and has 150,000 employees worldwide at 30 Sep 2018, including 92,000 employees in France. The Group has a total customer base of more than 261 million customers at 30 September 2018, including 201 million mobile customers and 20 million fixed broadband customers worldwide. The Group is present in 28 countries. Orange is also a leading provider of global IT and telecommunication services to multinational companies, under the Orange Business Services brand. In March 2015, the Group presented its new strategic plan Essentials2020, which places customers' experience at the heart of its strategy with the aim of allowing them to benefit fully from the digital universe and the power of its new generation networks.

Orange is listed on Euronext Paris (symbol ORA) and on the New York Stock Exchange (symbol ORAN).  
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