Alternatives Wireless Broadband Choice for 2G Operator

Méditel, owned by Telefonica and Portugal Telecom, selects Huawei WiMAX to enter wireless broadband era in Morocco.

**Highlights**

**Challenges**
- Lack of fiber and 3G frequency resources
- Less than perfect suburban infrastructure
- A need to minimize construction and operational costs

**Huawei’s Solution**
- WiMAX solution with 4th generation techniques that enhance throughput
- Distributed base station for fast deployment with higher network quality
- Green BTS and green auxiliary solutions

**Benefits to Méditel**
- Abundant wireless broadband for end-users
- Fast deployment throughout the country
- Lowered CAPEX & OPEX

**About Méditel**
- Méditel (often regionally referred to as Médi Télécom) is the second largest mobile operator in Morocco with 7.8 million mobile subscribers. The operator is joint owned by Telefonica and Portugal Telecom.
- Internet access penetration is still below 2%.
- Between 2007 and 2008, Méditel realized a 15% market share of the country’s wireless Internet business.
- Limited by a total customer base of 1 million customers, cable-based, fixed-line WiMAX has a bright future in Morocco.

** Méditel’s Challenges**

**No Fiber and Lacks a 3G Frequency Resource**
Morocco’s government wanted country-wide broadband coverage by 2009. Méditel took into consideration the market requirement for a wireless broadband network and the lack of a 3G frequency resource (10 MHz HSPA). They urgently needed a new wireless technology to cover the non-broadband areas.

**Suburban Infrastructure is Less Than Ideal**
Méditel lacked resources in suburban and rural areas.
Since the cost of infrastructure is borne by the operator, the vendor who provided a solution compatible with the low demand, and with more flexible equipment, would prevail.

**Solution for Lower Construction and Operation costs**
Morocco has a population of 30 million, and end users are sparsely distributed. Therefore, a wireless network with wide coverage, large capacity and high PA was required.
Huawei’s Solution

Advanced Wireless Technology Applied Through a WiMAX DSL Solution
Huawei’s 4G technology solution embraces MIMO A/B, OFDMA and AMC, all of which enhanced speed and throughput for the operator and optimal service experience for the subscribers.

Distributed Base Station Spurred Fast Deployment with Higher Network Quality
The 4th Generation BTS can be hand-carried to the site. The RRU can be installed on a tower and has zero feeder loss. The RRU and antenna integration has a DL/UL 3 dB gain. With Multi-Antenna Technology, 6 dB gain is offered.

Green Base Station and Green Auxiliary Solution
Huawei’s BTS has low power consumption and high 30% PA efficiency rating. Its design incorporates a passive natural cooling method, which eliminates power-hungry cooling equipment. It has a high environmental tolerance that requires no shelter. For Méditel these features reduced power consumption by more than 30%. The BS also allowed for 100% legacy reuse and a 30% decrease in civil works expenditure.
Abundant Broadband services
With 20M bandwidth, the Méditel WiMAX network is fully capable of meeting all local demand. Added end-user benefits, such as VoIP/VPN/Internet, have all been tested and proven for the new network.

Fast Deployment
A total of 70 BTS were deployed in only four months without any of the infrastructure requirements and costs that had typically been encountered in the past.

Low CAPEX and OPEX
Thanks to Huawei’s solutions, Méditel saved over 50% in construction and operation costs.