



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

EAST AFRICA ASSEMBLY MEMBERS VISIT EASSY LANDING STATION

Dar es Salaam, February 21, 2011: Zantel today hosted a delegation of members of the Communication Committee from the East Africa Assembly who came to learn more about the East African Submarine Cable System (EASSy). Zantel is the local host of the EASSy cable in Tanzania with the landing station situated at the Zantel Head Offices at Zantel Park Drive – In Msasani.

The members of parliament were taken for a tour around the landing station and taken through a presentation on the EASSy project from the landing in the country April 2010 and the starting of operation in August 2010.

Zantel Chief Financial Officer Arthur Hudson representing the CEO said the EASSy cable has revolutionized internet technology with the provision of high speed with high speed connectivity. *“Through the technology and innovation brought by this cable Tanzania is now open to the world for business as better communication will facilitate more trade with other countries. The telecom companies too will benefit as their operational costs will be substantially reduced as they will move from using satellites and in turn communication costs will go down for the end users.”*

The EASSy cable is an undersea fiber optic cable that links the countries of East Africa to the rest of the world. Zantel and TTCL are the investors of the EASSy project in Tanzania and are responsible for selling and distributing capacity to other network operators and Internet Service Providers (ISP's). The cable also interconnects with domestic and international networks.

On his part the Assembly Communication Committee Chairman Mr. John Ngikune from Rwanda said *“We are delighted with the progress the EASSy cable has made so far in terms of reducing the cost of communication evidently with the cost making voice calls. We are very eager to see similar price reductions on internet services because we want East Africa to be the hub of communication as it will translate in the development of our region. With EASSy we are a step closer in realizing that dream for our region and applaud Zantel and all partners involved in the project for their determination to bring latest and affordable technology.”*

Data presenting the next frontier for telecommunication operations in the region Zantel is determined to continue taking the lead in providing affordable internet access and data transmission. The EASSy cable serves to raise the overall broadband capacity for Tanzania, and this assures the market a reliable high-speed broadband service at better costs around the region.

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For more information contact:

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About ZANTEL:

The Z story is one of investment, one of innovation, one of potential award-winning customer service. But, above all, it is one of growth and the ability to deliver the tremendous benefits of mobile communications in Tanzania. With roots going back to 1999, Zanzibar Telecom Ltd. became a joint venture between The Government of Zanzibar – 18% Emirates Telecommunications Corporation (ETISALAT) – 65% and Meeco International 17%.