

Saudi Telecom Company (stc) deploys 30-port antennas to help overlay 5G without overloading its infrastructure. This is assisted by its international advanced technology partner – CommScope.



Saudi Telecom Company

- Founded in 1998
- Headquartered in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 17,000 employees
- Provides wired, wireless and broadband services



stc is leading the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the 5G era.

Saudi Telecom Company (stc) works tirelessly to maintain its leading position in the adoption of emerging communications technologies, serving one of the most rapidly modernizing markets in the world. Meeting customer high expectations is paramount for stc; but equally important is the formulation of smart strategies that deliver next-generation services rapidly and efficiently. To this end, stc has put forth its DARE Strategy, which is designed to reinforce stc's leading role in the industry and focuses on all work aspects of its business units.

Overlaying 5G can overload infrastructure.

stc plans to overlay its 5G infrastructure onto sites that already hosted existing 2G, 3G and 4G/LTE hardware. This will expedite deployments, maximize service availability and more critically, optimize towers load efficiency. The addition of extra 5G-antenna weight and wind load poses a challenge in many key locations.

In line with the stc DARE strategy, CommScope 30-Port solution induces the required efficiencies and optimizes towers' loading.

CommScope had long been a trusted international partner of stc following years of wide deployments of multiple antenna solutions, including a customized design for 16-port antennas to support increased densification of the 4G/LTE network. stc and CommScope have always partnered to create new customized solutions to solve emerging challenges delivering **better infrastructure based on better antennas.**

The resulting solution (the 30-port antenna) was the first deployment of such a technology anywhere in the world. The new solutions has been tailored in every dimension of its design to meet stc's specifications.

Thanks to this close working relationship, CommScope was able to deliver the new solution in about half the normal six-month production cycle. The deployment was performed by stc's other international partners (Nokia and Ericsson).

The deployment of CommScope new customized 30-port antenna enabled stc to support more technologies with less weight and wind-load on towers, solving the challenge of overburdened infrastructure and giving adequate room to deploy 5G equipment while at the same time serving stc strategic efficiency drive. **As a result; a modern world-class 5G network was born, powered in its backbone by** the 30-port antenna design and deployment.

Accordingly, stc proudly announces the commercial launch of 5G in the Kingdom, as first in the region, solidifying its role as the leading telecommunications provider.

The result

- 90% restoration of Load Critical Sites
- Relief for overloaded infrastructure
- Streamlined, economical deployments
- First to market with a true 5G network

“As renowned leader of the telecom industry in the region, stc always strives to pioneer the adoption of new technologies to improve service quality and provide superior user experience. As long-term partner, CommScope – a market leader in Network infrastructure solutions – is committed to providing forward-looking solutions and innovative infrastructure improvements. The 30-port Antennae – exclusively tailored solution for stc – will definitely provide immense benefits to the stc network optimization efforts, simplifying its operations and reducing overall cost. This is all part of our strategy for total **Digital Transformation** of the Kingdom's society. It also directly serves the high aspirations sketched out in our national 2030 vision. We look forward to continued close partnership with CommScope to maintain a sustainable evolution and rich improvements in all aspects of our infrastructure developments.”

Eng. Hisham A. Alabdaly,
Infrastructure Design GM - stc

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