Level 3 Collaborates with Alphabet's Project Loon to Provide Internet Access in Natural Disaster-Affected Areas in Peru

High Altitude Balloons Network Project uses Level 3's High-speed Internet Services to Provide Connectivity for Ground Stations in Peruvian Territory

LIMA, Peru, June 13, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Working with Level 3 Communications, Inc. (NYSE: LVLT), Alphabet, through Project Loon, was able to provide internet access to underserved areas in Peru affected by natural disaster.

Project Loon is a network of balloons traveling on the edge of space, designed to extend internet connectivity to people in rural and remote areas worldwide. During a recent natural disaster, Project Loon helped connect people in flood zones around Lima, Chimbote and Piura. The project uses Level 3's high-speed internet services to provide connectivity for its ground stations, the equipment that plugs the balloons into the internet.

Challenge:

Since March 2017, Peru has been battered by extreme rains and flooding. Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced and the Peruvian government declared more than 800 provinces to be in a state of emergency.

In situations like these, the ability to communicate with loved ones and access basic information becomes paramount—yet communications infrastructure on the ground is often one of the first things to be affected by natural disasters like floods and landslides.

The main challenge was to keep internet access active and accessible to enable communications for those affected by the heavy downpours.

Solution:

Leveraging the services provided by Alphabet's Project Loon balloons, which enable communications services near the stratosphere, and high-speed internet access provided by Level 3, end-users were able to access the internet from their mobile devices in affected areas.

Supported also by other telecommunications and technology companies, more than 160 gigabytes (GB) of data capacity was extended to people in a combined area of 40,000 square kilometers, almost the size of Switzerland, to enable web access for areas where internet service was interrupted. The amount of data delivered was enough to send and receive about 30 million WhatsApp messages or 2 million emails.

Alphabet's Project Loon proved challenges in wireless coverage in areas of disaster can be addressed with partners such as Level 3, as well as high-tech development and deployment. This is the first time that balloon-powered internet has connected tens of thousands of people.

Level 3's Dedicated Internet Access and Reach:

Level 3's dedicated internet access provides global reach and scalability over its diversified network, with connectivity in more than 60 countries and 500 global markets.

Level 3's global IP backbone capacity is more than 42 terabits per second (Tbps). Additionally, its network features more than 200,000 miles of fiber optic and market reach in more than 60

countries, with broad, off-net access solutions in North America, Europe, Latin America and Asia Pacific.

Key Quotes:

Luis Ladera, Data and Internet Products Director, Level 3 Peru
"Level 3 helped deploy Project Loon in a very short time by providing infrastructure and high-speed internet for the project ground stations, in Eastern Lima. These stations connected to balloons at 20 km height, enabled internet access for affected areas. In addition to our highly-qualified expert teams, the company provided all necessary support to ensure high-quality services."

Additional Resources:

- "Helping out in Peru" - Alastair Westgarth's (Head of Project Loon) blog
- Project Loon website

About Level 3 Communications
Level 3 Communications, Inc. (NYSE: LVLT) is a Fortune 500 company that provides local, national and global communications services to enterprise, government and carrier customers. Level 3's comprehensive portfolio of secure, managed solutions includes fiber and infrastructure solutions; IP-based voice and data communications; wide-area Ethernet services; video and content distribution; data center and cloud-based solutions. Level 3 serves customers in more than 500 markets in over 60 countries across a global services platform anchored by owned fiber networks on three continents and connected by extensive undersea facilities. For more information, please visit www.level3.com or get to know us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

Forward-Looking Statement
Some statements made in this press release are forward-looking in nature and are based on management's current expectations or beliefs. These forward-looking statements are not a guarantee of performance and are subject to a number of uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside Level 3's control, which could cause actual events to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the statements. Important factors that could prevent Level 3 from achieving its stated goals include, but are not limited to, the company's ability to: increase revenue from its services to realize its targets for financial and operating performance; develop and maintain effective business support systems; manage system and network failures or disruptions; avert the breach of its network and computer system security measures; develop new services that meet customer demands and generate acceptable margins; manage the future expansion or adaptation of its network to remain competitive; defend intellectual property and proprietary rights; manage risks associated with continued uncertainty in the global economy; manage continued or accelerated decreases in market pricing for communications services; obtain capacity for its network from other providers and interconnect its network with other networks on favorable terms; successfully integrate future acquisitions; effectively manage political, legal, regulatory, foreign currency and other risks it is exposed to due to its substantial international operations; mitigate its exposure to contingent liabilities; and meet all of the terms and conditions of its debt obligations. Additional information concerning these and other important factors can be found within Level 3's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Statements in this press release should be evaluated in light of these important factors. Level 3 is under no obligation to, and expressly disclaims any such obligation to, update or alter its forward-looking statements, whether as a result

of new information, future events, or otherwise.

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