

WinWin

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5G is on and it's unstoppable

By the end of February 2019, Huawei had signed commercial 5G contracts with more than 30 operators and shipped over 40,000 5G base stations worldwide.

Device maturity is a key factor that affects the commercial adoption of each generation of communications technology. At MWC2019, all the major global mobile manufacturers announced the launch of their 5G mobile phones. In 2019, over 40 5G devices will be commercially available, and predictions hold that in three years, global 5G users will grow to 500 million.

The first wave of 5G pioneers will focus on eMBB and FWA. Carrier mobile data traffic is growing by 50 percent per year, and by 2025, global average data use will exceed 70 GB per month. In response to the explosive growth of mobile data traffic, operators have opted for 5G technology to reduce the per-bit cost of mobile broadband networks and improve operations efficiency.

5G networks will provide developers with stronger network capabilities. We're already seeing the emergence of new social and entertainment platforms, immersive VR/AR content, B2B solutions, and vertical industry IoT applications. 5G will offer operators the opportunity to share new business opportunities with industry partners.

In 2018, Huawei invested over US\$15 billion in R&D. We were the first vendor to make breakthroughs in key technologies for large-scale 5G adoption, and have since delivered 5G networks with powerful capabilities, simplified sites, and network-wide intelligence faster than anyone else.

In 2018 in the UK, Three UK and Huawei conducted a 5G broadband demo in London, attaining download speeds of up to 2 Gbps and laying the foundation for the operator to rollout 5G this year. Huawei's Cloud X solution is enabling the evolution of VR, AR and mixed reality through 5G and cloud. And GSMA predicts that the intelligent connectivity delivered by the fusion of 5G, AI, and IoT will take us into an new era of highly contextualized and personalized experiences.

However, we can't ignore security in 5G networks. In his keynote address at MWC19, Huawei Rotating Chairman Guo Ping emphasized that security is a shared responsibility: the whole industry needs to come together to develop standardized cyber security requirements.

5G is on, and it will help bring digital to every individual, home, and organization as part of a fully connected, intelligent world.

Sally Gao, Editor-in-Chief