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Organization:	Island Telephone and Engineering
Project Name:	Next Generation Network
Project Type:	Infrastructure
State(s):	Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Federal Award:	\$ 8,039,792

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Island Telephone and Engineering (IT&E) plans to expand high-capacity broadband services to the Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by upgrading the existing network serving remote and underserved areas. The project intends to upgrade local island backbone infrastructure and replace the existing inter-island transmission system, utilizing fiber, 3G wireless, and WiMax technology. The project expects to directly connect 403 anchor institutions, including community colleges, K-12 schools, libraries, health care facilities, and public-safety organizations. Network speeds from 1.2 Gbps for microwave to 10 Gbps for fiber service will be offered, enabling government agencies, schools, and businesses in these remote island locations to benefit from videoconferencing and other advanced broadband capabilities.

The Next Generation Network project also proposes to:

- Improve health care services by expanding and enhancing broadband capabilities for public health and social services facilities on the islands.
- Nearly triple the total speed of the microwave system and increase peak load speed between the islands from 2.5 Gbps to 10 Gbps.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Island Telephone and Engineering has provided advanced network services to Guam and the Northern Marianas for more than 20 years. The company currently manages a 481-mile network and has a strong track record for serving the region's broadband needs. Island Telephone and Engineering has successfully completed seven other projects in the region including prepaid cellular service, push-to-talk mobile service, and undersea fiber. The organization works with many economically disadvantaged businesses in Guam and the Northern Marianas.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Workforce Investment Agency
- Marianas Visitors Authority
- Northern Marianas College
- Northern Marianas Department of Commerce
- Northern Marianas Department of Public Health
- Saipan Chamber of Commerce

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.broadbandusa.gov.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

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