Introduction to 5G

5G is the next generation of mobile networks and the future of communications. Heralded by some as being "as transformative as electricity," there is tremendous hype that is quickly turning into reality.

5G is the fast approaching fifth generation wireless broadband technology. It will be 10 to 100 times faster than the current LTE network and will allow for the connection density to support billions of devices.

5G will enable diverse use cases from enhanced mobile broadband, to mission critical control, to massive Internet of things applications that aren't possible with 4G systems alone. It is expected to be scalable and energy efficient enough to power the steady growth of new connections and advanced technologies.

Even as 5G becomes available, however, it will rely heavily on concurrent connections to 4G LTE to ensure continuous coverage when outside 5G areas or when a 5G signal can't be received. And 5G relies on key technologies introduced with Gigabit Class LTE. 5G won't replace LTE; they will evolve together and the two will work in a complementary fashion to handle different types of traffic most efficiently.

5G Timeline

5G developments are moving quickly, with deployments already in progress. The timeline below portrays the expected development of 5G over the next few years. Customers don't have to wait for 5G in order to get many of the benefits it offers. Advanced services such as Gigabit-Class LTE are available now, so customers can continue to use LTE while planning to plug in 5G wherever and whenever it is applicable.

Introduction to 5G

5G is the next generation of mobile networks and the future of communications. Heralded by some as being "as transformative as electricity," there is tremendous hype that is quickly turning into reality.

5G is the fast approaching fifth generation wireless broadband technology. It will be 10 to 100 times faster than the current LTE network and will allow for the connection density to support billions of devices.

5G will enable diverse use cases from enhanced mobile broadband, to mission critical control, to massive Internet of things applications that aren't possible with 4G systems alone. It is expected to be scalable and energy efficient enough to power the steady growth of new connections and advanced technologies.

Even as 5G becomes available, however, it will rely heavily on concurrent connections to 4G LTE to ensure continuous coverage when outside 5G areas or when a 5G signal can't be received. And 5G relies on key technologies introduced with Gigabit Class LTE. 5G won't replace LTE; they will evolve together and the two will work in a complementary fashion to handle different types of traffic most efficiently.

5G Timeline

5G developments are moving quickly, with deployments already in progress. The timeline below portrays the expected development of 5G over the next few years. Customers don't have to wait for 5G in order to get many of the benefits it offers. Advanced services such as Gigabit-Class LTE are available now, so customers can continue to use LTE while planning to plug in 5G wherever and whenever it is applicable.