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Verizon's McAdam: 5G speeds will be up to 1 Gbps and will be live at Verizon HQ in January

McAdam: Verizon's 5G service to go commercial in 2017 and beyond

December 8, 2015 | By [Mike Dano](#)

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Verizon ([NYSE: VZ](#)) CEO Lowell McAdam said that the carrier expects to be able to offer 5G wireless speeds up to 1 Gbps, and that he expects the carrier to begin a commercial test of the technology as early as next month at the carrier's Basking Ridge, N.J., headquarters.



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"I showed my board the [5G] service in November, and you don't ever go to a board with something that's not real," McAdam said at a *Business Insider* event. "So we'll be piloting it more broadly in San Francisco, we'll be there, we'll have it in New York, we'll have it in Boston, technology pilots with our partners, early next year. I expect to have our Basking Ridge campus up in January. And then rolling it out more commercially later in the year and then commercially more in 2017 and beyond."

McAdam boasted that the carrier's forthcoming 5G network would support speeds 200 times faster than the 5 Mbps generally available today on Verizon's LTE network.



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"What 5G is, is much more designed for video, we call it more use-case defined. It will be more point-to-point solutions. And you will be able to do up to 1 gigabit of service over that technology," he said, noting those speeds will help Verizon provide more video services directly into customers' homes without having to run fiber into the locations. He added that 70 percent of the carrier's wireless traffic is currently video, and that traffic on the company's wireless network has grown 75 percent each year.

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* This combination will be made through a public exchange offer of Nokia for the shares, ADSs and convertible bonds of Alcatel-Lucent in France and in the United States.

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"No one sees that slowing down," he said. "5G will really change the game, and I think will be another spike of growth in the wireless industry."

Reprint

However, when questioned how much 5G service would cost, McAdam declined to provide a specific figure, saying only that "We're going to have to see how the models evolve." He added: "I think your bills are not going to be a lot lower than they are today, at least I hope that."

Verizon in September said it is working with partners Alcatel-Lucent, Ericsson, Cisco, Nokia, Qualcomm and Samsung to test 5G in the company's innovation centers in Waltham, Mass., and San Francisco. The carrier said at the time that its 5G technology field trials would begin in 2016.

Verizon executives have also said that the company has met with operators in Japan and South Korea to discuss network technologies, including 5G. That doesn't come as a surprise since Asian operators are expected to use the upcoming Olympics event to showcase their own network technology advancements. Specifically, Korean mobile operator KT has said it's aiming to launch a live 5G service for the 2018 Winter Olympic Games being hosted in the city of Pyeongchang, and Japan's NTT DoCoMo is gearing up to showcase the technology at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

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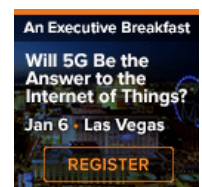
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Cam Fas • 7 days ago

Nice Verizon customers will be able to hit their data limits in a few seconds. I think this will cause overages since you will be waiting less for your content you may view multiple sites and multiple videos in the time it took you to view one.

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You're assuming the same caps will exist in 2020 when this tech is actually available. Videos don't get larger because your speed is increased. Netflix in 1080p is 6 Mbps whether your speed is 20 Mbps or 1 Gbps. Most webpages are 10 MB or less, The difference between 20 Mbps and 1 Gbps downloading a 10 MB webpage is less than half a second. If you look at 120 webpages each day that are 10 MB each you save a minute a day.

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I wasn't talking about Netflix. With 2k and 4K video becoming the norm those are where the real data sucking will be.

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