



## Vodafone takes Germany one step closer to the gigabit age

- German debut: Vodafone launches a 500 mbps service in its mobile network
- Speed surge: half a gigabit for SMEs and private households with cable
- Almost there: Bavaria is all set to be a one gigabit state in 2019
- Real-time robot: Vodafone and Technical University Dresden showcase the fastest Pepper ever

**Hanover, 19 March 2017 – Vodafone is demonstrating to the CeBIT public how it's taking us one step closer to being a gigabit society, with even faster speeds and digital innovations. It's committed to getting both cities and rural regions in Germany ready for the digital future.**

### Power to the air: Vodafone introduces 500 mbps of mobile connectivity in German cities

"We are facilitating the gigabit society by developing and providing the necessary super-fast networks, innovative products and future technologies. It's thanks to our gigabit networks that Germany will have the speed, flexibility and readiness to compete in future markets. Corporations, SMEs and consumers can use our data highways to take them straight into the gigabit age," said Vodafone Germany's CEO Hannes Ametsreiter. "We're setting the pace, we're setting the benchmarks and we're breaking the half a gigabit 'sound barrier'". Sometime during the next few weeks Vodafone will be starting the nationwide deployment of 500 mbps in its mobile network. Before the end of summer it will have rolled out a 500 mbps service in 15 cities, including Düsseldorf, Stuttgart and Dresden, now that 500 mbps capable smartphones are available to use the super-fast Vodafone network. All of Vodafone's customers will benefit from these impressive broadband speeds. Subscribers to the fastest prepaid product in the German market, 'CallYa', will also be getting another speed boost from Vodafone, the first carrier to introduce 375 mbps last year.

### Power to the ground: half-a-megabit fibre connections for SMEs and private households

Vodafone doubled the internet rate for cable customers to 400 mbps last year. Now the 'red rocket' has shifted up a gear, leaving DSL technology even further behind, by introducing 500 mbps for SMEs and private households. Düsseldorf-based Vodafone hopes to be delivering the new speed upgrade to 20 percent of its customers by this summer, and it is nowhere near close to exhausting the potential offered by its ultra-modern fibre network. In fact, it could one day be deploying speeds as high as 20 gbps. Vodafone is already establishing the basis for this development by driving the full digitalisation of TV cable to create additional capacity for even more speed. All of Vodafone's cable connections are now digital and almost 90 percent of the some 8 million households with cable already use digital TV. It enables them to enjoy enhanced image and sound quality, plus a greater diversity of programmes.

### On the home straight: Bavaria is all set to be a one gigabit state in 2019

Vodafone aims to hit the one gigabit target in 2019 – six years earlier than the Network Alliance had planned. It has chosen Bavaria to be its first gigabit state. When that happens, 70% of all Bavarian residents will have a one gigabit service available to them. Some regions will be getting the one gigabit experience earlier than Bavaria because Vodafone is running a gigabit pilot project in five cities this year.

### Vodafone and the Technical University of Dresden turn Pepper into a real-time robot

Vodafone is an innovation leader driving the development of next generation 5G wireless technology. It has teamed up with the TU Dresden experts to demonstrate how the fifth generation of wireless technology will revolutionise our lives at CeBIT. 5G will enable real-time connectivity to facilitate effective human-to-machine interaction. The research

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partners are showcasing the fastest humanoid robot in existence now that Vodafone has given Pepper, the world's most famous robot, a real-time speed upgrade. It is now one thousand times faster than normal and can respond to gestures just as quickly as the human nervous system. Real-time collaboration with robots offers new possibilities for industrial and social applications. For example, humanoid robots would be able to perform remote-controlled tasks that are too hazardous for humans, such as rescuing earthquake or landslide victims in crisis regions.

*Vodafone is exhibiting at this year's CeBIT in Hanover from 20 to 24 March 2017 in Pavilion 32. According to the motto of "Welcome to the German GIGANETWORK", the telecommunications group will be demonstrating how it is driving and designing the gigabit society: from smart, secure cities to smart factories, digital retailing and connected vehicles.*

## **Information about Vodafone**

Vodafone Germany is a leading integrated telecommunications company and Germany's largest cable television operator, offering fixed broadband, mobile communications, internet and TV services. As a gigabit company, Vodafone is a key contributor to the development of Germany's 5G infrastructure. The Düsseldorf-based company's continuous investments in faster fixed and mobile networks are taking Germany forward into the gigabit society.

Vodafone Germany offers a comprehensive ICT portfolio for enterprise customers, networking people and machines, facilitating secure corporate networks and storing enterprise data in the German cloud. Around 90% of all DAX-listed companies and 15 of Germany's 16 federal states are already Vodafone customers. Vodafone Germany has 14,000 employees and generates annual revenue of € 11 billion with 43.7 million SIM cards, 6.1 million fixed broadband customers and numerous digital solutions.

Vodafone Germany is the largest operating company of the Vodafone Group, one of the world's largest telecommunications companies with mobile operations in 26 countries and partners with mobile networks in 49 more. It also has fixed broadband operations in 17 countries. Vodafone has around 470 million mobile customers and 14.3 million fixed broadband customers around the world.

Visit the website at [www.vodafone-deutschland.de](http://www.vodafone-deutschland.de) for further information.

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