

Accelerating 5G Network Innovation: CableLabs Named Host Lab for 5G Challenge

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Bringing rapid innovation and increased diversity and competition to mobile services is a national imperative. To accomplish this goal, the [Institute for Telecommunication Sciences \(ITS\)](#)—the research and engineering arm of the [U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration \(NTIA\)](#)—is encouraging the evolution of open and interoperable 5G networks through the 5G Challenge.

The goal of the 5G Challenge is to accelerate the development and widespread deployment of open and interoperable 5G networks with true plug-and-play operation. In support of this effort, CableLabs was recently named the Host Lab for the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and NTIA 5G

Challenge. CableLabs brings an advanced mobile wireless network laboratory and expertise with open and interoperable network technologies to this collaborative initiative.

The 5G Challenge will leverage CableLabs' recent lab deployment of fully virtualized 5G networks, including multiple cores, multiple radio access networks and new network emulation equipment—as well as our growing expertise in mobile network technologies. Moreover, CableLabs is well situated to host the 5G Challenge, given our long-standing role in the industry and our work with multiple vendors to drive interoperable network technologies. The value of CableLabs' 5G lab extends well beyond this challenge as a resource for ongoing research and development and interoperability testing in mobile network technologies.

CableLabs is deeply involved in the industry's work to develop flexible 5G technologies—including at [3GPP](#), [O-RAN Alliance](#) and the [Telecom Infra Project \(TIP\)](#)—to enable new vendor opportunities, enhance network security and streamline integration and interoperability. We'll leverage this experience and our state-of-the-art 17,000-square-foot lab to host a successful 5G Challenge that meets NTIA's goals. We're constantly building for the future and looking to support initiatives and vendors that can help us revolutionize the technology the world relies on. More details will be available this spring when NTIA releases the invitation to participate in the challenge.