



T-MOBILE PARTNERS WITH MGM TO DEPLOY LAA AT THE HIGH-TECH ARIA RESORT AND CASINO

T-Mobile deployed License-Assisted Access technology (LAA) at the Aria Resort and Casino in Las Vegas to bolster LTE mobile data services for CES 2018 trade show attendees. Download speeds increased dramatically, improving LTE access and video streaming for the tech-savvy audience under highly congested, high-traffic conditions.

The Challenge

The Aria is considered the most technologically sophisticated hotel in Las Vegas, and companies like T-Mobile use the hotel's conference facilities for meetings and events. T-Mobile wanted to improve its LTE services at the site for CES 2018 but had limited licensed spectrum. The company wanted to use unlicensed spectrum to bolster LTE capacity but needed to assure the venue's owner, MGM Resorts, that the approach would not compromise Aria's Wi-Fi network.

The Solution: LAA Explained

T-Mobile's Alternative Coverage Solutions (ACS) team worked closely with MGM to deploy and test LAA prior to CES. LAA technology aggregates licensed and unlicensed spectrum to improve

network capacity for LTE users. The technology avoids interfering with Wi-Fi by limiting LTE transmissions to unlicensed frequencies that are not in use. If Wi-Fi traffic is detected, LAA releases the frequencies and moves its transmissions to other bands.

The Results

The LAA trial exceeded performance expectations, increasing download speeds from 300 Mbps to 549 Mbps. The LAA system did not interfere with the venue's Wi-Fi network and T-Mobile successfully operated the temporary system during CES. T-Mobile is now working with MGM to design a permanent LAA solution. The company is also considering adding features that improve upload speeds.

QUICK FACTS

Type of Venue

Hotel Convention Center

Goal

To significantly improve LTE capacity and data throughput for convention attendees

Success Metrics

LTE download speeds increased from 300 to 569 Mbps without impacting the venue's Wi-Fi system

Technology

License-Assisted Access (LAA)

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