

Vanuatu the toast of London as Kacific wins Better Satellite World Award

GUESTS AT BETTER SATELLITE World Awards dinner in London were delighted as John Licht, Vanuatu Ambassador to EU, Belgium and UK Embassy, brought out the kava and invited Kacific CEO, Christian Patouraux to celebrate the company's success.

Kacific is a private company that is registered in Vanuatu. It was recognised with this award for its work offering affordable broadband satellite services to Vanuatu and its Pacific neighbours.

"Our nation's work with Kacific in connecting the Vanuatu Interisland Telemedicine and Learning Network (VITAL) was showcased as an innovative way to improve health and education in the Pacific and around the world," said Mr Licht.

"We will collectively work together to transform the lives of our people in Vanuatu and the Asia-Pacific with internet services that will become more affordable and accessible for improved livelihoods

of the entire population, from children to old-age, from classrooms to clinics.

"I founded Kacific to provide remote communities in the Pacific with access to the internet for their economy and their people," said Christian Patouraux, Kacific CEO and founder.

"The digital divide is real. The Pacific Islands are especially affected because of the vast oceans that separate the island nations. We are honoured to receive this award in the lead up to the launch of our first next-generation satellite in 2019."

Once launched, Kacific1, will help connect more hospitals, clinics, schools, libraries, post offices, police stations and many other public institutions in the Pacific Islands. It will help expand telecom services into remote areas with lower capital investment for telecom infrastructure.

The satellite beams will cover territories in Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia, providing a channel for connectivity.



Christian Patouraux and John Licht (r)