

Verizon Wireless uses new network for first time

August 14 2009

(AP) -- Verizon Wireless says it has completed the first calls using a brand-new network that's planned to go live next year, offering faster Internet speeds.

The calls were made Friday in Boston and earlier in Seattle, using cell-tower equipment from Alcatel-Lucent and LM Ericsson AB. Prototype tablet-style handheld devices from [LG Electronics](#) Inc. and Samsung Electronics Co. dialed in.

The calls used the 700 megahertz frequency band, just recently freed up for cellular use after being assigned to TV stations.

Verizon Wireless' [chief technology officer](#), Tony Melone, says the trials gave confidence that the commercial launch would yield average download speeds of 7 to 12 megabits per second, faster than current wireless broadband.

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Citation: Verizon Wireless uses new network for first time (2009, August 14) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2009-08-verizon-wireless-network.html>

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