

# HAWAIIKI

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## Avaroa selects Hawaiki Cable to build digital link to Australia

- *Strategic partnership to future-proof international connectivity in the Cook Islands*
- *Significant improvement in diversity, latency and end-user experience*
- *Enabler for digital economy and better socio-economic outcomes*

**AUCKLAND, New Zealand - 19 September 2022** - Avaroa Cable Limited (ACL) has today announced the selection of Hawaiki Submarine Cable LP (Hawaiki) for the turnkey provision of international capacity from Samoa to Australia.

A state-owned enterprise of the Cooks Islands Government, and funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), ACL is a member of the Manatua - One Polynesia cable consortium, connecting French Polynesia, Rarotonga and Aitutaki in the Cook Islands, Niue and Samoa since 2020.

Under the multi-million dollar deal announced today, Hawaiki will provide international capacity to ACL from the Manatua cable termination point in Apia, Samoa to Sydney, Australia. The turn-key solution combines multiple subsea links, including the Samoa to American Samoa (SAS) cable and the American Samoa branch to Hawaiki cable.

The agreement will further secure trans-Pacific connectivity into the future, provide critical diversity to help drive ACL's wholesale business and deliver fast, reliable broadband to local operators in the Cook Islands. It also marks a key step in the development of the Cook Islands' digital economy, with important new e-services in critical sectors such as health and education now anticipated.

More broadly, Hawaiki CEO, Remi Galasso said the agreement is an important milestone for boosting international connectivity, not just in the Cook Islands, but the wider South Pacific region as well.

"Submarine cable assets are increasingly seen as critical to bridging the digital divide in the Pacific Islands and provide further development opportunities to businesses and communities in remote areas," he noted.

"We look forward to collaborating with Avaroa Cable to bring this vision to life, and building further on their great work transforming communications throughout the Cook Islands via the deployment of future-proof and open-access subsea connectivity."

Mike Schwarz, CEO of Avaroa Cable, said: “ACL is very excited to have successfully achieved this key milestone and to now be able to offer this additional capacity to our wholesale customers. We see this investment as an important enabler to improve resilience and deliver more connectivity to meet the increasing demand by consumers in the Cook Islands. We believe this new partnership is going to greatly benefit businesses and the local community.”

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**About Hawaiki Submarine Cable LP**

Hawaiki Submarine Cable LP, headquartered in Auckland - New Zealand, is a subsidiary of BW Digital. It owns and operates the 15,000km Hawaiki Submarine Cable network, connecting Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa, Hawaii and the US west coast since 2018. For more information, please visit [www.bw-digital.com](http://www.bw-digital.com) or connect with Hawaiki on [LinkedIn](#).

**About Avaroa Cable Limited**

Avaroa Cable Limited (ACL) is an international fibre operator providing wholesale connectivity services in the Cook Islands. ACL is a state-owned enterprise and manages the Cook Islands involvement in the Manatua Cable project and its commercialisation as an international and domestic wholesale operator. For more information, please visit [www.avaroacable.com](http://www.avaroacable.com).

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