



# HELPING TO SHARE THE MOMENTS THAT MATTER

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Lindsay Chalmers,  
General Manager of Enterprise Operations

Behind the Business

# BRINGING NEW ZEALANDERS

# NEWS

# AS IT HAPPENS

Thanks to Spark Data Transport Service

**For media companies around the world, the ability to deliver breaking news to their audience couldn't be more valuable. This is particularly important for New Zealand's national broadcaster TVNZ, confirms TVNZ's General Manager of Enterprise Operations Lindsay Chalmers.**

"New Zealanders rely on TVNZ's 1 News to report on impactful events as they unfold, and to deliver news that is current and engaging," Lindsay says.

"Not only in terms of the relevancy of the content we bring them, but also in the way that it is delivered. We are experiencing an explosion in the consumption of news via online video and it's imperative that we can deliver news in this way through our 1 News Now site."

"As a result, the amount of video footage being transferred from our news crews and between our national news bureaus has doubled in the last year. Our network was struggling under the pressure and we could no longer rely on it to support our increasing data transfer needs."

## About TVNZ

- NZ's national TV broadcaster and digital media company
- Operates channels TVNZ 1, TVNZ 2, DUKE and 1 News Now
- Founded 1 News November 2, 1969
- Airs 1 News live streams - 1 Breakfast, 1 News Midday, 1 News at Six, 1 News Tonight
- Manages leading news site 1 News Now
- 1.3 million+ registered users of its video content site TVNZ OnDemand

**"Spark's Optical Transport Network offers outstanding national diversity that even in times of natural disasters we can continue to bring news to our audiences."**

Lindsay Chalmers,  
General Manager of Enterprise Operations

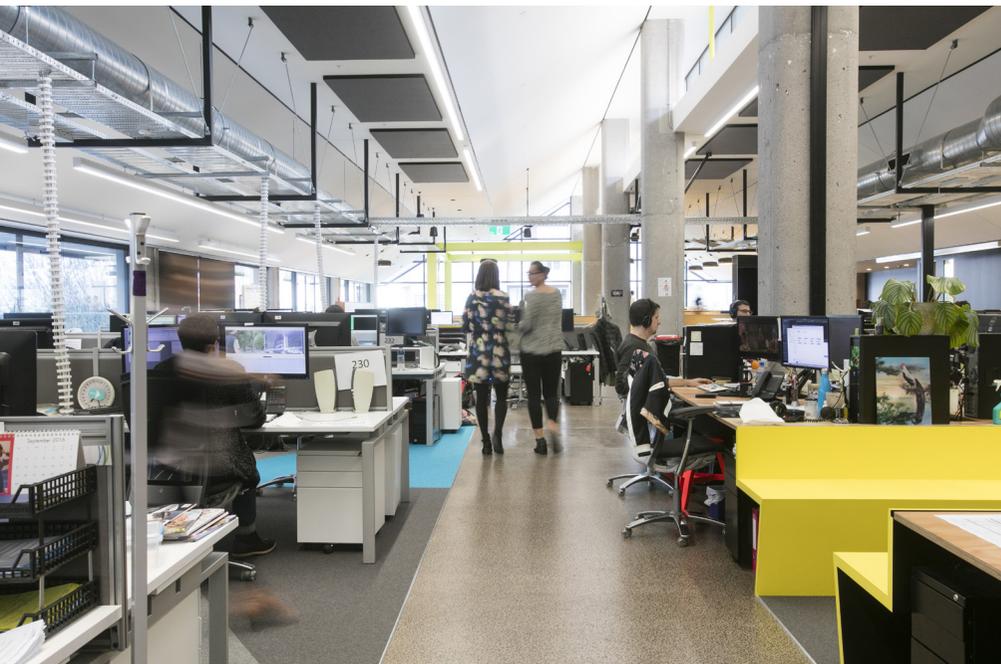
## Moving news with nationwide optical fibre

After extensive trialling of various technology offerings, TVNZ chose to partner with Spark and its Data Transport Service (DTS) - a high-performing network solution that offers a private and secure fibre connection between TVNZ sites.

DTS is powered by Spark's Optical Transport Network (OTN) and this allows TVNZ to move large amounts of video footage and data faster than real-time between its news bureaus dispersed right across New Zealand.

"It carries all of our corporate traffics such as Outlook and IP telephony, as well as our video footage, at lightning speed. Our news bureaus can easily transfer edited video stories or raw video footage to our production team based in Auckland and this means we can get it to our audience without delay," says Lindsay.

"Spark has also set us up with 19 fixed fibre points in designated areas across the country. This allows field crew near these locations to feed footage from their camera equipment directly into Spark's OTN and onto TVNZ's network without having to get to an office. "The speed at which we can turn footage into breaking news is incredible, both for our on air channels or as video content alongside an online story."



## Key Product Features

### Data Transport Service

- Dedicated and secure, point-to-point connection
- Provided on Spark's resilient Optical Transport Network
- Speeds up to 10GBs
- Choice of interface – Ethernet, Fibrechannel or Broadcast Video
- Managed or unmanaged

### Voice Connect

- SIP-enabled HD voice
- Supports VoIP telephony
- Connects to in-house or hosted PBX
- MSSA capability

### Free on-account calling

**“Additional fixed fibre points around the country allow our field crews to send video footage to our production team without having to return to the office.”**

Lindsay Chalmers, General Manager of Enterprise Operations

### Accessing data in a disaster

TVNZ was using Spark's network solution for only a few months when the devastating Kaikoura earthquakes impacted the east side of the country. When one leg of the network went down, traffic was automatically re-routed to the other side of the country thanks to Spark's OTN and its duplication on both sides of New Zealand, shares Lindsay.

“The diversity of Spark's OTN fits perfectly with our business continuity needs and the goal to bring our audience significant news - even in times of natural disasters.”

### Powerful network brings powerful results

Lindsay says that TVNZ values the skilled technical engineers working behind the scenes to optimise the OTN and has opted for Spark to fully manage its DTS service and its performance 24/7. Spark's network capability, combined with its team of skilled experts,

give TVNZ the confidence it requires to operate at its best.

“Since upgrading to our new fibre-optic network and improving the speed at which we can deliver news footage, TVNZ has improved its performance as a news organisation.”

“We've recorded an increase in traffic to our online site, with a noticeable increase in users to our live streams of 1 News on air and our video stories that we post throughout the day. Recently, we were honoured to pick up the 2016 award for 'Best News Website or App' at the Canon Media Awards.”

### Leveraging more of Spark capabilities

Now that TVNZ is backed by a resilient and powerful fixed network, it has turned its focus to enabling field crews to work even faster using Spark's mobile capabilities.

“With Spark's powerful 4G mobile network, our news

teams can gather and transfer news almost anywhere they get a signal. Alongside our DTS solution, this will help us deliver 'news as it happens' and we are excited about what we can bring to our audiences,” finishes Lindsay.

Also deployed alongside Data Transport Service was Spark's Voice Connect - a service TVNZ is using to covert its voice into IP. This removes the need for traditional voice lines and allows for high-quality audio and a converged network for all telecommunication and broadcast services. With one access circuit for transporting video, voice and data, TVNZ has the ability to scale capacity up or down on the network and only pay for what is required.

**If you're ready to create better connections for your customers, speak to your Client Manager or call us on:**



**0800 694 364**