

Orange International Carriers enhances connectivity between Asia, the Middle East and West Africa to meet growing demand for Data

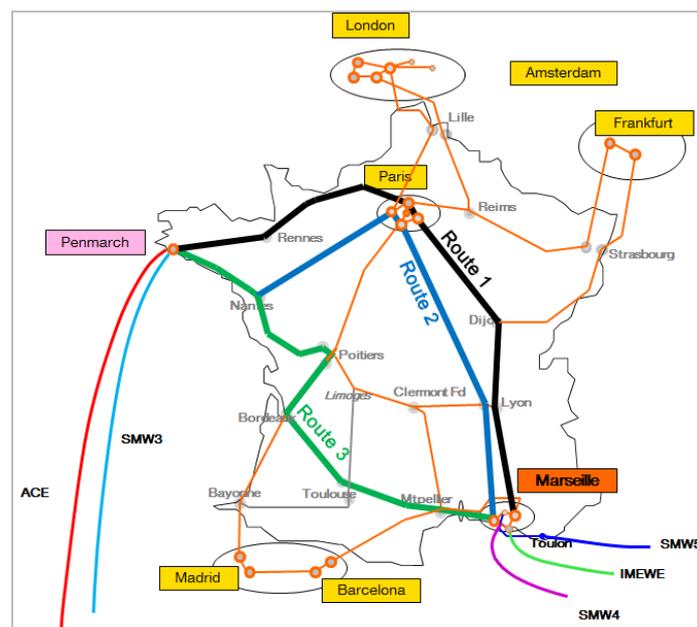
- New routes opening from Marseille and Penmarch to improve connectivity between the existing subsea cables landing in both locations
- Orange continues to boost its capacity to meet massive growth in data, IP and content demands between Asia and West Africa, via the Middle East

Following the launch of its Marseille Hub in 2017, Orange International Carriers continues to enhance its network connectivity and will now offer a direct connection between Marseille and Penmarch. This new terrestrial cable allows Orange to open up unique access between Asia, the Middle-East and West Africa, offering improved service, redundancy and security.

Forecasts for bandwidth growth 2017 – 2023 predict a 10x increase in volume¹ between these regions and with this offer Orange interconnects 15 submarine cables in order to stay ahead of the demand.

This new interconnection links existing submarine cable routes from Asia, the Middle East and West Africa. On the Penmarch side, CHLS SMW3 and ACE are linked to Marseille on CHLS SMW4 Saint-Mauront, CHLS IMEWE Bonneveine, and Interxion's Data Center MRS1.

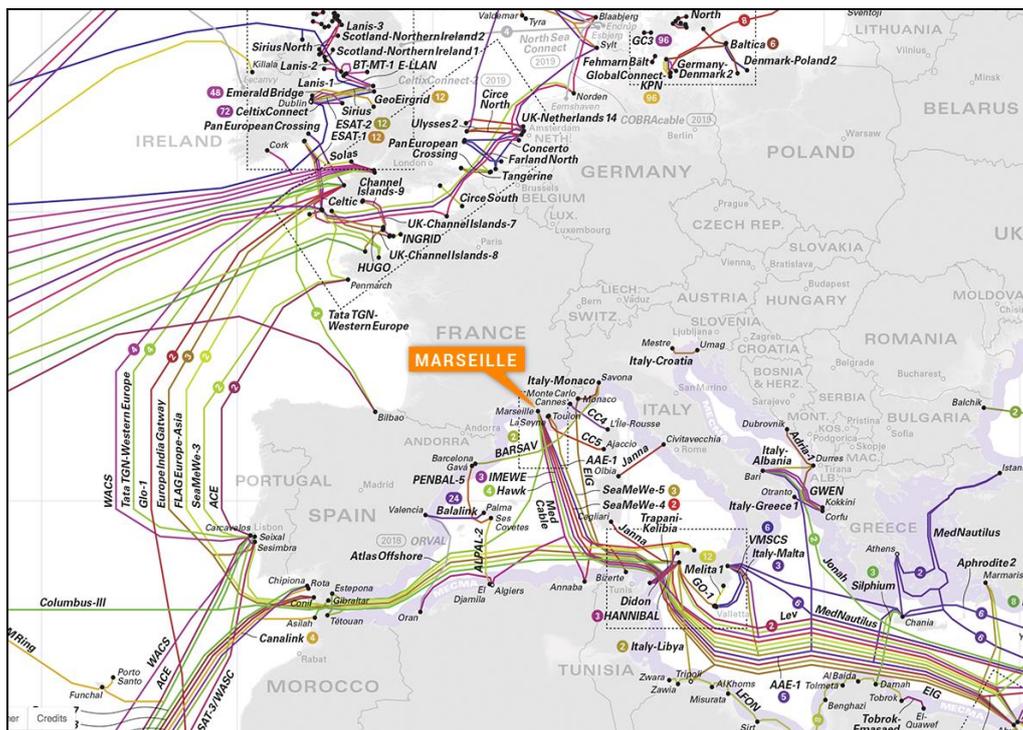
Commercialised in capacities from STM1 to 10G, the offer comes in protected or unprotected versions, which can be leased or acquired as IRU.



¹ Telegeography

Three new routes will become available between Marseille and Penmarch. The first (Route n° 1 in the diagram above) is already operational with a direct terrestrial connection between the two cities. The other two routes – scheduled to be in service before the end of 2018 – will bring redundancy to the Orange offer. Each route is between 1600km – 1700 km in length, offering comparable RTDs of 18ms.

“This unique service is being added to the range of Orange solutions already available in Marseille to facilitate connections in regions where data growth is increasing significantly,” said Pierre-Louis de Guillebon, CEO of Orange International Carriers. “This is a fully Orange-owned route, which will soon be automated, and it means that Orange can now offer a secure ‘all-inclusive’ solution by way of configuration, housing and operations.”



(Telegeography, 2018)

“Thanks to the new terrestrial connection developed by Orange between Marseille and Penmarch, the role and importance of Marseille as a gateway between Europe and Africa, the Middle East and Asia is enhanced” said Mike Hollands, Director of Market Development and Strategy at Interxion. “Our customers in Marseille can now directly connect to Western Africa via the ACE subsea system, bringing to over 40 the number of countries that are connected via subsea cables to Marseille. This is a significant added value for the community of interest in Interxion’s Marseille data centres.”

About Orange

Orange is one of the world’s leading telecommunications operators with sales of 41 billion euros in 2017 and 150,000 employees worldwide at 31 March 2018, including 91,000 employees in France. The Group has a total customer base of 263 million customers worldwide at 31 March 2018, including 202 million mobile customers and 20 million fixed broadband customers. The Group is present in 28 countries. Orange is also a leading provider of global IT and telecommunication services to multinational companies, under the brand Orange Business Services. In March 2015, the Group presented its new strategic plan “Essentials2020” which places customer experience at the heart of its strategy with the aim of allowing them to benefit fully from the digital universe and the power of its new generation networks.

Orange is listed on Euronext Paris (symbol ORA) and on the New York Stock Exchange (symbol ORAN).
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