

Inside Telkom's broadband, TV plans



By Duncan McLeod: @mcleodd

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Telkom is involved in a multibillion-rand project to increase the throughput of fixed-line broadband to speeds of up to 40Mbit/s. The plans also include dramatically upping the speed of entry-level broadband services and introducing video-on-demand (VOD) products, possibly from international providers such as Hulu, Netflix and Nangu.

In addition, the company is planning a trial using superfast fibre-optic cables from selected telephone exchanges, with the pilot project expected to kick off as early as 15 January 2012. Details about the fibre project remain sketchy, however.

TechCentral is privy to documents that show Telkom plans to install devices called multi-service access nodes, or MSANs, in its telephone exchanges and street-level distribution cabinets and to introduce very high-speed digital subscriber line version 2 (VDSL2) technology, which will dramatically increase the speeds it can provide over its legacy copper access network.

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