

## AT&T requires 4G spectrum to drive growth

May 22, 2015



During her participation in the LATSAT summit, event that brings together the leading companies in the satellite communications industry, Cristina Ruiz, Executive Director of external affairs at **AT&T Mexico**, **said their aim is to bring 4G and LTE mobile internet network to Mexico and provide coverage to 100 million people.** To achieve this, she believes that **one of the main challenges to increase market size in the Mexican and Latin-American markets is to speed up the implementation of 4G and LTE networks.**

"The idea is for **every business and everyone to have access to these broadband Internet services. The problem is that 4G networks in Latin America are lagging behind**, 3G networks were deployed a lot faster," the Executive Director remarked.

According to GSMA, the organization of mobile operators and related companies, **the slow deployment of high-speed mobile Internet networks in Latin America is due to insufficient radio-electric spectrum distribution, the difficulty to deploy infrastructure in more remote municipalities** and the macroeconomic environment. The latter means **users cannot change their devices for smartphones that can take advantage of a faster network.**

"We have a commitment to reach 100 million Mexicans, but to achieve, the conditions have to be favorable, encouraging operators to come and invest, and that there is spectrum, because without it we cannot deploy these networks," Ruiz stated.

Today, **4G networks only represent 2.4% of a total 683 million mobile connections in Latin America.** During the first quarter of 2015 it was below the global average of 8.8%.

(with information from *Radio Fórmula*)