

## Orascom rolls out network with PAV links in Algeria



PAV's FSO link head in Algiers

Orascom Telecom Holding S.A.E (OTH) was established in 1998, and has grown to become the largest and most diversified GSM network operator in the Middle East, Africa, and Pakistan.

Under the brand name of Djazzy, Orascom Telecom entered the Algerian market after winning the 2nd GSM license in July 2001 with the network officially launched on the 15th of February 2002.

The OTA network is the largest GSM network in Algeria covering over 70% of the population and main national roads. The coverage extends to all 48 Wilayas (provinces) and Djazzy has more than 1.2 million subscribers representing over 88% of the country's mobile market. However, with a population of over 31 million this figure is set to increase over the coming months and years.

Faced with the challenge of rolling out the backhaul network infrastructure in a timely, scalable and cost effective manner, OTA turned to PAV's Free Space Optics (FSO) technology. Proven in GSM networks across the globe, PAV's FSO systems are an ideal solution for linking cell sites over distances up to 4km with E1 connectivity.

With over 250 links installed in the network in both urban and rural locations, OTA have been able to roll out their network services quickly and effectively easily covering major Algerian cities such as Algiers, Annaba, Constantine, and Oran.

PAV's FSO technology can be scaled from simple E1 connections through to providing 2E1, 4E1, n x E1 to STM and STM4 connectivity. With 7000 systems deployed PAV have the largest installed base of FSO across the globe.

## Orascom rolls out network with PAV links in Algeria

Working closely with operators, PAV have developed a modular architecture enabling simple and effective maintenance and field support with "hot" interchangeable modules.

FSO has proved to be a viable and cost effective alternative to more traditional leased line and RF deployments.

With no spectrum licence to purchase, (as FSO uses lightwaves as opposed to radio waves), and a single one-off capital expense compared to an annual leased line charge, PAV's technology is delivering the availability and reliability demanded by Orascom.



PAV's FSO link head during installation in Algiers

**PAV Free Space Optics**