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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Avaroa, BW Digital, Ciena, and Vodafone Cook Islands
Team Up to Provide Internet Connectivity in Schools**

RAROTONGA, Cook Islands 21 September 2023 Avaroa Cable Limited ([ACL](#)), [Ciena](#) (NYSE: CIEN), [BW Digital](#), and Vodafone Cook Islands ([Vodafone](#)) are working together to improve connectivity for students in the Cook Islands 30 schools for the next three years (2023-2026).

The initiative is in collaboration with the Ministry of Education Cook Islands (MoE) and leverages existing Hawaiki (now owned by BW Digital) and Manatua submarine [cables](#). Ciena will cover the installation of [Wavelength Aggregation Switches](#) in the Cook Islands and Sydney to accelerate delivery of connectivity services. Ciena will also cover all costs for ongoing maintenance and support services for the duration of the project.

With some schools previously solely reliant upon satellite services for internet connectivity, significantly those in the Pa En3 136Ct0.00(t)-4(g0 GET@MC Span #CID 4Lang (en-US)BDC q0.000

