

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2023

nexfibre announces Rajiv Datta as Chief Executive Officer and roll-out milestone of 500,000 premises passed

- Datta joins with over 25 years of experience in digital infrastructure and the fixed telecoms market, overseeing the build and management of large fibre-based networks and services around the world
- nexfibre has more than 500,000¹ premises passed by its fibre network already; Datta will lead the scaling up to 5 million homes and businesses by 2026

2 October 2023, London – nexfibre, the next generation fibre network operator, has today announced the appointment of Rajiv Datta as its Chief Executive Officer.

Datta, who starts his role today, has over 25 years' experience in the digital infrastructure and fixed telecoms sectors. He has vast experience building and managing large fibre-based networks and services across the US, Europe and Asia, including at Colt Technologies and AboveNet Communications (now Zayo).

Datta's appointment at nexfibre marks an important step as the business pursues its mission to deliver its network to 5 million premises by 2026, using the latest XGS-PON architecture capable of symmetrical speeds of up to 10 Gbps. Backed by Infravia Capital Partners, Telefónica and Liberty Global, nexfibre is well-capitalised and well-positioned to become a long-term, sustainable national scale platform in partnership with Virgin Media O2.

Datta replaces Bernardo Quinn, who was appointed as interim CEO of nexfibre at the start of this year. Quinn will remain as an advisor to the board for the remainder of the year.

Rajiv Datta, CEO of nexfibre, said:

"With a fully-financed plan to invest £4.5 billion and a set of world-class shareholders and partners, nexfibre is incredibly well-positioned to be impactful at a pivotal time in the UK broadband market.

I look forward to working with the team, our shareholders and our partners to execute on our strategy of delivering high-quality broadband capability that provides long-term, sustainable competition, and has a lasting impact on communities across the UK."

Andrea Salvato, Chairman of nexfibre, said:

"The Board and I are delighted that Rajiv is joining the nexfibre team, and we look forward to working with him and our partners at Virgin Media O2 to create a national scale challenger, boosting wholesale competition, driving consumer choice and providing significant value to the UK economy.

¹ Comprises more than 500,000 premises passed all ready for service (RFS) and not including c.175,000 premises passed to be acquired from Virgin Media O2 as part of the Upp transaction.

We would like to thank Bernardo Quinn for his commitment and contribution. He has been instrumental in creating the nexfibre organisation, and setting the impressive pace of the programme to date. ”

- ENDS -

Notes to Editors

- nexfibre is a joint venture between InfraVia Capital Partners, Liberty Global and Telefónica and is financed with £4.5 billion of equity and debt investment. It will initially roll out fibre to 5 million homes not currently served by Virgin Media O2's network by 2026, with the opportunity to expand to an additional 2 million homes.
- nexfibre's investment will provide a major boost to the UK's digital economy and make a significant contribution to the Government's gigabit broadband ambitions.
- Virgin Media O2 is nexfibre's anchor wholesale tenant.
- nexfibre and Virgin Media O2 intend to wholesale their networks to other third-party internet service providers creating the UK's first national-scale challenger to BT Openreach, boosting choice and competition in the market.
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