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## MOBILE WORLD: UK Mobile WiMAX Network Trial For Maidstone

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BARCELONA -(Dow Jones)- The U.K.'s first WiMAX pilot network over the 2.5 gigahertz spectrum will go live in April in Maidstone, southeast England, the Mobile WiMAX Acceleration Group, or M-WAG, said Monday.

M-WAG is a collaboration of companies, including Nortel Networks Corp. (N) of the U.S., that support WiMAX technology - a group of wireless broadband standards with high speed and very long range compared with traditional WiFi networks, that reduce the need for costly network infrastructure

In the U.S., Sprint Nextel Corp. (S) has said it will use WiMAX to offer mobile phone services to customers.

The U.K. pilot network will cover 7.5 square kilometres from the center of Maidstone, which has a population of over 75,000. The trial will include services such as Internet-based telephony, or VoIP, real-time video streaming and live broadcast, and advanced charging systems to support any services that may be launched commercially, M-WAG said in a statement.

"By delivering a live network operating with real world applications, we can showcase and prove the benefits of mobile WiMAX while gathering vital information on the user experience," said Kerl Haslam, chairman of M-WAG.

The WiMAX trial will deliver data upload speeds up to 2 megabits per second, and download speeds up to 10 Mbps within the network area, the M-WAG statement said.