

Building a fully connected world is not easy!

We are here to help ...

5G impact on... **Passive Infrastructure** ... impact on 5G

**Dimitris Kolokotronis**  
**CEO**

**Infocom World Conference**  
**Athens, 04.11.2020**



# The truth of REAL 5G!



Mobile network operators considered to be technology companies... today are a commodity! An over-borrowed commodity (...structured as a high-tech business!) that needs to roll-out the very expensive 5G networks in order to stay around...

**Who is paying for that?**

The screenshot shows the top of The Washington Post website. The masthead includes the logo, the name 'The Washington Post', the tagline 'Democracy Dies in Darkness', and a subscription offer 'Get 3 months for \$1 USD' with a 'Sign in' button. Below the masthead is a row of five technology news snippets, each with a small image and a headline. A red dashed box highlights a Bloomberg Opinion article titled 'In the Age of 5G, the Hottest Telecom Assets Are ... Towers' by Alex Webb. Above the article is a red banner for a politics podcast. On the left side of the page, there are icons for 'Home' and 'Share'.

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## In the Age of 5G, the Hottest Telecom Assets Are ... Towers

By Alex Webb | Bloomberg

November 19, 2019 at 3:09 a.m. GMT+2

# What is happening with Telecom Towers?



Mobile network operators have towers in their balance sheet... but as a liability NOT as an asset (...although IFRS do miracles)! For High-Tech businesses (as MNO's) Towers are just a bunch of steel anyway...

Morgan Stanley

FINANCIAL TIMES

Towers of power: European telcos find value in masts



5G Towers Send Strong Signals to Investors



Monday - Friday, 6:00 - 7:00 PM ET

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MAD MONEY

The 5G rollout has cell tower stocks in 'raging bull market mode': Cramer

PUBLISHED THU, MAY 23 2019-6:29 PM EDT | UPDATED THU, MAY 23 2019-7:26 PM EDT



MARKETS NOW

The real 5G winners: Tower companies



By Paul R. La Monica, CNN Business

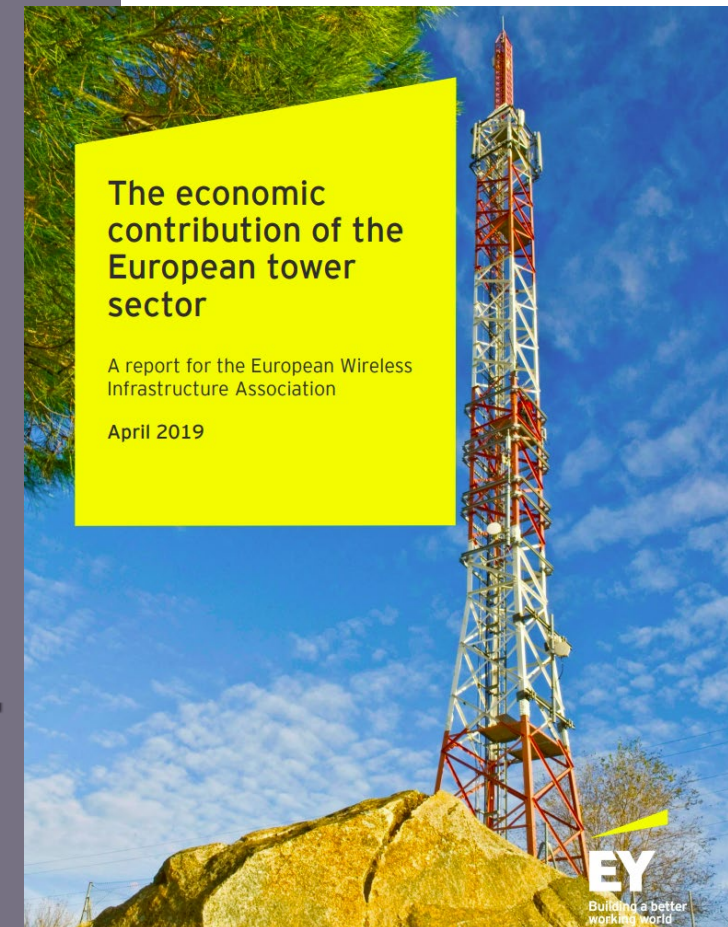
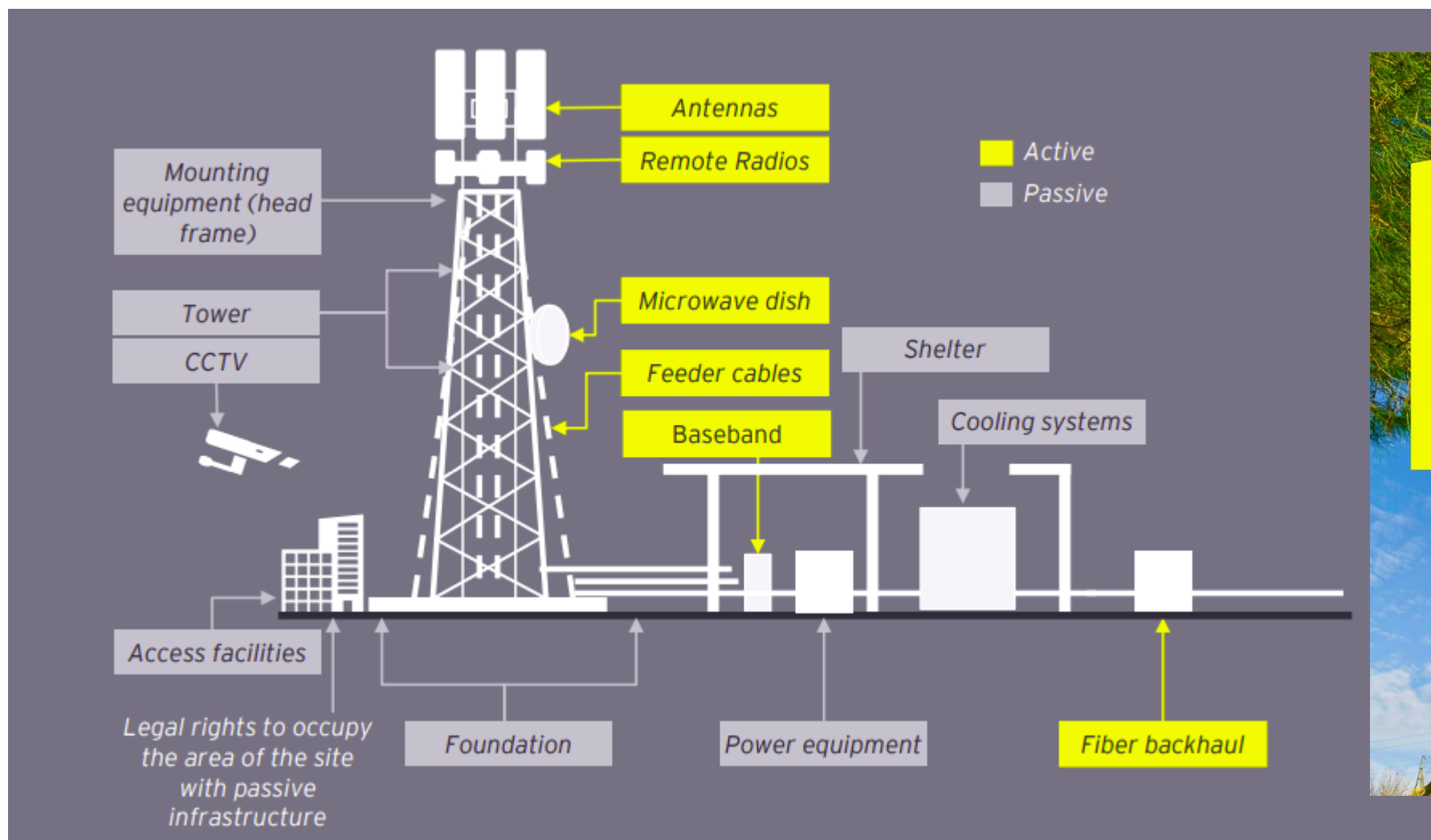
Updated 1602 GMT (0002 HKT) February 26, 2019



Νέο τοπίο διαμορφώνει σε Ευρώπη και Ελλάδα η Vantage Towers

# What is network's passive infrastructure?

*The structures on which mobile operators install their antennas... i.e. masts & towers*





# Passive Infrastructure (Towers & Masts) for Sale!



*...indeed, we have started to see MNOs highlight their tower ownership and value by carving out separate tower vehicles, IPOs, mergers or even sales to independent TowerCos or private equity...*



A second area to watch is an unfolding valuation arbitrage opportunity between MNOs and Tower Companies (TowerCos). Essentially, **MNOs are trading at 7x EBITDA** — earnings before depreciation, amortization, interest, and taxes — while **TowerCos are trading at 22x EBITDA** — three times the MNO valuation level. Since ***MNOs are the biggest tower owners in Europe — with 80% of sites — they are potentially sitting on a large opportunity.***

<https://www.morganstanley.com/ideas/europe-telcos-5G-wireless-infastructure>

So... will the tower cash finance 5G roll-out?

## **Part 1: Passive Infrastructure...** impact on 5G

# Yes!

*Next big deal in Greece? OTE Towers!  
They are going to... DT?*



# The economic contribution of the European tower sector

A report for the European Wireless Infrastructure Association

April 2019

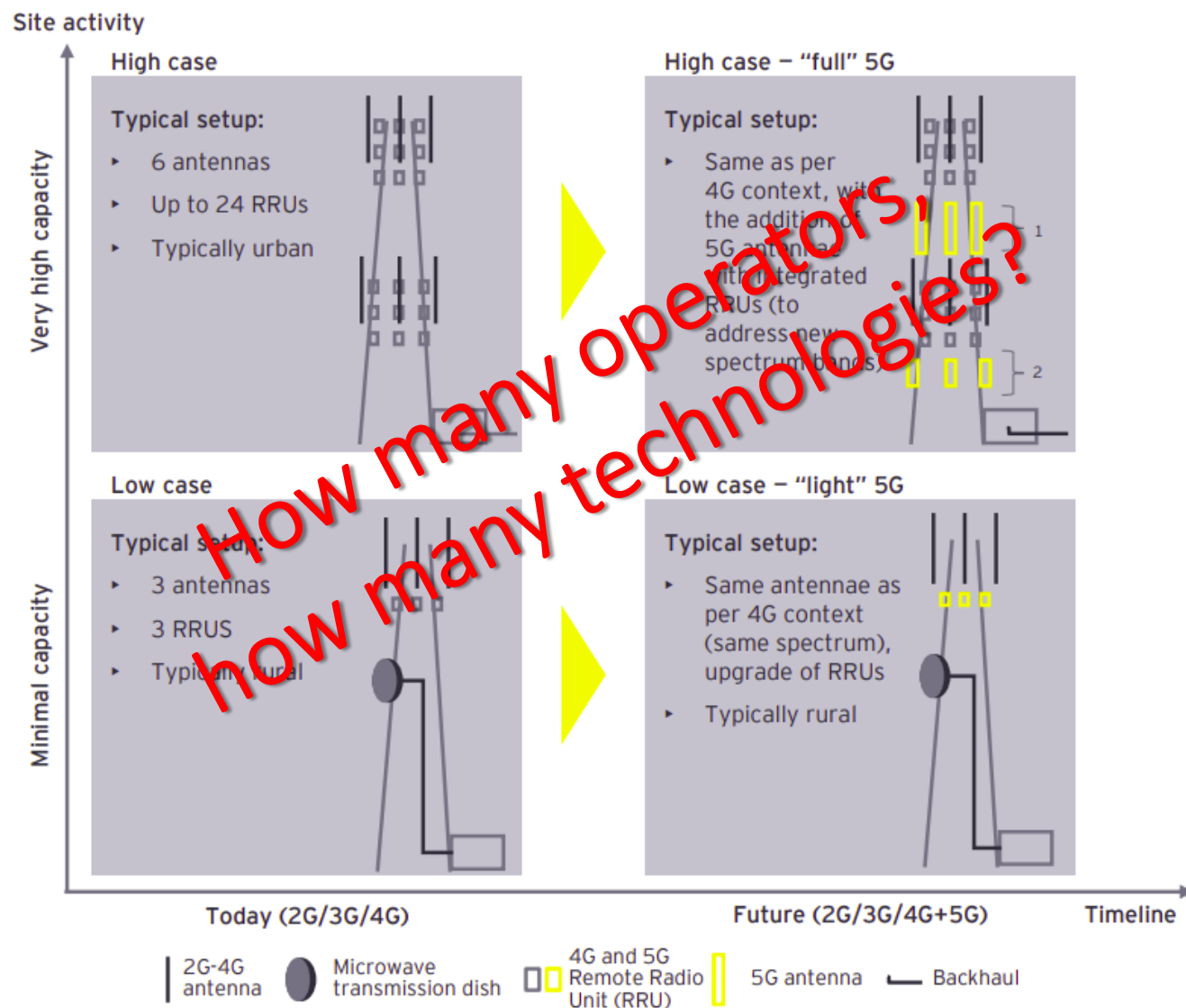
## Executive summary

Outsourcing of wireless infrastructure to independent TowerCos is a growing trend in Europe that is in line with the model prevailing globally. It delivers a number of benefits to MNOs, the wider wireless sector and, ultimately, the consumer:

- 1 Independent TowerCos specialise in operating neutral host, "passive" wireless network infrastructure such as mobile towers. Sharing of towers with multiple tenants **reduces overall cost** for mobile operators, helps improve coverage and reduces consumer prices
- 2 Long-term international investment in European infrastructure value the benefits of the towerCo model, resulting in an active M&A market
- 3 The average number of wireless network operators sharing an independent tower is **2.4**, compared to **1.3** for MNO-controlled towers. Independent TowerCos make it easier and cheaper to roll out new networks
- 4 A typical location of a wireless network operator (also point of presence) managed by a TowerCo is circa **40% more efficient** than one managed by an MNO, resulting in **economic savings of €31b** across Europe by 2029
- 5 Greater outsourcing to independent TowerCos could release an estimated **€28b of capital**, which MNOs can reinvest in their networks, such as to **improve coverage and accelerate 5G rollouts**
- 6 Independent TowerCos are playing a key role in **enabling 5G rollouts and the continued expansion of mobile network coverage**
- 7 While the share of independent TowerCos in Europe has increased in recent years (from 13% to 17%), it remains low compared to other regions (e.g., 67% in USA and Canada and 42% in Latin America). A further increase in Europe would help deliver the benefits of cheaper and better mobile networks
- 8 The new **European Electronic Communications Code (EECC)** reflects the pro-competitive nature of independent TowerCos and is expected to benefit independent TowerCos through increased certainty for the wholesale infrastructure sector

In summary, independent TowerCos will continue to play a significant role, underpinning modern digital economies for the long-term.

# X-Raying Telecom Towers for “Value”...



*Lease contracts vary, based on such factors as tower location and capacity, and space, weight and position on the equipment.*

Because TowerCo's can host multiple MNO's, they have an operational edge over telecom-owned towers:

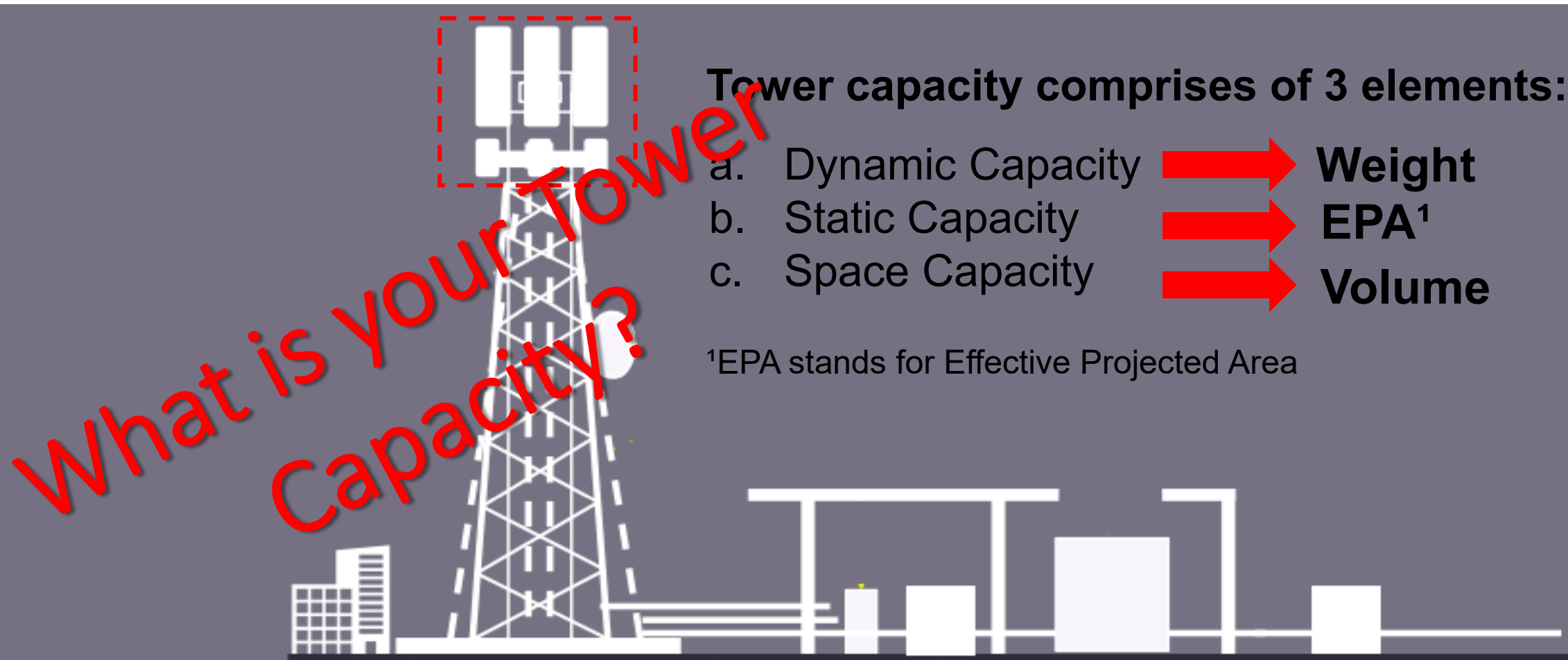
**Increasing the number of tenants per site also boosts margins and returns. In fact, incremental gross margins from an additional tenant can be more than 90%.**

Morgan Stanley

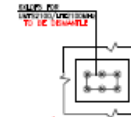
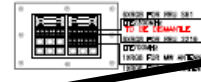
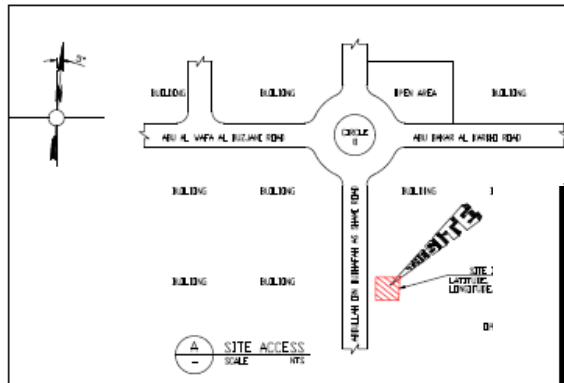
<https://www.morganstanley.com/ideas/5G-tower-rollout-opportunities>



# X-Raying Telecom Towers for TowerCo's...



Serving an extra tenant on the tower-top, adding 5G technology equipment, swapping for larger – heavier antennas should be allowed from the Tower capacity!

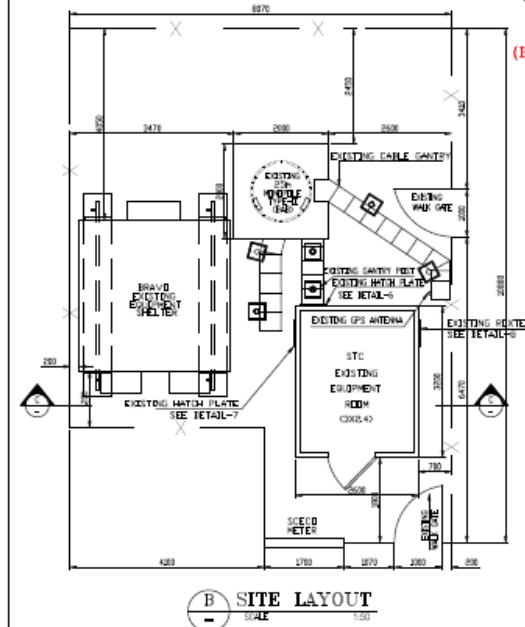


**NOTES**

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
2. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS.
3. WHERE NECESSARY, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANTENNA.
4. EXISTING CABLE-BAND (20245-4500-100) FOR GSM900/UMTS900/LTE2300/LTE1800/LTE2100/LTE100MHz FOR EACH SECTOR A, B & C WITH AN ADJUSTMENT OF 30°, 140° & 290° AT THE HEIGHT OF 25.00m SHALL BE DISMANTLED & PROPOSED NEW 30 PORT ANTENNA (AC2224K4R2W-07) GSM900/UMTS900/LTE1800/LTE2300/LTE2100/LTE100MHz FOR SECTOR A, B & C WITH AN ADJUSTMENT OF 30°, 140° & 290° AT ELEVATION OF 25.00m AS PER SCO.
5. EXISTING TMA FOR LTE1800 SHALL BE DISMANTLED & PROPOSED NEW 3

**10. ERICSSON SHALL REMOVE UNUSED/SWITCHED OFF RF CABLES & ANTENNAS FROM THE TOWER/SHELTER, REMOVED FEEDERS FROM ROXTEC SHALL BE SEALED WITH NEW MODULES. ALL REMOVED ITEMS SHALL BE RETURNED TO STC WAREHOUSE FOR FUTURE USE.**

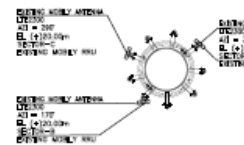
**11. TOWER LOAD = BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION = 86.49% @ 35m/s  
AFTER IMPLEMENTATION = 93.03% @ 35M/S**



(BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION)

(AFTER IM)

EXISTING CABLE HOLDER SECTION  
SCALE 1/10



EXISTING MOBILE ANTENNA  
2 PLAN VIEW @ 20.00m

EXISTING IDEN ANTENNA  
AZI=100°, EL(+)=25.0m  
SECTOR-A  
(REAR)

NEW 30 PORT ANTENNA  
GSM900/UMTS900/LTE1800/  
LTE2300/LTE700/LTE2100MHz  
AZI=290°,  
EL(+)=25.0m  
SECTOR-C.  
(SEE NOTE-4)

NEW RRU 4443  
LTE1800/LTE2100MHz  
TYP TO 3 (SEE NOTE-6)  
NEW RRU 4428  
LTE1800MHz  
TYP TO 3 (SEE NOTE-5)

EXISTING MOBILE ANTENNA  
LTE2300  
AZI = 170°  
EL (+)=20.00m  
SECTOR-B  
EXISTING MOBILE RRU  
EXISTING MOBILE ANTENNA  
AZI=310°, EL(+)=25.0m  
SECTOR-C (REAR)

EXISTING IDEN ANTENNA  
AZI=180°, EL(+)=25.0m  
SECTOR-B

EXISTING TMA GSM900/UMTS900  
TYP TO 3  
NEW 30 PORT ANTENNA  
GSM900/UMTS900/LTE1800/  
LTE2300/LTE700/LTE2100MHz  
AZI=140°,  
EL(+)=25.0m  
SECTOR-B  
(SEE NOTE-4)

NEW RRU 4418  
LTE2300MHz  
TYP TO 3 (SEE NOTE-7)  
RELOCATED RRU 2219  
LTE700MHz  
TYP TO 3 (SEE NOTE-8)

EXISTING MOBILE ANTENNA  
AZI=140°, EL(+)=25.0m  
SECTOR-B (REAR)

3-DC + 3 FIBER
3-DC + 3 FIBER
3-DC + 6 FIBER
3-DC + 3 FIBER
3-DC + 3 FIBER
LIST
FEEDER TYPE
RS-8 REFEERS
LF-8 REFEERS
IONS
BY OF THE SHARI TRAZON CO. (STC)
IF RED OR COPIED IN ANY MANNER
ASPIRATION PROJECT
2 SAUDI ARABIA
P.O.Box 107 RIYADH 11415
TD RIYADH-HOUSE OF SAUDI ARABIA
TEL: +966 - 462 5555
FAX: +966 - 462 0254
INT CAR CITY RIYADH
LD SITE LAYOUT
I FIELD SITE
5 SHOWN
REV
01-07-2019
REV
A
1/2



# So... will 5G roll-out impacts Tower valuation?



## **Part 2:** Impact of 5G on **Passive Infrastructure**

# Yes!

*How many Ground Towers will require static reinforcements? How many Rooftops have space for additional tenant?*

# Improving Ground & Rooftop Tower Capacity by...

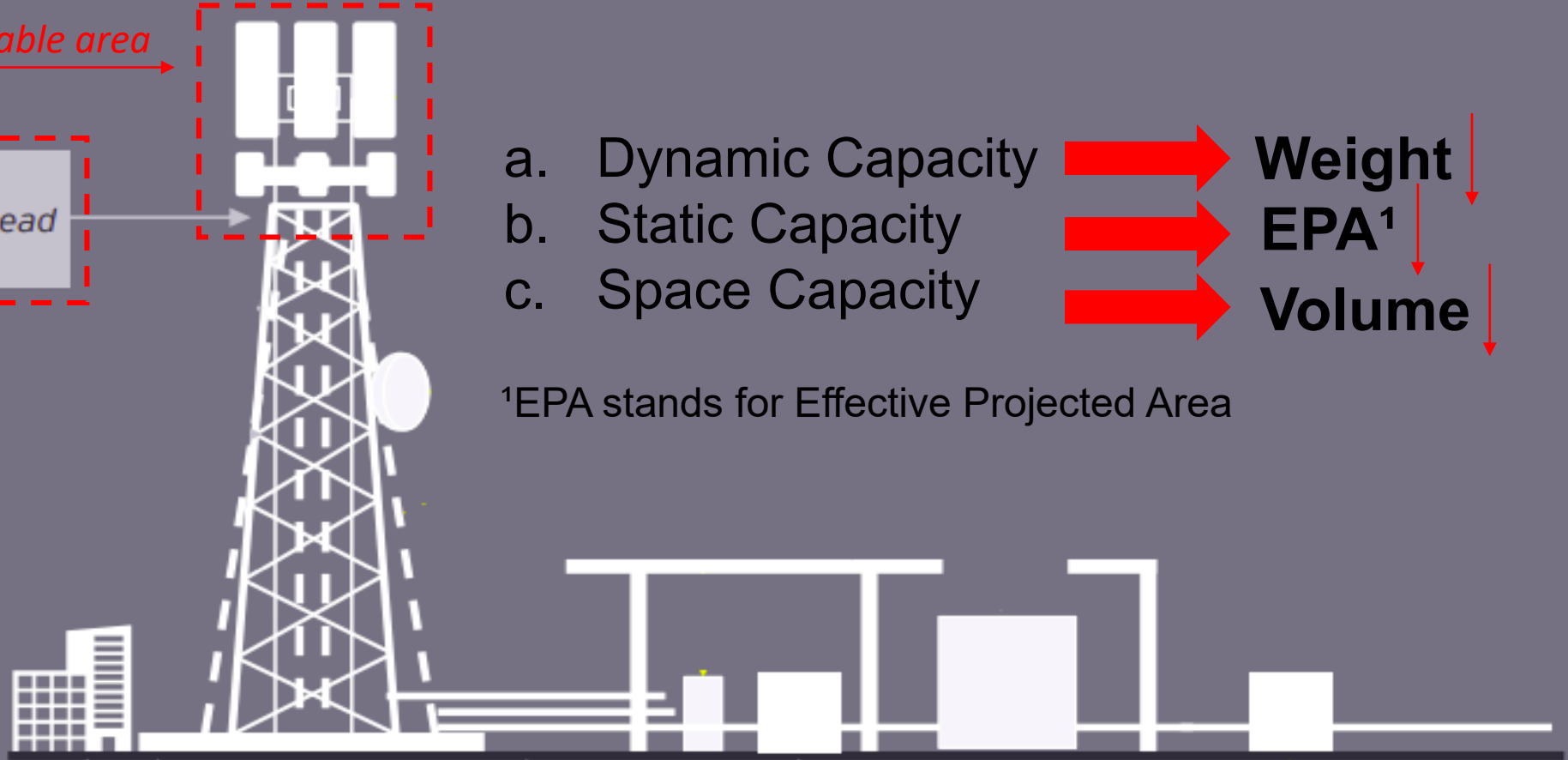
*Tower's high profitable area*

Mounting  
equipment (head  
frame)

- a. Dynamic Capacity
- b. Static Capacity
- c. Space Capacity

**Weight**  
**EPA<sup>1</sup>**  
**Volume**

<sup>1</sup>EPA stands for Effective Projected Area



*On my Tower's high profitable area I need to be able to install as many antennas and equipment as possible within my tower's static and dynamic limits. To achieve that I need to optimize the tower-top installation density (i.e. Kg to m<sup>3</sup>) such that the overall tower static and dynamic efficiency not to be affected.*



# How we do it? Simply by swapping the legacy mounting!



$$A^L=0,33\text{m}^2$$

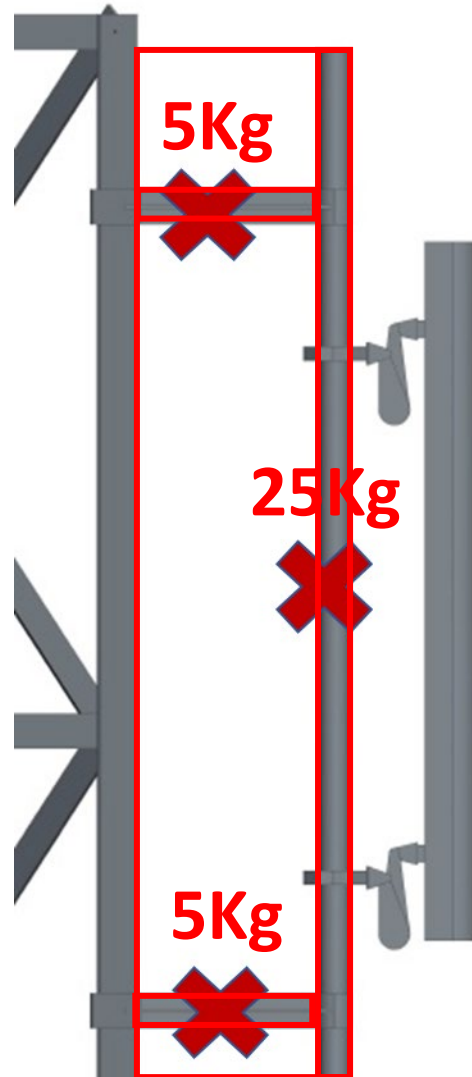
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$$W^L=40\text{Kg}$$

(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$$V^L=0,45\text{m}^3$$

(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)



$$A^f=0,01\text{m}^2$$

(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$$W^f=4\text{Kg}$$

(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$$V^f=0,06\text{m}^3$$

(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

# Case Study: E/// AIR6468 5G Antenna System



## MEET AIR 6468

The world's first commercial 5G New Radio (NR)  
radio for massive MIMO and Multi-user MIMO



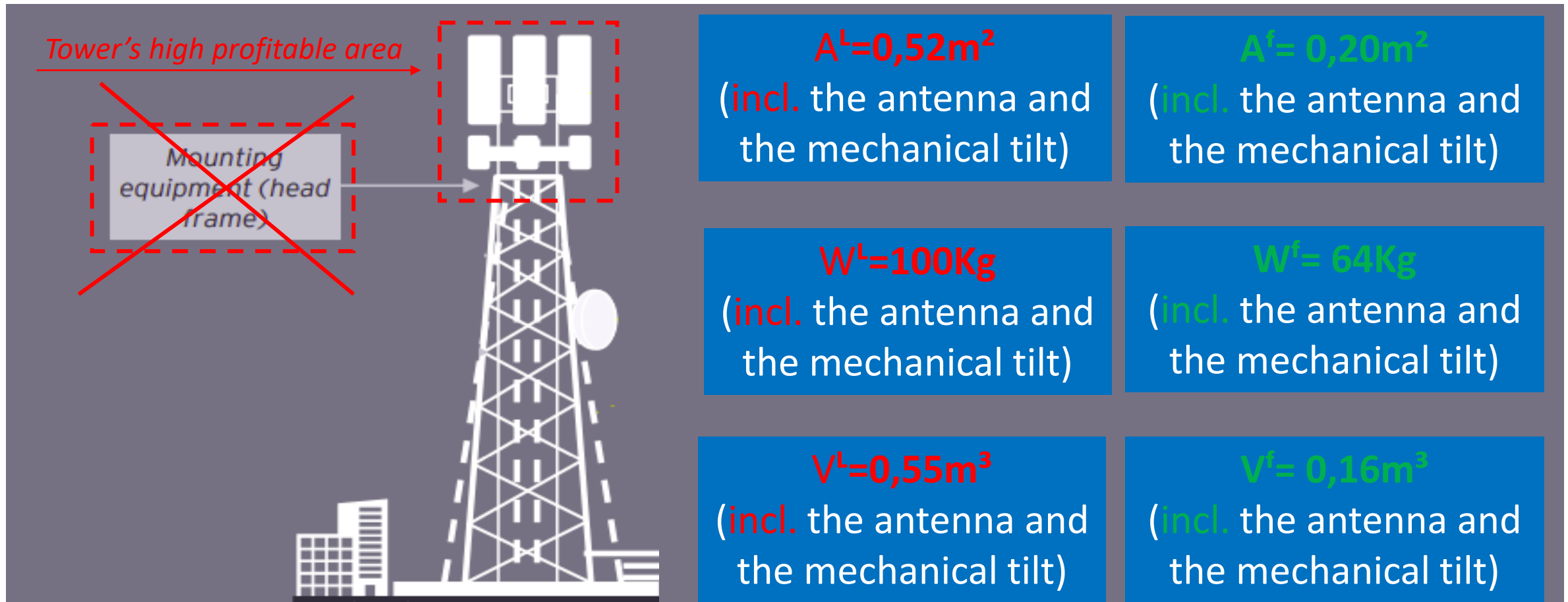
$$A = 0,19\text{m}^2$$

$$W = 60\text{Kg}$$

$$V = 0,10\text{m}^3$$



# Increase capacity by swapping antenna mountings...



*Installation density is over-doubled 2,2x ( $181,8Kg/m^3$  vs  $400Kg/m^3$ ), while wind-loading is halved ( $0,52m^2$  vs  $0,20m^2$ ) in the tower's high profitable area. This means that for our example's AIR6468 E/// 5G antenna system our tower's high profitable area doubled it's capacity!*

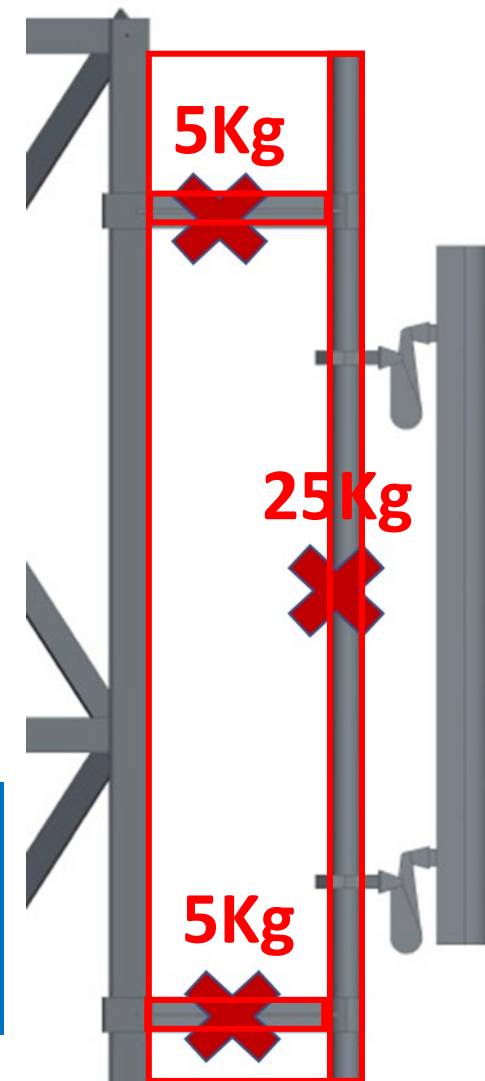
# Legacy antenna bracket... A bad-engineering practice!



$A^L=0,33m^2$   
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$V^L=40Kg$   
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$V^L=0,45m^3$   
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)





# F-CAT to the rescue... *The 5G site engineering excellence!*



$A' = 0,01\text{m}^2$   
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$W' = 4\text{Kg}$   
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)

$V' = 0,06\text{m}^3$   
(excl. the antenna and  
the mechanical tilt)



Building a fully connected world is not easy!

We are here to help ...

**Thank you for listening**