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Queensland feels the need. The need for Internet feed!

Queensland desperately needs a direct submarine internet feed into the state to prevent a repeat of this morning's disastrous outage, which cut communications across major sections of the state and New South Wales. Had a direct international feed into Queensland existed, the diverse path would have ensured the outage barely rated a mention. Instead, the full scale telecommunications catastrophe has affected much of the two states, including the financial, health and transport sectors, including Brisbane Airport.

PIPE Networks CEO, Bevan Slattery has long been touting the need for direct internet connectivity into Queensland. *"This situation has been a disaster waiting to happen, and the issue only seems to arise when an outage of this nature occurs,"* he said.

The junior telco is putting its money where its mouth is, with its subsidiary, PIPE International currently building a \$200m submarine cable from Sydney to the telecommunications hub of Guam.

The cable, PPC-1, is due for completion in June 2009 and will provide direct access to the US with onward capacity to Asia. A Branching Unit is planned for Queensland, which will ensure its customers don't suffer the same situation seen this morning. Slattery says, *"To land the cable into Queensland costs just \$15m. A small price to pay in comparison to the costs of this morning's outage."*

ENDS

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