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**From:** jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 4, 2014 4:56 PM  
**To:** Greg Wyler

Thuraya satellite services launch in twelve Airtel Africa countries

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Airtel Africa, subsidiary of Indian telecoms company Airtel, and mobile satellite services (MSS) operator Thuraya Telecommunications Company, have announced the commercial launch of the latter's satellite products and services throughout twelve African countries. Airtel consumers in countries including Congo Republic, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo are now able to buy Thuraya satellite phones and IP+ broadband terminals, with the telco emphasising its commitment to delivering 'innovative products that offer 100% coverage.' Andre Beyers, CEO at Airtel Africa, said: 'The partnership brings convergence to the forefront of our business by ensuring we are able to provide mobile and fixed telecommunications services even in the most remote areas in Africa.' Meanwhile Bilal Hamoui, the MM operator's vice president, is cited as saying: 'Thuraya recognises the importance of connecting Africa's most remote regions, which will enable businesses and communities to thrive and grow.'

Airtel plans to extend the services into its remaining African markets, although a timeframe has not been given.

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