**HKT and Fortinet launch the first 5G-enabled Secure SD-WAN solution
with 5G FortiExtender in Asia Pacific to help enterprises
accelerate cloud adoption and digital transformation securely**

HKT (SEHK: 6823) – HONG KONG, November 30, 2021 – HKT has joined forces with Fortinet, a global leader in broad, integrated and automated cybersecurity solutions, to help enterprises accelerate cloud adoption and digital transformation securely in today's increasing cyber threat landscape with the introduction of Asia Pacific's first 5G-enabled SD-WAN joint solution with the new 5G FortiExtender.

Fortinet was named a Leader in the 2021 Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ for WAN Edge Infrastructure, and is also a 2021 Gartner Peer Insights Customers' Choice for WAN Edge Infrastructure for the second year in a row. HKT has been the pioneer in digital transformation leveraging emerging technologies such as cloud computing, IoT, AI, and more. Together, the two parties will offer enterprises secure, reliable, high capacity and low latency 5G-enabled SD-WAN solution for digital transformation.

Digital transformation has been a persistent imperative for enterprises to thrive in today's new normal, streamline their operations, collaborate cohesively, spur innovation, capture new business opportunities and deliver an elevated customer experience. A cloud-first strategy, multi-cloud adoption and a data-driven decision model continue to be the key cornerstones for digital transformation. SD-WAN technology has emerged as a frontrunner to enable enterprises to manage reliable connectivity and ever-growing network traffic for non-stop digital applications, with the flexibility, reliability, efficiency and security that their current networks lack.

5G connectivity is now an essential component of SD-WAN solution as it not only substantially increases connectivity capacity and uptime for critical business applications hosted at multi-clouds, but also boosts application performance. In addition to the ultra high speed and low latency performance that 5G offers, 5G FortiExtender also provides unique integration capabilities through Fortinet's Secure SD-WAN offering. This unified connectivity and security solution allows users to simplify operations at the WAN edge. With integrated next-generation firewall (NGFW) functionality and advanced networking capabilities, the solution enforces SD-WAN SLAs to create optimal user experience while maintaining enterprise-grade protection.

The addition of 5G-enabled Fortinet Secure SD-WAN solution enhances HKT's existing Multi-Services SD-WAN portfolio which provides high bandwidth, low latency and multiple connections to private and public clouds, mobile retail stores and branch offices via diversified and secure 5G and fiber networks with a superior Fixed-Mobile-Integration (FMI) experience. It also offers enterprises in different vertical industries with Industry Service Level Agreements tailored to their specific operational needs via Enterprise Managed Services (EMS). EMS provides a dedicated 24/7 helpdesk that serves as a single point of contact for all technical and service enquiries across multiple ICT solutions. This helps to offload enterprise IT workloads, simplifies operation processes and enables enterprise IT to focus on new innovations that support business transformations.

Ms. Cherry Fung, Fortinet's Regional Director for Hong Kong, Macau and Mongolia, said, "Fortinet invests heavily in the development of 5G security solutions and partners with leading Managed Security Services Providers (MSSPs) to bring them to enterprises worldwide. Three years ago, HKT became the first Fortinet MSSP partner in Hong Kong to leverage our wide spectrum of Fortinet Security Fabric solutions. And now, HKT is our first Hong Kong-based 5G-enabled MSSP, to drive the next wave of digital transformation for enterprises with Fortinet solutions. In addition to advanced SD-WAN solutions, HKT also offers comprehensive Managed Security Services to protect enterprises' broadband, mobile, cloud and IoT infrastructure by leveraging Fortinet's Security Fabric. With its enterprise traction and competencies in cybersecurity, HKT is a strong partner to secure access to a new level."

Mr. Steve Ng, Head of Commercial Solutions & Marketing, Commercial Group, HKT, said, "To be successful, digital transformation and cloud adoption must be built on the tight integration of security and a strong network foundation. Our ultra high speed, reliable and 5G-enabled Multi-Services SD-WAN solution empowers enterprises' digital transformation in different industries ranging from Retail, Food and Beverage to Finance and the Public Sector to maximize business agility while maintaining a secure operating environment. The solution is backed by a dedicated team of certified security professionals operating round the clock at HKT's ISO27001 certified Next Generation Security Operations Center (NG SOC). This allows scalable and robust security protection that enhances enterprises' security posture and ability to combat today's increasing number of exposed attack surfaces and ever-evolving threats."

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Mr. Steve Ng, Head of Commercial Solutions & Marketing, Commercial Group, HKT, and Ms. Cherry Fung, Fortinet's Regional Director for Hong Kong, Macau and Mongolia, announce the launch of Asia Pacific's first 5G-enabled Secure SD-WAN solution with 5G FortiExtender.

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About HKT

HKT (SEHK: 6823) is Hong Kong's premier telecommunications service provider and a leading innovator. Its fixed-line, broadband, mobile communication and media entertainment services offer a unique quadruple-play experience. HKT meets the needs of the Hong Kong public and local and international businesses with a wide range of services including local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, mobile, media entertainment, enterprise solutions and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing, consulting and contact centers.

HKT is the first local mobile operator to launch a true 5G network with differentiated value-added services. Backed by its substantial holding of 5G spectrum across all bands and a robust and extensive fiber backhaul infrastructure, HKT is committed to providing comprehensive 5G network coverage across the city.

HKT delivers end-to-end integrated solutions employing emerging technologies such as 5G, cloud computing, Internet of Things (IoT) and artificial intelligence (AI) to accelerate the digital transformation of enterprises and contribute to Hong Kong's development into a smart city.

Riding on its massive loyal customer base, HKT has also built a digital ecosystem integrating its loyalty program, e-commerce, travel, insurance, FinTech and HealthTech services. The ecosystem deepens HKT's relationship with its customers thereby enhancing customer retention and engagement.

For more information, please visit www.hkt.com.

About Fortinet

Fortinet makes possible a digital world that we can always trust through its mission to protect people, devices, applications and data everywhere. This is why the world's largest enterprises, service providers, and government organizations choose Fortinet to securely accelerate their digital journey. The Fortinet Security Fabric platform delivers broad, integrated, and automated protections across the entire digital attack surface, securing critical devices, data, applications, and connections from the data center to the cloud to the home office. Ranking #1 in the most security appliances shipped worldwide, more than 530,000 customers trust Fortinet to protect their businesses. And the Fortinet NSE Training Institute, an initiative of Fortinet's Training Advancement Agenda (TAA), provides one of the largest and broadest training programs in the industry to make cyber training and new career opportunities available to everyone. Learn more at https://www.fortinet.com, the Fortinet Blog, or FortiGuard Labs.

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Gartner, Magic Quadrant for WAN Edge Infrastructure, By Jonathan Forest, Naresh Singh, Andrew Lerner, Evan Zeng, 20 September 2021

Gartner Peer Insights 'Voice of the Customer': WAN Edge Infrastructure, By Peer Contributors, 5 February 2021

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For more information, please contact:

Ivan Ho
HKT
Tel: +852 2883 8747
Email: ivan.wy.ho@pccw.com

Carmen Yu/ Cathy Leung
Fleishman Hillard Hong Kong
(on behalf of Fortinet)
Tel: +852 2586 7874 / +852 2586 7820
Email: hkg.fortinet@fleishman.com

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