

## Christchurch, New Zealand, Hit by New Earthquake

Christchurch, New Zealand, suffered a magnitude 6.3 earthquake earlier today. Although not as strong as the earthquake that the area experienced last September, today's tremor was shallower and its epicenter was closer to the metropolitan area. The result, sadly, has been considerably greater damage, with reports of fatalities and injuries.

Our wireless subsidiary, 2degrees, continues to provide service in the area; 4 cell sites are currently out of service; however, the remaining 94 sites in Christchurch and the local network switch are functioning. Most sites are operating on battery backup power; generators are being deployed to ensure that service continues. The fiber backhaul provider that the 2degrees network uses to route communications in Christchurch and Queenstown is also running on backup power; 2degrees engineers are working to re-route traffic to avoid loss of service should the fiber provider be unable to sustain operations. The other wireline and wireless carriers in Christchurch have stated that they are also running primarily on backup power at this point.

We are relieved to report that our personnel are unharmed. We will provide updates on the situation in Christchurch as we receive them.