

Universal Communications Group scores new Chorus deal for fibre installs in South Island

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Brisbane-headquartered multi-access technology infrastructure specialist Universal Communications Group has scored a new deal with Chorus to run fibre installations in apartments and offices in the lower South Island of New Zealand. The deal builds on an earlier 10-year tender with Chorus to connect UFB services in multi-dwelling units in the country, with UFBs having become something of a focus for UCG in both Australia and New Zealand in the last few years.

UCG's work will encompass backbone fibre installations in buildings, the procurement of necessary building consents, and fibre connections into individual building units. The firm will start operations in Ashburton, Dunedin, Invercargill, Gore, Oamaru, Queenstown, Timaru and Wanaka from 1 March.

"Fibre demand is growing significantly in New Zealand, and Chorus is looking for more ways to ensure we can connect as many customers as possible, as soon as possible," said Chorus infrastructure GM Ed Beattie. "Giving UCG overall responsibility for fibre build and provisioning will be a step change to the current experience for MDU tenants, enabling one end-to-end experience tailored for their requirements consolidated to one contact point".

"This will help improve NGA performance in the South Island overall, by bringing in new technicians into the area. "Also, UCG are MDU specialists and they have already made a positive difference in our programme delivery in our first year working together."

Petroc Wilton