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PRESS RELEASE

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UGANDA GETS FIRST IN-COUNTRY STATE-OF-THE-ART DATA CENTRE AT NAMANVE

KAMPALA, 23RD JULY 2018- Raxio Data Centre Ltd (“Raxio”) is setting up Uganda’s first state-of-the-art data centre in the Namanve Industrial and Business Park.

Raxio was established earlier this year by the Roha, a US greenfield investment company that builds and and develops new businesses across Africa.

Raxio has also appointed James Byaruhanga as General Manager. James Byaruhanga is a Ugandan national, with more than 18 years of experience in the ICT industry as a manager in several leading telecom companies and internet service providers.

According to Robert Mullins, Director of Raxio, its data centre is the “country’s first Tier III, truly carrier-neutral co-location facility and is ideally located just outside Kampala’s CBD, a key requirement for disaster recovery and business continuity.”

“When it opens in mid-2019, this centre will ensure the equipment housed within it operates optimally, 24/7, in a fully safe, secure and redundant environment. At full capacity, the centre will be able to house up to 400 racks, delivering 1.5MW of IT power,” he said.

The data centre has been designed to global Tier III standards by Future-Tech, a UK specialist data-centre design company with over 30 years of experience. Raxio has also appointed Symbion, a leading local architectural firm to carry out the civil and structural design of the building. Future-Tech and Symbion are working hand-in-hand to oversee the building and commissioning of the centre.

Construction is set to start this quarter.

Commenting about the centre, James Byaruhanga said it is a timely investment in Uganda’s Knowledge and ICT sector with wide strategic national benefits that go beyond its primary function of serving as a disaster recovery facility for improved business continuity of financial institutions, enterprises and government MDAs.

“We believe that with the growth in data usage and storage and the broader digital transformation of businesses and the public sector being witnessed in Uganda today, a Tier III data centre will be a key pillar to Uganda’s digital economy and will stimulate and support the growth and digitalisation of the Ugandan economy and thus help meet the goals set in the MoICT Data Strategy and the broader National Development Plans,” he said.

He added: “With this world-class facility, we shall attract major global content data networks, cloud services providers as well as regional carriers to Uganda. Other than bringing critical services closer to the local market, this will make internet services cheaper and faster to the end user, but most importantly, bring down the overall cost of connectivity in the country, thus increasing global competitiveness of Ugandan businesses.”

He also said the project would contribute significantly to job creation and tax revenue generation.

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About James Byaruhanga

Possesses more than 18 years of technical and commercial experience in ISP and Telco Network Administration, Service & Infrastructure Support and Executive Management gained from major industry players such as Roke Telkom, MTN Uganda and AfricaOnline.

He previously worked as Chief Operating Officer, Roke Telkom.

James holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Makerere University, Kampala, as well as a range of specialist technical qualifications from Cisco & Juniper.

About Roha

Roha Group Inc. is a US company that responsibly builds profitable businesses in Africa, by investing in and developing new companies across the continent. Roha leads the development of new companies on-the-ground from idea generation to detailed business plans and capital investments, and continues to contribute to commercial operations and growth thereafter. Roha believes that Africa's emergence will be fuelled by new companies built over the next decade and is proud to play a leading role in this transformation.

Roha has offices in Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Dubai and New York.