Introduction to Loxcel Cellular Services (New Zealand)

Loxcel Cellular Services can help you connect a mobile signal booster or Internet of Things (IoT) device to a cellular network. This short guide explains how to find the best cellular sites, generate a PDF site survey and interpret its results.

To begin, visit loxcel.com/celltower-nz from your web browser and sign in with your email address and password. Once signed in, you will see blue buttons, drop-down controls and a map covered with cellular site icons:



Perform these three steps to find the best cellular sites:

STEP 1: Choose a filter to select the type of cellular sites to find. Filters include carriers (Spark, Vodafone, 2degrees, Ultimate Broadband, Lightwire, AoNet, Compass, ...), frequency bands (700Mhz, 850MHz, 1.8GHz, ...), etc.

STEP 2: Move the map to where you need cellular coverage. Then drag the bullseye over your exact location. (Click *Center Bullseye* if you don't see the bullseye.)

STEP 3: Click Find Best to start your search.

Loxcel Cellular Services searches outwards from the bullseye for sites that match the filter. It ignores sites completely obscured by terrain (hills, mountain peaks, etc.) and returns a list of best sites ordered by their estimated path loss:



Loxcel Cellular Services found 3 *Vodafone* sites, 1.77 to 10.2 km from the bullseye. Sites with the lowest path loss are listed at the top.

Can a more distant site be a better site? Yes! Although site #1, TUAKAU BTS REPEATER (VFNZ), is one-fifth the distance of site #2, *POKENO*, the terrain intersects its Fresnel zone, affecting signal quality.

Cellular coverage depends much more on terrain interference, antenna gain, radio power and transmit frequency than distance.

Loxcel Cellular Services considers all of these factors to deliver more accurate results.

Click *Export PDF* to download a PDF color copy of the site survey. The PDFs on the next two pages are of site #1 with terrain interference and site #2 with no terrain interference:

VodafoneNZ site: TUAKAU BTS REPEATER (VFNZ)





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Label	Description
Α	Your location, as represented by the bullseye on the map
В	Cellular site selected from the list of best sites
С	Fresnel zone highlights areas of interference in red; line-of-sight cuts through its middle. A message above says (from best to worst) <i>No signal interference detected, Fresnel interference detected</i> or <i>Line-of-Sight interference detected</i> . Terrain is colored green for land and blue for water and curved to represent the earth's curvature
D	 Information about your location: 1. Antenna Height above ground (11 m): you can change this value 2. Horizontal Aim Back (56°): how far off-center your location is from the center of the directional cellular antenna at B. Lower aim back is better 3. Path Loss (97.0 dB): estimated signal loss from B to A. Lower path loss is better (e.g. 90 is better than 110 and much better than 130). Considers transmit frequency, distance, and approximate antenna losses. Does not consider losses due to Fresnel zone interference

	Information about cellular site:
	1. Antenna Height above ground (15 m)
	2. Transmit Frequency (752.0 MHz): lower frequency transmits better
	3. Horizonal Azimuth (120°): estimated antenna horizontal direction.
E	4. Radio Power (46.5 dBm): output power from radio (dBm = decibel milliwatts)
_	5. Transmit Bandwidth (15.2 MHz): 5 MHz is good for IoT; 40 MHz is excellent for wireless broadband
	6. Service Type (Macrocell):
	a. Macrocell = traditional cell tower, building rooftop, etc. Taller tower can reach 20+ km away
	b. Metrocell = antenna mounted less than 8m above ground. 1 km ² neighborhood coverage only



VodafoneNZ site: POKENO

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