Qualcomm manages a first 5G data connection on a 5G modem chipset for mobile devices--specifically the Snapdragon X50, a mobile device modem first announced last year.

The test took place at the Qualcomm San Diego laboratories, and involved data connections via the 28GHz millimeter wave (mmWave) spectrum) using several 100MHz 5G carriers. The modem managed gigabit speeds, but should be capable of full 5Gbps speeds once 5G deployments are complete.

“Achieving the world’s first announced 5G data connection with the Snapdragon X50 5G modem chipset on 28GHz mmWave spectrum is truly a testament to Qualcomm Technologies’ leadership in 5G and extensive expertise in mobile connectivity,” the company says. "This major milestone and our 5G smartphone reference design showcase how Qualcomm Technologies is driving 5G NR in mobile devices to enhance mobile broadband experiences for consumers around the world.”

Also presented by Qualcomm is a first 5G smartphone reference design. Used to test 5G modems, radios and networks with vendors ahead of the H1 2019 release of the first 5G-capable smartphones, the reference design features is 9mm thick and features an edge-to-edge display. Another Qualcomm announcement involves the Snapdragon 636, a midrange smartphone processor promising a 40% performance boost together with support for ultrawide FHD+ displays, 600Mbps LTE connections and 24MP cameras.

Go Qualcomm Achieves World's First Announced 5G Data Connection on a 5G Modem Chipset for Mobile Devices

Go Qualcomm Snapdragon 636 Mobile Platform