

Ericsson expands Guangxi GSM network

Ericsson has signed a GSM expansion contract today with Guangxi Post and Telecommunications Administration, valued at USD 160 million (SEK 1,280 million).

The continuous growth of subscribers in the mobile networks and the GSM networks in particular means continued demand for increased capacity. Guangxi PTA has carried out seven expansions on the TACS and GSM cellular networks since 1992.

To meet surging market demand and to enhance GSM coverage, Guangxi PTA began to implement the eight phase of the expansion plan earlier this year. Upon completion, the total network capacity in Guangxi will expand to 1.6 million from the present level of 800,000.

"Besides to continue upgrading its network quality and capacity, Guangxi PTA will also introduce a range of new services to meet users' needs, and to explore new markets with the support from Ericsson under this expansion project," said Stephen Yeung, Executive Vice President of Ericsson (China) Co. Ltd.

The equipment will be supplied from Ericsson's earliest joint venture in China, Nanjing Ericsson Communication Co. Ltd.

Ericsson China has more than 3,600 employees, 23 offices in different parts of the country and nine joint ventures that provide a full range of communications solutions and services.

Ericsson is the leading provider in the new telecoms world, with communications solutions that combine telecom and datacom technologies with the freedom of mobility for the user. With more than 100,000 employees in 140 countries, Ericsson simplifies communications for its customers — network operators, service providers, enterprises and consumers — the world over.

Please visit Ericsson's Press Room at: http://www.ericsson.se/pressroom

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Stephen Yeung, Executive Vice President of Ericsson (China) Co. Ltd General Manager Region South, Ericsson (China) Co. Ltd

Phone: +852 2590 2388

Fiona Poon, Communications Officer Ericsson (China) Co. Ltd. Guangzhou Branch

Phone: +86 20 8332 8988

Isabella Laihorinne Smedh, Press Officer, Ericsson Mobile Systems Phone: +46 8 404 5654; E-mail: <u>isabella.laihorinne-smedh@era.ericsson.se</u>