

Ericsson Delivers First Commercial IOS cdmaOne Network to U S WEST

Ericsson announced delivery of the first commercial wireless network using the CDMA Development Group's advanced open architecture standard, Interoperability Specification (IOS).

Operator U S WEST launched the new cdmaOne network in Salt Lake City on November 17, 1999, transparently linking Ericsson's Base Station Subsystem (BSS) to U S WEST's backbone network via the IOS open interface.

"U S WEST's vision for integrated, feature-rich and cost-effective networks required implementation built on open interfaces," says Joe Hannan, Director of Network Planning and Engineering of U S WEST, who was responsible for the overall development and deployment of the new architecture. "The open interfaces have enabled us to leverage the core competencies of our suppliers. Their collaboration was instrumental to the rapid deployment cycle which allowed us to develop and deploy in 13 months."

Ericsson is a strong advocate of open architecture and open platforms, which secure operator investments and enable the creation, proliferation and interoperability of wireless Internet and value-added services. Open systems offer operators the ability to select the most appropriate elements for each new network deployment.

"Ericsson will continue to drive the development of open systems, especially as operators move to 3G and begin to add new services to their networks," says Åke Persson, President of Ericsson Wireless Communications. "We look forward to delivering flexible, evolutionary solutions to U S WEST and our other customers over the long term."

U S WEST is using Ericsson's innovative RBS 1106 Compact base stations, which deliver macrocell performance in a microcell package, as well as Ericsson's CMS 11 base station controller (BSC) product.

In addition to the Salt Lake City network, U S WEST plans to launch service in 22 new U.S. markets and enhance service in existing markets utilizing the same open architecture. Ericsson will continue to supply base stations and base station controllers for these deployments.

U S WEST is also the official PCS provider to the 2002 Winter Olympics being held in Salt Lake City in February 2002.

cdmaOne is one of the fastest growing wireless technologies in the world, currently serving more than 40 million subscribers. Ericsson's cdmaOne networks deliver the full advantages of CDMA technology for strong performance in mobile, fixed and wireless Internet applications. Ericsson's innovative compact radio base stations provide macrocell performance in a microcell package. Ericsson's cdmaOne products offer a clear migration path to cdma2000, enabling operators to evolve their networks to provide the full range of third generation services.

Ericsson is the leading provider in the new telecoms world, with communications solutions that combine telecom and datacom technologies with 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>

cdmaOne is a registered trademark of the CDMA Development Group.

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