

CONNECTING
NEW ZEALANDERS



Telecom New Zealand Limited
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January 16, 2007

Office of the Telecommunications Authority
29/F Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wanchai
Hong Kong

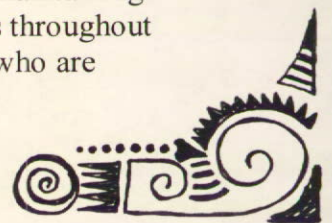
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Attention: TE(R21)

Telecom New Zealand would like to send its support to the Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA) for issuing the recent public consultation: *Licensing of Spectrum in the 850 MHz Band to Enable the Provision of CDMA2000 Service*. We firmly believe that OFTA is taking the right steps towards ensuring a robustly competitive wireless communications market in Hong Kong.

Telecom New Zealand is the principal supplier of telecommunications services in New Zealand with approximately 1.9 million customers connected to its CDMA2000 1x and EV-DO networks (WCIS -12/06). In December of 2006, Telecom New Zealand was one of the first operators in the world to launch CDMA2000 1xEV-DO Revision A. This upgrade considerably enhances the quality of service, reduces latency and increases data speeds in comparison to the previous release of EV-DO (Rel 0). We strongly believe that these network enhancements will serve to drive innovation in applications development, thereby further stimulating consumer demand.

Telecom New Zealand encourages OFTA to follow through with its proposal to license spectrum in the 850 MHz band for CDMA2000 in 2008 as we feel it would greatly contribute to a healthy and competitive market in Hong Kong and to her strategic position regionally. For example, the deployment of CDMA2000 1x and EV-DO technologies in Hong Kong will introduce a number of differentiated voice and data services, including wireless broadband access. Most importantly, by maintaining a CDMA network in Hong Kong, OFTA will ensure that several operators throughout the region can continue to deliver roaming capabilities to their customers who are frequent travelers to Hong Kong.



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Telecom New Zealand commends OFTA for ensuring that CDMA mobile services in Hong Kong continue to be available to local, regional and international consumers well into the future. We appreciate this opportunity to comment on these very important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. W. Chester", written over a horizontal line.

John Chester
Strategic Alliances Manager

