

Lacell SU Burundi choose Ericsson for new GSM network

Leading global telecom services company, Ericsson, has announced the signing of an agreement with Lacell SU Burundi to supply a complete turnkey GSM network for the Burundian operator.

"We are delighted to be working with the world's leading telecommunications vendor because it gives us a significant competitive advantage in the Burundian market," confirms Bhupendra Bhandari, General Manager for Lacell SU Burundi. "It was also a comparatively easy decision for us to make given that time-to-market was a crucial factor and Ericsson has such an outstanding, proven track record with regards delivering and deploying networks."

The agreement with Lacell SU Burundi includes establishing the core network and its associated radio network, together with all related installation, integration and training services. This first phase of the project is expected to be completed within four months and rollout has already begun.

"Obviously, we are delighted to have been given such an exciting opportunity," enthuses Hans Olov Rauman, Vice President of Account Management for Ericsson's market unit sub-Saharan Africa (MUSA). "Not only are we deploying our first network in Burundi, but this is also our first partnership with Lacell in Africa and reflects the growing relationship between the two companies."

The fifth operator in Burundi, the launch of Lacell SU Burundi will further enhance the competitiveness of the East African nation's telecommunications market and, in turn, stimulate its economy. "The rollout of the Lacell SU Burundi network further strengthens our footprint across the continent and reaffirms our commitment to playing a central role in driving growth in the African telecom market," Rauman concludes.

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Notes to editors:

Ericsson is the world's leading provider of technology and services to telecom operators. The market leader in 2G and 3G mobile technologies, Ericsson supplies communications services and manages networks that serve more than 185 million subscribers. The company's portfolio comprises mobile and fixed network infrastructure, and broadband and multimedia solutions for operators, enterprises and developers. The Sony Ericsson joint venture provides consumers with feature-rich personal mobile devices.

Ericsson is advancing its vision of 'communication for all' through innovation, technology, and sustainable business solutions. Working in 175 countries, more than 70,000 employees generated revenue of USD 27.9 billion (SEK 189 billion) in 2007. Founded in 1876 and headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden, Ericsson is listed on the Stockholm, London and NASDAQ stock exchanges.

For more information, visit www.ericsson.com or www.ericsson.mobi <<http://www.ericsson.mobi/>>.

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