

## Hong Kong announces renewal terms for mobile licenses

The government of Hong Kong will issue new Mobile Carrier Licenses to existing GSM and PCS operators whose licenses expire in 2005 and 2006, according to a press release issued on 29 November 2004. The two remaining CDMA and TDMA operators will not obtain new licenses and must migrate their customers to other networks within three years.

The Mobile Carrier License conditions are the same applicable to existing 3G licenses and will have duration of 15 years. GSM and PCS operators will pay a fixed annual spectrum fee during the initial five years and 5 percent of annual turnover with a minimum fee, for the subsequent period.

The government's rationale for not renewing licenses of CDMA and TDMA operators is technology obsolescence and inefficient use of spectrum—both companies have only about 30,000 users. These operators have three years to migrate their customers to other networks they own and can only use a third of the originally allocated spectrum. The government intends to reassign vacated spectrum in 800 MHz band after finalizing a spectrum policy review in 2005.

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Source:

New Licenses for Existing 2G Mobile Services to be Granted – CITB, Press Release (29 November 2004)

[http://www.ofta.gov.hk/press\\_rel/2004/nov\\_2004.html#2](http://www.ofta.gov.hk/press_rel/2004/nov_2004.html#2)

Licensing of Mobile Services on Expiry of Existing Licenses for Second Generation Mobile Services and Related Subsidiary Legislation – CITB, Information Paper (13 December 2004)

<http://www.ofta.gov.hk/report-paper-guide/paper/information/info20041213.pdf>