



## SmarTone-Vodafone announces full 3G coverage on MTR

**(Hong Kong, 8 August 2005)** SmarTone-Vodafone announces full 3G coverage on the MTR starting from the afternoon of 9 August, providing uninterrupted coverage across the whole of the MTR network throughout all 52 MTR and Airport Express stations and all tunnels in between. SmarTone-Vodafone now provides 99.9% 3G coverage of Hong Kong including major shopping malls, commercial buildings and residential areas.

"We are pleased that customers now enjoy seamless full 3G service including video calling across the whole MTR system," said Mr. Douglas Li, Chief Executive Officer of SmarTone-Vodafone. "With the best 3G network, compelling 3G services and superior 3G handsets, it is time for customers to upgrade from 2G to 3G to enjoy the many benefits that 3G can bring."

SmarTone-Vodafone also leads the market in call connection time, data throughput time and 3G roaming video calling destinations, and thus offers the best mobile experience in town.

The SmarTone-Vodafone network offers the fastest call connection time for both voice calls and video calls in Hong Kong. An independent network quality survey conducted by Acorn Marketing and Research Consultants this July confirmed that SmarTone-Vodafone leads the market in voice call connection time, video call connection time and time to display video image for a video call. SmarTone-Vodafone's network also provides the fastest data throughput time\*, enabling customers to enjoy fast and seamless content browsing and video streaming.

SmarTone-Vodafone provides the widest 3G roaming video calling coverage at over 40 overseas destinations, including Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Europe and Africa, with more countries constantly being added.

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*\*The data throughput time comparison was conducted amongst operators who provide 3G coverage in all 20 tested locations*

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## About SmarTone-Vodafone

SmarTone-Vodafone is Hong Kong's leading mobile services brand. Its goal is to better enrich customers' lives by bringing them closer to what matters to them – a world of greater possibilities and achievements. SmarTone-Vodafone is a GSM operator and a 3G services provider in Hong Kong. The commercial launch of 3G-enabled services at the end of 2004 for both consumers and business users is a key milestone in its quest for long-term growth through multimedia services. SmarTone-Vodafone is the marketing brand for SmarTone Mobile Communications Limited following the signing of a Partner Network Agreement with Vodafone. Established in 1992, the company has been listed in Hong Kong since 1996. Its major shareholder is Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited (about 52%).

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