

SmarTone pushes the frontier to 5G

Pioneers Hong Kong's first 5G live field trial in 3.5 GHz and 28 GHz bands simultaneously

With showcases of the latest technology demonstration to unleash the potential of 5G

(Hong Kong, 26 March 2019) SmarTone today announced that it has pioneered Hong Kong's first 5G live field trial in both 3.5 GHz and 28 GHz bands simultaneously. To highlight the exciting possibility of 5G, a series of use cases also demonstrate some of the many ways in which 5G technologies will enrich and transform everyone's lives.

SmarTone has been an acclaimed 5G trailblazer since 2017, when it conducted Hong Kong's first 5G technology demonstrations. The company also spearheaded technology advancement including FDD massive MIMO trial and 5G live demonstration with a smartphone form factor. Today, SmarTone embarks on a journey to 5G by showing media a live field trial with the SmarTone Tech Truck to illustrate the transmission characteristics of 3.5 GHz and 28 GHz bands.

An integrated approach of combining both of these two major bands in 5G network rollout is an important way of building a robust and comprehensive network with maximised network coverage and capacity for 5G. SmarTone successfully acquired the permits from the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) for conducting this 5G Live Field Trial on both 3.5 GHz and 28 GHz bands simultaneously.

"Today, SmarTone's 5G live field trial on both 3.5 GHz and 28 GHz bands simultaneously affirms its status as a leading mobile operator in Hong Kong," said Ms Anna Yip, CEO of SmarTone. "We are proactively preparing for 5G rollout and will continue to collaborate with industry leaders to launch a world-class 5G network in Hong Kong."

The use cases successfully showcase the rich potential of 5G, including Sandbox with Augmented Reality for education purpose, Future Mixed Reality for town planning, Paper-Scissors-Stone Game, Signing Robot Arm and Robot Race. These use cases are powered by Ericsson.

"With sixteen 5G contracts already announced with leading operators across the globe, and over 40 signed MOUs, Ericsson is a leader in 5G," said Ms Petra Schirren, President, Hong Kong & Macau at Ericsson. "We have built a strong 5G portfolio based on a decade of 5G research in technologies and applications, and are currently deploying commercial 5G networks in North

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America, Europe and Asia. SmarTone has been in a leading position in the telecommunications industry in Hong Kong and we will leverage our long-term partnership to deliver best-of-breed network experience to SmarTone and its customers.”

“5G will play an important role in digital transformation in the Hong Kong economy,” added Ms Yip. “Demonstrating those possibilities in today’s showcase creates a powerful catalyst for collaboration with enterprises. SmarTone is proactively planning a robust 5G network and is committed to industry collaboration that supports enterprises with innovative new applications. We are proud to be playing a key role in Hong Kong’s transformation to a smart city.”

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News Release