



PRESS RELEASE

Belgacom International Carrier Services Certified as GSMA Compliant Roaming Hub

Brussels, 05/02/2009

Belgacom ICS, a leading global wholesale carrier, today announced the successful completion of the self-certification process of its Open Connectivity Roaming Hub. With the Open Connectivity (OC) Initiative, the GSMA is looking for new ways to set up Interconnection and Roaming relationships between mobile operators through a hub as an alternative to implementing one-to-one roaming relationships across the world's 750+ GSM networks. This follows the existing achievements of the Open Connectivity SMS Interworking Hub for which Belgacom ICS was the first to be certified. Thanks to the Open Connectivity SMS Hub, any mobile subscriber is now able to exchange two-way SMS's with other subscribers connecting via other GSM networks.

Belgacom ICS, as a dedicated partner to mobile operators and a leader in mobile data transit services, has been actively involved in the OC Initiative since the outset. Recently Belgacom ICS successfully participated in the Roaming Hub trial involving 29 operators and 10 vendors from across the globe, carried out over 830 tests. During the trial, Belgacom ICS performed *Intrahub* and *Interhub* tests for; GSM, GPRS, CAMEL and 3G roaming with 9 other operators and also another Hub. The outcome is that now via a single operational and technical relationship, (such as Belgacom ICS' Instant Roaming Hub), operators gain interoperability, in tandem with significantly reducing operational complexity which results in enabling them to provide their subscribers a better and quicker global footprint for all services.

"As a highly valued partner of over 200 mobile operators worldwide, we are very happy to have successfully performed the certification process," said Daniel Kurgan, CEO Belgacom ICS. "The 2008 trial helped us to assess a very detailed specification of the Hub to perfect the technologies. We are confident that mobile operators connected to Belgacom ICS' Instant Roaming Hub will experience the value-add of choosing for a proven service that will provide them a single IMSI Open Connectivity certified Roaming Hub solution. At the same time it enables them at the same time to obtain immediate full coverage thanks to our integrated sponsored option (400 existing Roaming Agreements) as it needs to be mentioned that full multilateral connectivity between 750 GSM networks worldwide won't be realized overnight!"

About Belgacom ICS

Belgacom International Carrier Services SA/NV (Belgacom ICS) is a leading global carrier of voice, data and value added services to over 500 wireless, wireline and service providers through sales offices in Brussels, Bern, Dubai, Singapore and New York.

Belgacom ICS is at the forefront of the international communications industry, acting as a catalyst for growth, both in terms of traffic and reach. The company aims to enable global interworking across all networks, technologies and services. As a result of this approach and the

joint venture with Swisscom ICS, Belgacom International Carrier Services is now one of the largest wholesale voice carrier and a world leader in data transit services.

For more information, please visit www.belgacom-ics.com

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