



PRESS RELEASE: MTN AND BICS LAUNCH MOBILE REMITTANCE SERVICE TO GHANA

Johannesburg, South Africa - Accra, Ghana - Brussels, Belgium – 11 February 2011

MTN and BICS have announced today that they will launch International Remittances services with MTN Ghana, utilizing HomeSend, a mobile centric remittance hub operated by BICS and powered by its technology partner eServGlobal.

“To start with Ghanaians living in the UK and Belgium can remit funds cost-effectively and instantly to the mobile phones of their family or friends who are MTN Mobile Money customers in Ghana, via HomeSend” said Bruno Akpaka, GM Mobile Money, MTN Ghana. More countries are expected to be added soon.

International remittances have already become a significant portion of mobile payments, allowing subscribers to easily and quickly transfer money internationally using their mobile phones, and the market is continuing to grow as it allows access to unbanked populations. According to Informa Telecoms & Media, by 2013, the global international MMT (mobile money transfer) gross transaction value is expected to reach \$47.9 billion. Moreover, the Bank of Ghana states that remittances received by private individuals in Ghana amount to more than \$1.2 billion annually.

HomeSend is BICS’ leading international remittance solution, and the only mobile-centric international remittance hub endorsed by the GSMA. It allows subscribers to transfer any type of funds, such as airtime and cash, using only their mobile phone. Various fund sources can be used, such as eWallets, bank accounts and credit cards. HomeSend transfer fees are also significantly less than those of traditional international remittance avenues.

Pieter Verkade, Executive Mobile Money for MTN Group said “In line with our ambition to bring new services to our customers through Mobile Money, we are happy to see the start of international remittance with HomeSend in Ghana, we will follow the launch closely with a view of bringing it to our other operations later.”

Frederic Schepens, SVP Mobile Financial Services at BICS said “We are proud to work with MTN Ghana as the first of the MTN Group companies to benefit from the HomeSend service, and look forward to expanding the number of active mobile remittance corridors across other key African markets during 2011.”

About MTN Group

Launched in 1994, the MTN Group is a multinational telecommunications group, operating in 21 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The MTN Group is listed on the JSE Securities Exchange in South Africa under the share code: “MTN.” As of 30 September 2010, MTN recorded 134.4 million subscribers across its operations in Afghanistan, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Cyprus, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Republic, Iran, Liberia, Nigeria, Republic of Congo (Congo Brazzaville), Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syria, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia. Visit us at www.mtn.com.

About BICS

BICS delivers best in class global solutions for Voice, Messaging, Roaming, Connectivity and Mobile Financial Services to hundreds of telecommunication providers around the world. With our passionate and creative teams located in Brussels, Bern, Monaco, Dubai, Singapore and New York, we continuously strive to provide our customers with the highest levels of quality, reliability and interoperability that enable them to maximise end-user value. Our innovative approach is visible through our place at the forefront of the market consolidation and technology advancement. We are a joint venture of Belgacom, Swisscom and MTN, and have rolled out transformative Next Generation Networks (NGN). This together with our continued focus on Value Added Services for Mobile Operators and our growth strategy has enabled us to reach a world-leading position both on the International Voice and Mobile Data markets. For more information, please visit: www.bics.com.

About HomeSend

The HomeSend service, based on eServGlobal's technology, is the first mobile centric global hubbing service for international remittance, airtime exchange and roaming recharge, endorsed by the GSM Association. For more information on HomeSend, please see www.homesend.com.

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Source of Informa Telecoms & Media figure:

- John Darnbrough, P263, Mobile Payments and Banking, Informa Telecoms & Media, 2009, ISBN: 978 1843 117 933

Source of Bank of Ghana figure:

- IAMTN electronic newsletter, 1st October 2010.