

Office of Utility Regulation

Media Release

Regulator Announces Award of

2G and 3G Mobile Telecommunications Licences

The Regulator today (25th March 2003) announced the award of two new Guernsey mobile telephony licences to Wave Telecom Limited. The company was successful in its application for one third generation (3G) mobile licence and one second generation (2G) mobile licence. The two Licences will come into effect from 1st April 2003.

"I am delighted to award these two new mobile licences to Wave Telecom", said Regina Finn, Director General. "The licences will allow Wave to provide a range of exciting new mobile services as well as introducing competition to existing mobile services in Guernsey and we look forward to the value, choice and innovation that the company can bring to the Guernsey mobile market".

Mobile communications are particularly important in the Guernsey economy where businesses need the flexibility to operate as part of their wider global business environment. It is essential that Guernsey stays at the forefront of technological innovation and service quality so that infrastructure and services underpinning the Guernsey economy keep pace with, and even outstrip, those in our competitor islands and economies.

"Introducing competition into the mobile market will focus operators on innovating and maintaining high standards", said Jon Buckland, Regulatory Manager with OUR, "and the award of a 3G licence as well as a 2G licence heralds the development of the type of leading edge services that we are beginning to see develop in other markets around Europe".

3G technology is the latest generation of mobile telephony technology and it allows mobile phone users to send and receive large amounts of data over their mobile phones, opening the way to a whole new range of services, from internet access to sending and receiving photographs.

2G technology is the current GSM technology that mobile users in Guernsey will already be familiar with. The widespread use of the GSM standard enables customers to use their mobile phones in a huge range of countries in a seamless way.

"Wave Telecom's application described the company's professional, thorough and exciting approach both to the existing mobile market and to the new 3G market", said Regina Finn, "and I congratulate them on their application and wish them every success in their new business here in Guernsey".

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For further information contact the Office of Utility Regulation on 01481 711120

Notes to Editors

The award of the two mobile telephony licences followed an extensive public consultation and an award process that was developed on the basis of a range of published documents including the following (all available from the OUR website www.regutil.gg)

02/41	Extension of Deadline for Submission of Applications for Mobile Telecommunications Licences in Guernsey
02/30	Competition for Mobile Telecommunications Licences - Information memorandum
02/23	Information Note – Mobile Telephony Licensing in Guernsey
02/21	Competition for Mobile Telecommunications Licences. Response to Consultation, Call for Expressions of Interest and Call for Comments on Preliminary Tender Document
02/18	Mobile Telecommunications Licence Terms and Conditions - Consultation paper
02/14	Mobile Telephony Licensing in Guernsey - Report on the Consultation Paper and Decision Notice
01/25	Mobile Telephony Licensing in Guernsey

The licence will be signed and presented to Wave Telecom Ltd at the Wave Telecom shop in Commercial Arcade, St Peter Port at 9.30am on Tuesday 25th March 2003. The Licences will be published on the OUR website by their effective date – 1st April 2003.