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Celltick turns Mobile Operator VimpelCom into a National Broadcaster Overnight

Russian operator to broadcast live to the phones screens of more than 10m subscribers. Celltick's LiveScreen technology expected to boost data services revenue

London, 19 April 2005 - Celltick's, the market leader in idle-screen applications and interactive mobile broadcast, turns Russian mobile operator VimpelCom (NYSE: VIP) into a national media broadcaster overnight. Powered by Celltick's LiveScreen technology, VimpelCom launched today its "Chameleon" service, which broadcasts live content directly to the phone screens of millions of subscribers.

VimpelCom users now enjoy streams of free news headlines, sport reports, weather updates, music stories, gossip and games directly on their idle screens. Just like a screen saver, the messages appear silently only when the phone is not in use, and let users access a variety of data service with a one-click reaction. Using Celltick's Interactive Broadcast technology, the service is uniquely able to communicate with millions of users in real time.

VimpeCom operates its mobile service in Russia under the brand Bee Line GSM, currently has 28 million subscribers, and expected to grow to 40 million by the end of 2005. The new service is launched in a massive media campaign, including promotions in radio, billboards, Web site and shops. In its first stage "Chameleon" will be available to 2 million users, and the operator plans to expand it to more than 10 million users by the end of the year.

The service will be deployed across all the network's 88 regions – from Kaliningrad in the west to Khabarovsk in the Far East. VimpelCom has created a country-wide team to run the broadcast operation, effectively working like a TV editorial team. They will broadcast programs based on VimpelCom's current content sources as well as new providers such as MTV Gossip, Sony Music Trivia, Cosmopolitan and Playboy. The service targets all types of audiences, and is able to broadcast both to the entire subscriber base and to specific segments and specific locations.

The operator expects "Chameleon" to boost its data revenue while increasing subscribers' loyalty and enhancing its brand perception. A trial of the service in the summer of 2004 achieved dramatic results. 2,000 users received broadcasts for a few weeks; 40% of them clicked on to access value added services, each adding an average of 15% to their monthly spending.

"The Russian mobile market enters today a new level of development", said Victor Markelov, Products Director at VimpelCom. "Our customers are changing as well as their wishes and priorities – as low prices now matter less than top quality services. Beeline wants to remain the number one mobile operator in Russia and offer our customers a world-class service. We are confident that our new Chameleon service, which is available for Beeline subscribers only, will stimulate our customers' interest and increase their demand

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for entertaining and valuable services”.

“We are delighted to partner with VimpelCom in turning its live screens vision into reality”, says Yossi Wellingstein, Celltick’s CEO. “Our system places VimpelCom in the forefront of mobile innovation, and gives it a substantial edge in the mobile service market. Celltick has dedicated many talents and resources to making this service a success, and we have no doubt that VimpelCom’s subscribers will be extremely happy with the results”.

By: [WebitPR](#) on 19 Apr 2005 - 11:49

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