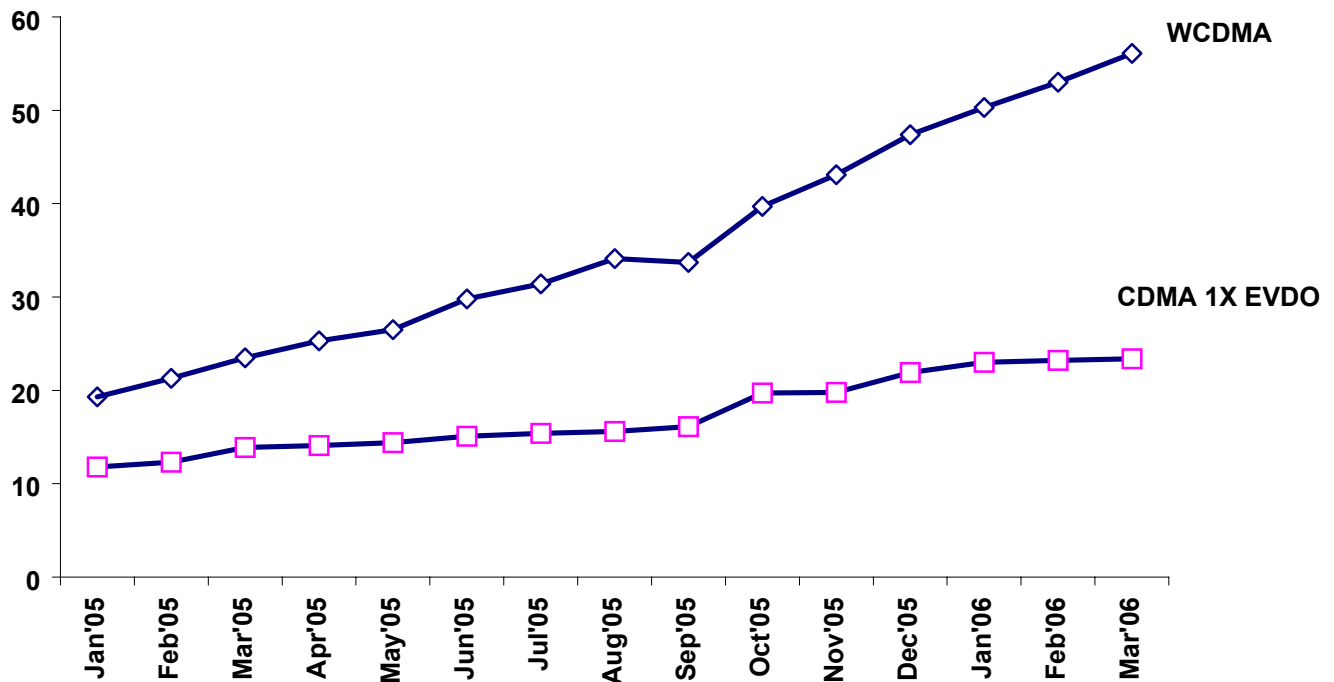


3GSM (WCDMA) Status

World over, 3GSM (WCDMA) continues to grow from strength to strength as shown below:



The above shows the widening gap between 3GSM (WCDMA) and CDMA 1X EVDO. Its success is seen to be inspiring several important operators to switch to 3GSM (WCDMA). Recently the incumbent **Australian operator, Telstra, announced its migration from CDMA to 3GSM (WCDMA) 3G services.** However, it will not sell-off its CDMA network once it has completed the migration of users to W-CDMA services because '80% of the infrastructure is being redeployed,' said spokesperson Rod Bruem. It was initially thought that Telstra might sell the infrastructure to a rival cellco or start-up operator, but such talk has now been quashed. 'CDMA is on the way out and other carriers will follow Telstra's lead because we have the second biggest network in the world,' Bruem said. **H3G is Australia's only other CDMA network operator and it too is preparing to migrate to 3GSM (WCDMA).**

Another big operator, **KTF of Korea will introduce 3GSM (WCDMA)/third-generation mobile technology for high-speed wireless data transfer** in the first half of next year. It will spend some W780 billion (US\$780 million) on setting up an upgraded wireless communications network across

the nation. The service will enable handset users to use wireless contents at a similar speed to the high-speed Internet they use at home. It will also make international roaming easier.

KTF president Cho Young-chu told a press conference that **the company will set up a high-speed data packet access (HSDPA) network in all 84 cities nationwide by the end of the year.** “That will change the mobile service technology from second-generation voice telephony to third-generation wideband code division multiple access (W-CDMA) earlier than planned,” he said

In December 2005 **KTF partnered with Japan's NTT DoCoMo to jointly research, develop and promote W-CDMA technology.** The cellco is also preparing for the launch of 3.5G services and earlier this year it struck a deal with Openwave Systems to jointly develop a next generation browser for W-CDMA and HSDPA handsets.

It is believed that many other operators like **Vivo in Barzil are also planning switch to 3GSM (WCDMA) from CDMA networks.**

Source: www.telegeography.com, www.wirelesswatch.com & EMC Database