



## **Record GSM Subscribers Added Globally in Q3 05**

GSM added over **100 million new subscribers in only 3 months** thus, averaging over 1 million net additions every day throughout the whole of 2005. This world-beating performance pushed the number of GSM subscribers to over 1.56 billion by end September 2005. There are around 670 GSM networks commercially operational in 200 countries/ territories.

**The growth of GSM subscribers in 2005 achieved 276.8 million, exceeding in 9 months the CDMA all-time global subscribers figure of 273.5 million.** More than three quarters of 2.02 billion global mobile subscriptions (all technologies) use GSM. GSM accounts for over 77.2% of the world's cellular market and over 90.8% of Q3 05 additions.

The emerging markets like Africa, India, Latin America and Asia have been the major drivers of growth, where GSM continues to lead the way. Asia continues to demonstrate strong growth of GSM. In India, **GSM consistently earns around 80% market share and in October 2005 achieved record growth of over 2.11 million subscriber additions.**

The Latin America and the Caribbean region have added 14 million GSM subscribers in the last quarter. In North America, GSM outperformed all other technologies, gaining over 80% market share of net additions in the same period. GSM now has 34.5% market share (28.7% at end 2004). Africa passed the 100 million subscribers milestone in June 2005. GSM enjoys 99.6% market share and by end September 2005, the number of GSM subscribers surged to 116.8 million.

3GSM (WCDMA) networks are also accelerating. 91 3GSM (WCDMA) networks have entered commercial service; an increase of 31 during 2005. A further 6 networks are at the pre-commercial stage. This means that two-thirds of the global total of 146 WCDMA license holders have launched 3G services, or are very near to doing so. **The number of WCDMA subscribers reached 34.8 million at end September 2005, an increase of 106.6% this year.** 226 models of WCDMA devices are in the market, with 60 models coming in the last 6 months (over 36% increase). This figure includes 12 devices, which support HSDPA. **At least 50 3GSM (WCDMA) operators worldwide have confirmed their interest in deploying HSDPA**— the first evolution of WCDMA. Using HSDPA, users will experience better Internet and intranet access with laptops, and for large file downloads. The first commercial services using HSDPA were launched in October 2005.

Source: [www.gsacom.com](http://www.gsacom.com)