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# **Hutchison Whampoa Limited**



(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 13)

# **OVERSEAS REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Attached is the text of the media release of Hutchison Telecommunications (Australia) Limited, an Australian Securities Exchange listed and a 52.03% owned subsidiary of Hutchison Whampoa Limited.

As at the date of the announcement, the Directors of Hutchison Whampoa Limited are:

## **Executive Directors:**

Mr LI Ka-shing (Chairman)
Mr LI Tzar Kuoi, Victor (Deputy Chairman)
Mr FOK Kin-ning, Canning
Mrs CHOW WOO Mo Fong, Susan
Mr Frank John SIXT
Mr LAI Kai Ming, Dominic
Mr KAM Hing Lam

## **Non-executive Directors:**

Mr George Colin MAGNUS Mr William SHURNIAK

# **Independent Non-executive Directors:**

The Hon Sir Michael David KADOORIE
Mr Holger KLUGE
Mrs Margaret LEUNG KO May Yee
Mr William Elkin MOCATTA
(Alternate to The Hon Sir Michael
David Kadoorie)
Mr WONG Chung Hin

Hong Kong, 29 May 2009





# media release

29 May 2009

# Vodafone and Hutchison confirm intention to proceed with merger following ACCC approval

~ Vodafone and Hutchison to form new, 50/50 joint venture: Vodafone Hutchison Australia (VHA) ~

Vodafone and Hutchison today welcomed the decision of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to approve the merger of the Vodafone Australia Limited and Hutchison 3G Australia Pty Limited businesses. The companies intend to complete the merger transaction within the next two weeks and form a 50:50 joint-venture that will be known as Vodafone Hutchison Australia (VHA).

Welcoming the ACCC's decision, Nick Read, CEO of Vodafone Asia-Pacific & Middle East Region and proposed Chairman of VHA, said: "The ACCC's decision confirms our view that this merger will be good news for Australian customers. VHA will be a stronger mobile company, more competitive and more capable of providing an even better deal for customers."

Nigel Dews, CEO of Hutchison Telecoms and proposed CEO of VHA, said: "Our first priority is to retain the best elements of both independent brands. The next step is to apply the combined scale and resources of VHA to deliver real benefits to all customers."

VHA will continue to market products and services under the Vodafone and 3 brands and all respective network arrangements, caps and plans, retail outlets and customer service capabilities will remain unchanged for the foreseeable future. As confirmed earlier in the week, the companies' respective approaches to mobile phone and mobile broadband pricing, which allow customers to acquire devices for \$0 on 24-month contracts, will remain in place for the next two years. VHA also confirmed that all Vodafone and 3 mobile handsets and mobile broadband devices will continue to operate as normal, and all customers' phone numbers and account credits remain the same.

Vodafone customers can continue to research products and services and purchase products online at <a href="www.vodafone.com.au">www.vodafone.com.au</a> or seek service advice and assistance from Vodafone Customer Care, by dialling 1555 from their Vodafone mobile phone or by dialling 1300 650 410 from any other phone.

3 customers are similarly encouraged to visit the 3 website: <a href="www.three.com.au">www.three.com.au</a> for further information on products and services or, for service, call 3 Care on 133 320.

#### ends

#### Vodafone

Vodafone has 3.97 million customers and 0.3 million MVNO customers in Australia and more than 302 million customers worldwide as of 31 March 2009. It has equity interests in 27 countries across five continents and a further 40 partner networks worldwide

3 is part of the global telecommunication operations of Hutchison Whampoa Limited (HWL). With 3, HWL is leading the global delivery of 3G mobile multimedia services across ten countries in Europe, Asia and the Middle East and provides 3G services to more than 20 million people. In Australia, 3 has more than 2 million customers.

## For more information please contact:

Greg Spears on 0406 315 014 or greg.spears@vodafone.com Edwina Elliott on 0412 431 635 or eelliott@hutchison.com.au