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MTS India leads CDMA2000 technology curve by becoming first global mobile service to adopt future-ready 1X Advanced Technology

— Enhanced efficiency and superior quality enabled by 1X Advanced will help support the company's ambitious growth plans —

MUMBAI & NEW DELHI, September 01, 2009 — Sistema Shyam TeleServices Limited (SSTL), a joint venture between Sistema (LSE: SSA) of Russia and Shyam Group of India, today announced its plan to adopt 1X Advanced technology to support its ambitious growth plans in India. With this announcement, MTS India would become the first CDMA2000[®] brand in the world to offer a future-ready technology that will enable best-in-class and simultaneous voice and high speed EV-DO data services. SSTL is the fastest Indian telecom operator to reach the one million subscriber mark. The company has quickly expanded to cover 6 telecom circles and will expand further to cover another five circles by end of this year, including key business centres of Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai.

Says **Mr. Vsevolod Rozanov, president and CEO of Sistema Shyam TeleServices Limited**,
“With a need to offer uncompromising, seamless call connectivity with fewer call drops, and data services at ever faster speeds, operators are in search of solutions that utilize limited spectrum more efficiently, to be able to support a larger subscriber-base on it. 1X Advanced is designed to meet both these needs and will help MTS to significantly increase its capacity to provide outstandingly clear voice quality to its growing subscriber base. The unprecedented voice capacity of 1X Advanced will allow MTS to efficiently support more voice demand within the same spectrum, and offer high speed EV-DO based broadband data services in times to come. With interference cancellation and radio link enhancements, it will help MTS get more voice capacity over the same spectrum in future.”

1X Advanced has been standardized by Third Generation Partnership Project 2 (3GPP2) in June 2009 and is expected to be commercially deployed in 2010. 1X Advanced uses the same spectrum and bandwidth as CDMA2000 1X, and significantly improves coverage and capacity with the same resources by employing cutting edge interference cancellation techniques as well as enhanced radio configurations. These improvements include base transceiver station (BTS) interference cancellation, enhanced power control, early frame termination, and smart blanking.

“We congratulate MTS India for being the first CDMA2000 service worldwide to adopt 1X Advanced. This latest release of CDMA2000 1X technology will enable MTS India to meet its ambitious goals for 1X voice services while introducing EV-DO data services,” said **Mr.**

Kanwalinder Singh, senior vice president of Qualcomm and president of Qualcomm India and South Asia. “We will work closely with MTS India and our OEM partners to deploy 1X Advanced and keep MTS India’s network on cutting-edge quality and economics for voice and data services.”

India is the second largest CDMA2000 market after the US with a subscriber base of over 100 million. MTS India is the only new entrant having license to operate in all 22 telecom circles across India. It currently has 1.7 million subscribers across six circles in India and has plans to complete the pan India roll-out in 2010. MTS India was recently recognized as the “Most Successful New Telecom Operator” by the Ministry of Telecommunications & IT.

About Sistema Shyam TeleServices

Sistema Shyam TeleServices (SSTL) is a joint venture company between Sistema {LSE: SSA} of Russia and Shyam Group of India. Sistema is the majority share holder in this joint venture with a 73.71% equity stake, along with the Shyam Group, holding a 23.79% stake and the rest 2.5% being public partake. SSTL has spectrum to provide mobile telephony services in all the 22 circles across the country. In a recent development, SSTL tied up with Mobile TeleSystems OJSC of Russia to bring the globally acclaimed telecom brand-MTS-to India. MTS is the 8th largest telecom brand in the world and has recently been voted as the 71st ranked brand out of 100 top global brands in the world by Millward Brown.

For further details visit: www.mtsindia.in

About Qualcomm

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