



Orange and Vodafone Spain start to share 3G network in 19 provinces covering small, rural towns

- **The agreement will speed up the arrival of 3G services to the whole Spanish population and extend the benefits of faster networks to rural areas.**
- **Network sharing will help to improve the 3G network coverage provided by both operators by approximately 25%, and at the same time will reduce the number of base stations needed to deploy both the Orange Spain and Vodafone Spain networks by around 40%.**
- **The technical solution enables to reduce resources and energy and helps to reduce the visual impact in urban and rural environments**

Madrid, 10 october 2007.- Orange and Vodafone Spain announce that they have started to share their 3G radio network in towns with fewer than 25,000 inhabitants in 19 provinces across the entire country.

The agreement will allow them to improve the 3G coverage provided by both companies through the deployment of approximately 25% more base stations. However, by working together, this will ultimately reduce the total number of base stations required by both companies in these areas by around 40%.The technical solution enables to reduce resources and energy and helps to reduce the visual impact in urban and rural environments.

Network sharing of 1,000 3G base stations already achieved and 1,500 by the end of the year and it has already spread to small towns in the provinces of Alicante, Castellón, Valencia, Granada, Malaga, Sevilla, Coruña, Pontevedra, Baleares, Ciudad Real, Toledo, Cuenca, Guadalajara, Barcelona, Madrid, Logroño, Navarra, Guipuzcoa and Vizcaya.

"This agreement will enable us to optimise and rationalise the layout of the 3G networks in Spain as well as limit the environmental impact of the infrastructure required to provide mobile services", said Jean-Marc Vignolles, CEO of Orange Spain.

"The co-operation between our two companies will speed up the deployment of 3G innovative services to more population in a shorter period of time", added Vignolles.

Francisco Román, CEO of Vodafone Spain said: "This agreement places us to the forefront of the technological innovation and allows us to guarantee coverage and

communication of excellent quality with a minor total number of emplacements, which benefits the customers of both companies"

Francisco Roman has added that "with the shared use of our infrastructures, we can take, across the mobile broadband, the benefits of the Society of the Information to small populations "

The agreement between both companies expects to reach 5,000 shared base stations over the next 4 years. This agreement enables each mobile operator to manage its own traffic as well as assume full responsibility for the quality of service.