

## Prepaid Users Continue to Dominate

The top 30 operators worldwide, as ranked by Informa Telecoms & Media, had a total of 478.68 million prepaid subscribers at end-June'05 (equal to 54% of the total subscribers).

Smart Comms of the Philippines has the highest percentage of prepaid users among its overall subscriber base, at 98.4%. Outside China, America Movil has the largest prepaid subscriber base of 29.94 million users. The ranking of operators by prepaid subs shows that efforts by operators in mature markets to decrease the number of prepaid users among their overall base have been broadly successful, though the rate of decline has been fairly low.

On a quarterly basis, KPN of the Netherlands has been most successful in migrating prepaid users onto contract plans. The operator has effected a 5.15% decrease between 1Q 05 and 2Q 05 in the number of prepaid users among its overall base. On an annualized basis, NTT DoCoMo has been most successful in migrating prepaid users to postpaid, having decreased its prepaid user base 26.55% between 2Q 04 and 2Q 05.

On the other hand, Egypt's Orascom saw the largest percentage increase in prepaid users from 2Q 04 to 2Q 05, at 7.26%, increasing 15.36% on an annualized basis, indicating the importance of prepaid subscribers in emerging markets.

The table below shows top 15 operators in terms of prepaid users.

SI No.	Operator	Prepaid Users	Prepaid %
1	China Mobile (China)	163,149,020	72.94
2	China Unicom (China)	44,360,700	36.29
3	American Movil (Mexico)	29,943,600	93.18
4	MTS (Russia)	28,643,600	82.36
5	TIM (Italy)	22,681,830	88.94
6	VimpelCom (Russia)	22,605,700	66.04
7	Smart Comms (Philippines)	20,521,220	94.47
8	Turkcell (Turkey)	20,400,000	79.69
9	Telkomsel (Malaysia)	16,098,000	91.86
10	T-Mobile (Germany)	14,074,600	50.66
11	AIS (Thailand)	13,637,600	86.27
12	Globe Telecom (Philippines)	12,982,550	93.81
13	O <sub>2</sub> (UK)	10,248,000	67.20
14	Telefonica Moviles (Spain)	9,529,000	50.33
15	Vodafone (UK)	8,409,000	65.56

Source: Informa Telecoms & Media