

LTE in China—The Next Goldmine After 3G

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Report Summary

The Chinese government has awarded 3G licenses for TD-SCDMA, WCDMA, and CDMA 2000 to China Mobile, China Unicom, and China Telecom, respectively, effectively bringing China into the 3G era. From the point of view of technical evolution, what's next for 3G? In China, the situation is clear, as both the Chinese government and the three principal telecommunication operators have announced their support of LTE. However, the LTE strategy of each operator varies according to their current positions in the telecommunications market and their currently adopted 3G technologies.

In this report, we first provide an overview of the current mobile telecommunications market both globally and in China, followed by a brief introduction to LTE technology and In-Stat's analysis of the Chinese government's possible spectrum allocation plan for LTE. The report then analyzes in detail the driving forces behind LTE and the challenges it faces in penetrating the Chinese market. We also analyze the LTE strategies of each of China's three principal operators. Finally, we provide forecasts for LTE terminal shipments and subscribers in China for the years 2009 to 2013.

The report also provides a brief introduction to infrastructure, terminal, and chipset vendors who are involved in the LTE industrial chain.

HIGHLIGHTS

- LTE is the only route to 4G in China. TD-LTE, one of the LTE technologies, will receive much more support than LTE-FDD.
- In 2010, China Mobile will use TD-LTE to construct a pre-commercial LTE network. In 2011, it will launch commercial LTE network construction on a small scale.
- China Unicom and China Telecom will begin LTE network construction later than China Mobile, likely in 2012.
- In-Stat predicts that China's LTE subscribers will number no more than 500,000 by 2013, and that 80% of these will be China Mobile subscribers.

For more information or to purchase, see the [report online](#) or call 1.480.483.4441.

Whose needs does this report address?

- Mobile telecommunications operators
- LTE infrastructure vendors
- LTE terminal and chipset vendors
- Value-added services provided by mobile broadband operators

What issues does this report address?

- The current status of the mobile telecommunications market worldwide and in China
- The current state of LTE technology
- The spectrum assignment for LTE in China
- Driving forces and challenges for LTE in China
- The current status of China's mobile telecommunications operators and their strategies on LTE
- LTE subscriber forecasts
- LTE terminal shipment forecasts

Table of Contents

| | | | |
|--|----|---|--------------------|
| Executive Summary..... | 1 | China's Concern With IPR | 19 |
| Mobile Telecommunications Market Overview | 4 | Challenges | 20 |
| GSM Still Dominates Mobile World | 4 | Spectrum Allocation | 20 |
| Bright Future of Mobile Broadband | 4 | Government Attitudes to TD-SCDMA Performance and Operator Market Share | 20 |
| Telecom Industry Benefits From Government Investment..... | 5 | Huge Investment in 3G | 21 |
| Technology Adoptions in China After 3G Launch..... | 5 | LTE Industrial Chain | 21 |
| 3G Accelerating in China | 6 | Operator LTE Strategy | 23 |
| Analysis of LTE Technology | 7 | China Mobile | 23 |
| Definition | 7 | Current Status | 23 |
| Key Characteristics | 7 | LTE Strategy | 24 |
| LTE-FDD: Widely Supported Worldwide | 7 | China Unicom..... | 25 |
| TD-LTE: Chinese for LTE-TDD | 8 | Current Status..... | 25 |
| Architecture Evolution from 3G to LTE/SAE | 9 | LTE Strategy | 26 |
| Possible Routes to LTE..... | 10 | China Telecom | 27 |
| Different Ways, Similar Cost | 10 | Current Status..... | 27 |
| Option 1: TD-SCDMA to LTE | 10 | LTE Strategy | 27 |
| Option 2: GSM to LTE..... | 11 | Market Forecasts for LTE in China..... | 29 |
| Option 3: CDMA One to LTE | 11 | Vendor Profiles | 31 |
| Spectrum Analysis..... | 12 | Alcatel-Lucent | 31 |
| Global Spectrum Allocation Overview..... | 12 | Ericsson..... | 31 |
| Analysis of China's LTE Spectrum Allocation | 13 | Huawei | 33 |
| China's Spectrum Allocation Overview | 13 | Nokia Siemens Networks | 34 |
| Three in Five Frequency Bands Assigned to LTE?..... | 15 | Qualcomm | 35 |
| Driving Forces and Challenges for LTE in China .. | 18 | ZTE..... | 36 |
| Driving Forces | 18 | Methodology | 38 |
| Fast Growth of Mobile Internet Use and Data Traffic..... | 18 | Glossary..... | 39 |
| Increasing Bandwidth Attracts Subscribers .. | 18 | List of Tables | 43 |
| Vendors Proactively Promoting LTE | 19 | List of Figures | 43 |
| | | Related In-Stat Reports | 45 |

List of Tables

Table 1. China’s Radio Technology Adoptions After 3G Launch..... 5

Table 2. Detailed Spectrum Allocation for 2G in China..... 14

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

List of Figures

Figure 1. China’s LTE Subscriber Forecast, 2009–2013 (Subscribers in Thousands)..... 2

Figure 2. Subscribers Connected by Air Link as of End of 2008 4

Figure 3. China’s Subscriber Distribution by Air Link..... 5

Figure 4. China’s Mobile 2G and 3G Subscriber Forecasts, 2009–2013 (Subscribers in Millions) 6

Figure 5. Relationship Between LTE FDD/TDD and TD-LTE 8

Figure 6. Architecture Evolution from 3G to LTE/SAE 9

Figure 7. Possible Routes to LTE..... 10

Figure 8. Spectrum Allocated to IMT and/or Mobile Use in WRC07..... 13

Figure 9. Spectrum Allocation for 3G in China..... 15

Figure 10. Possible Spectrum Allocation for LTE in China 17

Figure 11. Mobile Internet Users in China (in Millions) 18

Figure 12. Broadband Technology Uplink/Downlink Speed Comparison 19

Figure 13. China’s Mobile GSM Subscriber Growth (Subscribers in Millions)..... 23

Figure 14. China Mobile’s Revenue Growth by Service 23

Figure 15. China Mobile’s TD-LTE Work Plan 24

Figure 16. China Unicom Subscriber Growth (Subscribers in Millions) 25

Figure 17. China Unicom Revenue Growth 26

Figure 18. China Telecom Subscriber Growth (Subscribers in Millions)..... 27

Figure 19. China’s LTE Subscriber Forecast, 2009–2013 (Subscribers in Thousands)..... 30

Figure 20. Ericsson’s Evolved Packet Core for Multi-Access 32

Figure 21. Roadmap of Ericsson's Unified HW and SW Solution for LTE 33

Figure 22. Nokia Siemens Networks Proposed Roadmap for Radio Evolution to LTE 34

Figure 23. Nokia Siemens Flexi BTS Modules for GSM/EDGE, WCDMA/HSPA, and LTE 35

Figure 24. ZTE's SDR Base Station Platform 36

Figure 25. Evolution of ZTE's SDR to LTE..... 37

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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