

E. Europe, Asia among telecom boom markets

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Saturated markets in the industrialized world mean that the telecom industry will see its greatest growth next year in other parts of the world.

A report to be released at the upcoming TelecomFinance 2006 conference in London predicted that Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Africa would see accelerated growth in the coming year and offer the best potential return on investments.

While global telecoms have already made aggressive moves into under-served markets, the report warned that less-developed parts of the world face greater challenges than they do in areas such as Western Europe and North America. Legal, financial and topographical hurdles are among the obstacles to be overcome.

Analysts also warned that Western companies should not underestimate the competitive prowess of homegrown telecoms cropping up in the areas they are targeting.

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