

Nokia projects 10-percent mobile growth

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Nokia expects to see the world mobile-device market grow by 10 percent in the coming year with subscriptions topping 3 billion by 2008.

Company officials also told a conference in New York Thursday that Nokia's operating margins would be above 10 percent, with its target remaining at a hefty 17 percent.

"The industry is consolidating around a few key players. At the same time it is increasing in complexity, as both devices and customer demands grow more sophisticated," said Nokia President Olli-Pekka Kallasvuo. "The winners will be the ones that can master this complexity and offer appealing products to a broad range of customers."

In a related development, Nokia Thursday introduced its Nokia 6282 mobile phone to the U.S. market. The device is billed as being among the first devices on the market that support the 1900 Megahertz UMTS networks that will start coming online next year.

The Universal Mobile Telecommunications Systems networks support third-generation services such as downloadable games and over-air calendar synchronizations.

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