

In Brief: China Netcom launching IPTV in northeast

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China Netcom has signed up UTStarcom for a major commercial launch of Internet Protocol Television in northeast China.

California-based UTS has supplied its RollingStream end-to-end IPTV solution in Harbin in a project that UTS Thursday called the largest single IPTV roll-out to date in China.

"We believe the Harbin case indicates that a typical business model and value chain for IPTV in China is emerging and that there are large market opportunities and consumer demand throughout many regions," observed Ying Wu, head of UTS operations in the Middle Kingdom.

The initial deployment has a capacity of 100,000 concurrent media streams, which covers the major environs of Harbin and carries services such as video-on-demand and information browsing along with standard television programming.

More than 53,000 subscribers have signed up ever since field trials were run in Harbin last spring.

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