

In Brief: Happy 15th birthday to GSM

June 30 2006

July 1 will mark 15 years since the first global system for mobile communication call was made, and some companies are celebrating the occasion.

Swedish electronics group Ericsson's senior vice president of technology strategy, Jan Uddenfeldt, stated that "GSM has grown constantly during its 15 years of commercial life. In the past 10 years this growth has been exponential and I am proud to be able to say that Ericsson has been instrumental in the development of this technology."

The first GSM call was made on a network by Ericsson operated by Germany's Mannesmann. Since then, over 80 percent or about 2 billion people subscribe to GSM.

Ericsson said that later this year it will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the mobile phone.

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