

2003 Major Events

1st Quarter

27 January

Yao Ming, an NBA star, was appointed as CDMA spokesperson for "Unicom New Horizon".



26 February

Unicom Group and QUALCOMM announced the establishment of a joint venture to provide CDMA1X users of both the Company and Unicom Group with various BREW services, so as to foster the development of BREW-based CDMA wireless data applications in China.



28 February

Unicom Group and Microsoft (China) entered into a memorandum of strategic cooperation in Beijing for the formation of a strategic partnership in the area of CDMA wireless data services.

28 March

The construction of CDMA 1X network across the country was completed and the brand name of "U-Max" and other sub-brands for CDMA wireless data service were officially launched.

2nd Quarter

12 June

The Company successfully completed the buyout of 50 cables of STM-1 loop in the US-Japan submarine cable system on a MFN basis, thus becoming a consortium member of US-Japan Sub-sea Cables Organization.

3rd Quarter

31 July

The total number of CDMA subscribers reached 10.99 million.

28 August

Mr. Yang Xian Zu resigned from his post as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, and was succeeded by Mr. Wang Jianzhou, who was the Executive Director and President of the Company.



26 September

The Company entered into an agreement in Hong Kong with 13 international financial institutions for a USD700 million term loan facility.

4th Quarter

CDMA business started to record profit in the third quarter and the trend continued in the fourth quarter.

The Company successfully completed the technical testing on GSM-CDMA dual mode system in November, which marks the beginning of an era when GSM users can use the services provided by the CDMA network and vice versa. Meanwhile, the Company announced the launch of "Worldwind" service based on GSM/CDMA dual mode system.

21 November

The Company announced the acquisition of cellular businesses in 9 provinces and autonomous regions including Shanxi in China at a consideration of HK\$3.015 billion and the sale of Guoxin Paging at a consideration of HK\$2.591 billion.