

Sagem Orga delivers OMH SIM cards for BSNL

Smart cards for Indian CDMA carrier work with Open Market Handsets

Paris, CARTES & IDentification 2009 - Smart card expert Sagem Orga (Safran group) is one of the first in India to produce commercial OMH-capable removable user identity modules (R-UIMs), commonly known as SIM cards, for the telecommunications provider BSNL. The OMH SIM cards contain subscriber, network and service configuration data and give subscribers the freedom and flexibility to easily change and upgrade their handset while maintaining their network configuration settings. Sagem Orga has been issuing OMH SIM cards since September 2009.

For several years, Indian CDMA customers had a limited variety of CDMA handsets. The CDMA Development Group and member companies such as technology leader Qualcomm seek to increase the number of available handsets with the OMH initiative.

Sagem Orga has worked closely with Qualcomm to develop OMH-capable SIM cards.

"Sagem Orga's OMH SIM cards, based on the 3GPP2 C.S0023-D standard, contain subscriber data as well as the voice, SMS and data service configuration. This gives subscribers the freedom and flexibility to easily change and upgrade their handset while maintaining their network configuration settings," said Nakul Duggal, Senior Director and OMH Project Lead, Qualcomm Corporate Engineering Services.

For operators such as BSNL, the OMH initiative significantly reduces costs related to customer support and device testing, since OMH handsets undergo one set of testing, organized by the handset manufacturer or distributor, not the operator.

"On behalf of BSNL, we would like to convey our appreciation to the Sagem Orga team members for their excellent work in successfully testing OMH EVDO SIM cards. We would also like to convey our appreciation to the management of Sagem Orga, which has invested interest, effort and time in the development of this product and enabled BSNL to be ready to launch OMH SIM cards in India. We are very pleased by their commitment to a swift and high-quality delivery," said Ashok Kumar, DGM (CDMA) at BSNL.

"In India, more than 100 million people use CDMA technology for mobile telecommunications. With the Sagem Orga OMH SIM cards, there are many new opportunities to improve the user experience. The new flexibility will definitely have an impact on the growth of the CDMA market," said Sanjeev Shriya, Senior Vice President Asia Pacific, Sagem Orga.

The Sagem Orga OMH SIM cards have been available through BSNL since September 2009.

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Sagem Orga

Sagem Orga is a global leader in the smart card industry. Its portfolio includes hardware, software, consulting and services, all focused on smart cards for the telecommunications, health, identification and banking sectors. As a subsidiary of Sagem Sécurité (Safran group), the world's No. 1 in identification, Sagem Orga offers comprehensive integrated solutions designed to secure the digital and mobile community. The company has a workforce of over 2,100 people around the world and production facilities incorporating the latest technology in Germany, Brazil, Russia and India.

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