



Telephone Systems International, Inc.

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TSI Commended By GSM Association for Afghan Wireless Project

Cannes, France – Telephone Systems International, Inc. (TSI) has been honored for its implementation of a wireless mobile system in Afghanistan. At an awards ceremony last evening, the company was recognized for its extraordinary effort to quickly initiate mobile GSM service in war-torn Afghanistan. TSI was one of three companies receiving commendations at the annual GSM Association Awards for use of GSM technology in providing access to communications services to underserved communities.

Through its subsidiary, Afghan Wireless Communication Company (AWCC), TSI was able to initiate GSM service in the Afghan capital of Kabul in April 2002, just seven weeks after the start of construction and only a few months after a new interim government was established there. Afghan Wireless went on to initiate service in three additional cities in 2002 and is set to launch a fifth city this month. Among its many firsts, the Afghan Wireless GSM system is the first commercial mobile service available in Afghanistan and is the first private phone company in that country's history. TSI's initial investment of more than \$70 million is the largest private investment to-date in Afghanistan, foreign or domestic.

TSI founder and CEO Ehsan Bayat acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the AWCC managers and staff, including Managing Director Gavin Jeffery and Chief Technology Officer Robert Phillips, whose efforts made his vision a reality. "I am pleased to receive this recognition from the GSM community and the association, which have been very supportive of our efforts. I am proud of what we have achieved so far and humbled by the task ahead," Mr. Bayat said.

Mr. Bayat also highlighted AWCC's commitment to not only install a phone system, but to develop the capability of the Afghan people to use, manage and operate the system for themselves. AWCC is committed to the long-term development of the Afghan economy, of which communications is a vital part.

About Telephone Systems International (TSI)

Founded by Afghan-American entrepreneur Ehsan Bayat, Telephone Systems International, Inc. is a U.S.-based provider of international telecommunications services. TSI operates the Afghan Wireless Communication Company in a joint venture with the Afghan Ministry of Communications.

About Afghan Wireless Communication Company (AWCC)

The Afghan Wireless Communication Company (AWCC) provides wireless voice and data services with national and international connectivity in Afghanistan. It is a joint venture between Telephone Systems International Inc. (TSI), in the United States, and the Afghan Ministry of Communications. The company currently provides GSM services in Kabul, Herat, Mazar-i-sharif and Kandahar.

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