

Huawei to create up to 50 South Australian jobs, opening Adelaide Office

Local staff numbers set to double in 2011

Australia, 11 April, 2011: Huawei has announced that it will create up to 50 new jobs in South Australia during Premier Mike Rann's visit to Huawei's Shanghai R&D Centre. With the company currently working with Vodafone to upgrade its mobile network across South Australia, Huawei also announced it will also open a new office in Adelaide to support the Vodafone rollout and to bolster Huawei's presence in the South Australian market.

"This is great news for South Australia's growing communications technology industries," Premier Mike Rann said. "As a State, we have been committed to strengthening our links with China, and today's announcement by Huawei further builds on those ties."

Steven Hobson, Vodafone's State Manager for South Australia, added: "Vodafone is working hard to develop our network capabilities in South Australia and the southern suburbs of Adelaide will play a key role in our forthcoming NBN trials. We already employ around 50 people at our Adelaide office and Huawei's new office will form an important strategic headquarters for our network upgrade throughout South Australia, which is now underway."

The Adelaide office will act as a hub for Huawei's work in South Australia, where the company will partner with Vodafone to replace 2G and 3G mobile equipment across up to 450 sites as part of a total network modernisation program. Huawei and Vodafone will also implement an additional 850MHz 3G layer across the entire Vodafone network to improve network capacity and coverage. Additionally, Huawei will install equipment in 100 new South Australian sites to improve network coverage and to boost network capacity.

"South Australia will play an increasingly important role in Huawei's local business, particularly as we work with Vodafone in deploying mobile network upgrades across the state," said Huawei Corporate and Public Affairs Director Jeremy Mitchell. "Opening a new office in Adelaide will not only give us an established base for the Vodafone rollout, but will also allow Huawei to engage with new business opportunities in the State. Huawei will create 50 new jobs in South Australia this year alone, and Huawei's total Australian workforce is set to double from 300 to over 600 this year."

The total, Vodafone's Radio Access Network upgrade will see Huawei replace 5,800 existing Vodafone base stations nationwide, as well as deploying 2,200 new base stations – significantly increasing Vodafone's mobile network coverage across South Australia.

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About Huawei

Huawei is a leading telecoms solutions provider serving 45 of the world's top 50 telecom operators. In Australia, Huawei employs more than 400 staff and works with all major Australian operators – 50% of Australians already use some sort of Huawei product for their telecommunications needs. Huawei's products and solutions have been deployed in over 100 countries and support the communications needs of one third of the world's population. For more information, please visit: www.huawei.com.au, follow us on Twitter @HuaweiOZ and www.youtube.com/HuaweiOZ

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