

**Speech by Danny Lau, Assistant Director of  
Telecommunications, at the Launching Ceremony of  
Motorola's Digital Two-way Radio on 20 September 2007**

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to attend the launching ceremony of Motorola's digital two-way radio.

Two-way radios are widely used in Hong Kong. Major users are government departments and business sectors like property management, security, transportation, logistic services and public utilities.

For business sectors, two-way radio helps improve their operational efficiency. For government departments, two-way radio is considered to be an essential communications means for facilitating them to discharge their day-to-day duties for serving the community. It is also an indispensable communications means for emergency services departments in many "life-and-death" operations.

Despite the popularity of cell phone services in Hong Kong, there is still a great demand for frequency spectrum for two-way radios. According to OFTA's assignment database, there are now over 100,000 two-way radios in use in Hong Kong. This number does not include the licence-exempt two-way radios.

We have allocated frequencies for two-way radios in both the VHF and UHF bands. Some frequency ranges are highly congested, in particular those in the UHF band where more than 90 percent of the available frequencies have been assigned.

At present, most of the two-way radios in the Hong Kong market are of analogue types with simple push-to-talk function only. Motorola's new digital two-way radio provides enhanced features such as group call, voice privacy and text messaging. This would certainly benefit the users. From spectrum utilization angle, the new radio enables the transmission of two traffic channels in a 12.5 kHz channel. Comparing with conventional analogue radios using

25 kHz channel spacing, the new radio effectively improves the spectrum efficiency by four times. This would allow more users to be accommodated in the same amount of spectrum and help alleviate the congestion problem in those heavily-demanded frequency bands for two-way radios.

It is Government's openly stated spectrum policy objective to achieve technically efficient use of radio spectrum by facilitating the introduction of advanced and innovative communications services. OFTA encourages Motorola, and other equipment manufacturers as well, to bring more "spectrum efficient" radio products into our market. As the spectrum manager, OFTA would endeavour to facilitate the introduction of any "spectrum efficient" radio products for operation in our new and existing frequency bands.

Finally, I wish Motorola every success in the launch of their new digital two-way radio in Hong Kong.

Thank you.