

CK Hutchison Group Telecom and Satellite Connect Europe partner to introduce seamless satellite connectivity in key European markets

- **CK Hutchison Group Telecom and Satellite Connect Europe partner to deploy seamless satellite connectivity to Austria, Denmark, Ireland, Italy and Sweden.**
- **Demonstrations with Satellite Connect Europe to begin in Austria and Italy in Summer 2026.**
- **Smartphones will connect automatically to satellites when mobile signal drops, ending coverage blackspots for consumers and emergency services.**
- **CKHGT supports satellite services that are operated in Europe and boost Europe's resilience, disaster response, and progress towards the EU Digital Decade goals.**

(Barcelona, 2 March 2026) CK Hutchison Group Telecom (CKHGT) today announced that it will enter into a partnership agreement with Satellite Connect Europe, the Luxembourg headquartered provider of open access direct-to-device (D2D) satellite connectivity, to deliver seamless coverage for consumers, businesses and public services in five key European markets.

The landmark agreement will bring new mobile coverage to **3** Austria, **3** Denmark, **3** Ireland, WINDTRE Italy and **3** Sweden, with field demonstrations to begin this summer in Austria and Italy.

By integrating satellite capability directly into existing 4G and 5G networks, CKHGT and Satellite Connect Europe, will enable smartphones to switch automatically between terrestrial and satellite signals. This will mean users stay connected seamlessly even in areas with no mobile coverage today.

This will help close long-standing coverage gaps, improving safety, supporting rural and remote communities, and enabling emergency services to maintain communications during severe weather, major incidents or cross-border crises.

Satellite Connect Europe, CKHGT and other operators will work with EU institutions and Member States to develop a harmonised European framework for satellite D2D, including a simplified authorisation process. This will allow seamless connectivity across borders, ending the dropped calls and service interruptions experiences.

CK Hutchison IOD Director of Devices, Digital P&S, Francesco Zampini, said:

"This is a landmark agreement for our customers across Europe, as we deliver on our ambition to combine satellite and mobile networks to enable seamless, robust and consistent coverage, including in remote areas. The Satellite Connect Europe approach ensures we are in full control of the customer experience we're offering and delivering a world-leading customer experience."

Satellite Connect Europe Managing Director, Meredith Sharples, said:

"This partnership with CK Hutchison Group Telecom is another significant step forward for mobile customers across Europe. The growing alignment behind a European direct-to-device satellite service proves the value of the approach we've taken in bringing AST SpaceMobile's powerful capabilities to this market."

ENDS

About CK Hutchison Group Telecom Holdings

CK Hutchison Group Telecom (CKHGT) operates mobile networks, including the **3** brand, in the UK, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, Austria and Ireland. CKHGT also holds a majority interest in Hutchison Telecommunications Hong Kong Holdings Limited (HTHKH, stock code: 215), a leading mobile telecoms operator in Hong Kong.

About CKH Innovations Opportunities Development

CKH Innovations Opportunities Development is a telecom unit and international development hub of CK Hutchison, creating international and global technological innovations that are built on one of CK Hutchison's strongest assets, our mobile networks. We offer customized global mobile communications and data solutions that create new digital value and unprecedented opportunities for business. Our collaborative approach combined with our world-class network and experience means we are best placed to help our customers design, adapt, develop and scale solutions faster.

About Satellite Connect Europe

Luxembourg headquartered Satellite Connect Europe is a joint venture between Vodafone and AST SpaceMobile, created to deliver seamless, secure and resilient direct-to-device (D2D) satellite connectivity for European Mobile Network Operators (MNOs). The company helps operators extend service reach while maintaining control of service experience, customer relationships, and all customer data. European-built and operated, Satellite Connect Europe supports Governments, operators and enterprises in strengthening Europe's critical communications infrastructure.

For more information, please visit

www.satelliteconnecteurope.com,

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/satellite-connect-europe/>