



八方电信国际控股有限公司
8Telecom International Holdings Co. Ltd.

8Telecom transforms itself in the telecommunications space through its subsidiary Arete M

- Infocomm services company Arete M is amongst the first in the world ready to utilise the 1.79GHz - 1.80GHz frequency spectrum to provide world-class dedicated LTE network services for critical communications in the public transportation, public safety, security, surveillance and specific vertical industries

Singapore, 26 July 2016 - SGX Mainboard-listed 8Telecom International Holdings Co. Ltd. (八方电信国际控股有限公司) (“8Telecom” or “the Group”), following the completion of its capital reorganisation, today announces its new business plans through its subsidiary Arete M Pte. Ltd. (亚特通讯) (“Arete M”).

Arete M is a home-grown infocomm services company that provides dedicated Long Term Evolution (“LTE”) and Mission Critical Communications solutions. Arete M plans to be one of the first in the world to undertake research and testing in utilising the 1.79GHz - 1.80GHz frequency spectrum to build a dedicated enterprise grade private LTE network to offer mission critical communication services to a range of industries such as public transportation, public safety, security and surveillance.

Breakthrough innovation: Primed to showcase the world’s first commercial dedicated LTE network utilising the 1.79GHz - 1.80GHz frequency spectrum

The 1.79GHz - 1.80GHz frequency spectrum has traditionally been used as a centre gap for telco networks. Helmed by industry veteran and technology expert, Dr PS Tang (邓平山), a Steering Committee Member of the Global TD-LTE Initiative (“GTI”)¹, Arete M is primed to showcase the world’s first commercial dedicated LTE

1 GTI was founded in 2011 with the aim of constructing a robust ecosystem of TD-LTE, speeding up the commercialisation of TD-LTE and promoting the convergence of LTE TDD and FDD. GTI is now an influential cooperation platform with global presence with operators and key vendors. It has completed the GTI 1.0 mission by building an end-to-end TD-LTE ecosystem and achieving global commercialisation of TD-LTE and converged LTE TDD/FDD. Source: <http://www.gtigroup.org/about/>

network using this frequency spectrum in line with Internet of Things (IoT) trends and the Singapore government's Smart Nation initiatives.

Immense potential in mission critical communications; Secured EOI from overseas markets

Dr PS Tang, Managing Director of Arete M, said, "The potential for using this technology is immense. The critical communications market in public safety alone is targeted to grow by US\$18 billion, according to a report by IHS Technology.² This excludes other vertical industries such as the oil and gas sector, mining, seaports and airports. Added to this, is the market for automated guided vehicles which is expected to reach US\$2.81 billion by 2022³. We aim to expand our market to serve multiple user groups requiring their own core network within common and adjacent coverage zones."

With the successful innovation and completion of the testing, Arete M is in the process of obtaining approval from the relevant regulatory authority to be allocated the relevant frequency. Already, Arete M is working on the next phase of technology development, which is the set-up of a Co-Innovation Platform with Nanyang Technological University ("NTU"), using the 1.79GHz - 1.80GHz frequency spectrum to enable innovators globally to showcase and integrate their product innovations into this dedicated LTE network. The company intends to subsequently roll-out the platform in Singapore and other countries.

"Once Singapore, with its high regulatory standards, has been successfully used as a reference for the roll-out of our technology, we will replicate this business model which is very scalable and portable, in other countries where there is the same centre gap availability for utilisation. Leveraging on our first-mover advantage, we have already secured expression of interests ("EOI") from several overseas TD-LTE Operators and some major technology vendors."

2 IHS Technology, "Critical Communications Market Worth \$18 Billion by 2019, IHS Says". Source: <https://technology.ihs.com/579277/critical-communications-market-worth-18-billion-by-2019-ihs-says>

3 Research and Markets, "Automated Guided Vehicle Market by Type". Source: http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/47mnfd/automated_guided

Propelling 8Telecom’s business transformation and expansion in the telecommunications space

With 8Telecom’s 51% stake in the issued and paid up capital of Arete M, the Group will be able to tap on new opportunities to expand in the telecommunications space.

Said Mr Joseph Tang (邓凯仁), Executive Director of 8Telecom, “Arete M’s expertise will complement our strengths and track the growth evolution in the telecommunications market. In turn, Arete M will be able to call on our resources, as a listed company, to tap into capital markets and benefit from strategic guidance, enabling it to deepen its research and development and product innovation initiatives.”

About Arete M

Arete M is an infocomm services company and a major player in the dedicated Long Term Evolution (“LTE”) and Mission Critical Communications industry. A Service Based Operator and an experienced system integrator, Arete M develops in-house application software platforms and builds infrastructure and ecosystems. It is also a reseller and Value Added partner of Huawei Enterprise Business Division eLTE Product Line. The company plans to be one of the first in the world ready to utilise the 1.79GHz - 1.80GHz frequency spectrum as a dedicated mission critical mobile data network.

For more information, please visit our website www.aretem.sg