



**IRG Technology, Media and Telecommunications
and
Life Sciences Weekly Market Review**

Week of 5th April 2010 - 11th April 2010

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IRG Technology, Media and Telecommunications and Life Sciences Weekly Market Review



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Equity Market Indicators					
Index	Closing Level (04/09/2010)	% Change 1 Week Ago	% Change 1 Month Ago	% Change 12/31/2009	% Change 12/31/2008
S&P 500	1,194.37	1.38%	3.86%	7.13%	32%
Dow Jones Industrial Avg.	10,997.35	0.64%	3.51%	5.44%	25%
Dow Jones Tech. Index	422.17	1.43%	3.49%	4.81%	68%
Dow Jones Telecom. Index	214.96	0.37%	1.12%	-2.03%	8%
NASDAQ Composite	2,454.05	2.14%	3.65%	8.13%	56%
Japan Nikkei 225	11,204.34	-0.72%	4.21%	6.25%	26%
JASDAQ	54.9	2.22%	5.05%	13.57%	14%
Japan Mothers	474.83	3.24%	12.11%	14.04%	47%
Korea KOSPI Composite	1,724.47	0.06%	3.71%	2.44%	53%
Korea Kosdaq	512.15	-0.54%	-1.40%	-0.32%	54%
Taiwan Stock Exchange	8092.03	0.82%	4.44%	-1.21%	76%
Singapore Straight Times	2971.97	0.98%	-5.16%	-0.64%	69%
Hong Kong Hang Seng	22,208.50	3.12%	4.71%	1.50%	54%
Hong Kong GEM	856.25	1.43%	10.88%	26.53%	122%
China Shanghai (A-Share)	3,297.68	-0.41%	4.36%	-4.08%	72%
China Shenzhen (A-Share)	1,312.32	1.25%	8.98%	4.07%	126%
China Shanghai (B-Share)	266.69	1.10%	7.58%	5.63%	140%
China Shenzhen (B-Share)	647.43	0.84%	5.26%	3.44%	139%

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Weekly Highlights

International

Mobile/Wireless

- **WirelessHD and WiGig (Wireless Gigabit Alliance), the two standards wireless protocols which currently cater to different markets might compete for the 2 million 60GHz chipsets anticipated to be shipped in 2015.** WirelessHD is currently deployed for streaming High Definition video to households whereas WiGig is used to allow WLAN devices to communicate at high speeds.

Media, Entertainment and Gaming

- **Barnes & Noble Inc., the world's largest book retailer has arrived at a pricing agreement for digital content with five major book publishers; Hachette, HarperCollins, Macmillan, Penguin and Simon & Schuster.** The retailer and the publishers have agreed on a pricing mechanism for best-selling and new release e-books such that the interests of the publishers are protected. New e-books are expected to be priced between US\$9.99 to US\$16.99.
- **MIT Sloan School of Management announced the second annual MIT Sloan Business and Gaming Conference to be held in Massachusetts on April 16th.** The conference will bring together game developers, designers, and academics. MBAs and industry leaders will meet together to explore and analyze the business side of the video game industry. The focus of the conference will be on finding what the 'next big thing' is for the video gaming industry and to discuss industry trends and revenue opportunities.

Software

- **ABI Research, which examined the customer and supplier trends in the video conferencing market in its 'Enterprise Telepresence and Video Conferencing' study, has estimated that sales of Telepresence, the video conferencing application by Tandberg, will reach US\$2.7 billion by 2015.** Telepresence is a next generation video conferencing application with generated sales of US\$557million in 2009. In related news, TokBox, an American technology company launched a new broadcast video chat application that enables two-way participation. The software allows the audience as well to participate and contribute. Downward pressure on costs and margins has forced companies to cut travel costs and invest in sophisticated video conferencing facilities.

Semiconductor

- **The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported global semiconductor revenues for the month of February 2010 stood at US\$22 billion, an increase of 56% from February 2009 and a decrease of 1.3% over January 2010.** Demand was mainly driven by sale of electronic products in emerging economies such as India and China. The association remains optimistic about growth at least until November 2010.

Japan

Mobile/Wireless

- **The Japanese government's plans to lift sim card locking restrictions for mobile phones will lower operator switching costs for end-users in the country.** Shares of leading mobile service

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provider Softbank slid as analysts expect this new law to favor operators like DoCoMo, whose network coverage is broader than Softbank's. DoCoMo had lost many users to Softbank after the latter became the sole reseller of Apple's iPhone in the country. The new law will allow users who bought the iPhone from Softbank to switch to DoCoMo without any penalties.

Telecommunications

- **ArrayComm, a provider of multi-antenna signal processing which is a solution for wireless infrastructure and client demand applications, was chosen to support NEC's mobile WiMax network roll-out in Japan.** WiMax is a 4G network technology and is competing with Long-Term Evolution (LTE) to become the preferred standard for 4G networks globally.

Media, Entertainment and Gaming

- **Nintendo celebrated the completion of Nintendo DsiWare's first year of existence.** In the last year, DSiWare offered almost 150 games and applications, reinforcing its positioning as one of the most creative game designer in the industry. Nintendo's games and applications are designed to run on Nintendo's video game console V.
- **Tose Co. Ltd., a video game developer and publisher based in Japan, announced financial results for six months ending February 2010.** Total sales fell by 49.6% to 1.63 billion yen (US\$17.2 million), while net loss stood at 15 million yen (US\$150,000). Tose is one of the largest publicly traded companies in the gaming industry in Asia.

Software

- **Dawn Corp., a provider of web and wireless Geographic Information System (GIS) software, announced financial results for nine months ending February 2010 for the parent company.** Revenues stood at 337 million yen (US\$3.5 million), an increase of 0.5% over the same period from last year with net profit of 47 million yen (US\$500,000).

Technology

- **Sharp Corp. announced a partnership with DivX, a digital media company that creates, distributes and licenses digital video technologies.** Through this agreement, DivX will enable high quality DivX video on Sharp's new range of digital televisions. Sharp also announced a new patent license agreement with Mosiad through which the company can get access to Mosaid's wireless technology patents for five years.

Semiconductor

- **Fuji Electronics Co. Ltd., a manufacturer and wholesaler of semiconductor chips, announced full year results for 12 months ending February 2010.** Revenues fell by 27.3% to 29.5 billion yen (US\$311 million) with net income fell by 25.6% to 964 million yen (US\$10 million).

Korea

Semiconductor

- **Magna Chip Semiconductor completed a private debt placement of US\$250 million in senior notes in the Qualified Institutional Investors (144A) market in the U.S.** The 8-year notes carry a coupon of 10.5% and were issued at a discount to par at 98.674. This corresponds to a yield-spread of 708 basis points over the reference rate.

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China

Mobile/ Wireless

- **Nokia, the world's largest handset maker, plans to offer free music downloads from major artists and labels along with its new mobile phones in China.** This offer is part of the company's launch of its new 'Comes with Music' service. The company is hoping to boost its handset sales and prices with this new service. Nokia's 'Comes with Music' service is struggling to match the popularity of Apple's iTunes globally.
- **Topcon Positioning Systems, a subsidiary of Topcon Corp., introduced its new, proprietary technology Topcon IP-S2 which is a mobile geographical surveying system.** The product uses high precision receivers, encoders, cameras and scanners to offer high speed 3-D spatial data collection solutions. The technology will transform the quality of maps, cityscape models and other geographical information usually obtained through mobile service systems.

Telecommunications

- **China Telecom Corp. achieved total operating revenues of 208.2 billion yuan (US\$30.5 billion) (excluding amortization of the upfront connection fees) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, up 12.9% from 184.5 billion yuan (US\$27.0 billion) in the prior year.** Revenue from mobile services was 35.6 billion yuan (US\$5.2 billion), revenue from wired broadband access service was 47.1 billion yuan (US\$6.9 billion) with a 17.1% rise year on year, and revenue from comprehensive information service was 28.0 billion yuan (US\$4.1 billion) with a 9.3% increase year on year. Excluding amortization of the upfront connection fees, net profit attributable to the listed company's shareholders reduced 33.9% year on year to 13.3 billion yuan (US\$1.9 billion) from 20.1 billion yuan (US\$2.9 billion) a year ago. Capital expenditure decreased 21.4% to 38.0 billion yuan (US\$5.6 billion) from 48.4 billion yuan (US\$7.1 billion).
- **China Mobile, announced a 40% reduction in its investment plans in Pakistan for 2010.** The company will spend US\$300 million, a substantial reduction from US\$500 million in 2009.

Media, Gaming and Entertainment

- **CDC Games announced the launch of a new game in China called 'East Fantasy Online'.** The company claims that the game is unique in that it integrates advanced 3D techniques, shock controller support and voiceovers. CDC Games claims to have more than 160 million users.
- **China leading game developer and publisher Perfect World will launch the beta testing process of the new version of its MMORPG 'Battle of the Immortals' on April 20th.** The original version of the game which was launched in April 2009 has completed one year and the company is planning to celebrate by launching a slew of promotional events.
- **Shanda's literature division called Shanda Literature entered into a partnership with the Northern United Publishing and Media Group (NUPMG) to exchange services.** Through this agreement, Shanda will provide content and marketing support for NUPMG, while the latter will provide publishing and copyright services to Shanda. NUPMG will also gain the first right of refusal to invest in any future moves by Shanda to raise capital. Shanda Literature controls more than 80% of the Chinese online literature market.
- **KongZhong Corp. expects nearly US\$4 million revenues from its newly acquired subsidiary Dacheng Network in the first quarter of 2010.** Dacheng plans to release an upgrade of 'Loong', a 3D MMORPG that the company developed in-house.

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Software

- **AsiaInfo Technologies, a wholly owned subsidiary of AsiaInfo Holdings acquired 80% stake in Hanzhou Zhongbo Software Technology Co. Ltd.** Hangzhou Zhongbo provides IT solutions such as Business Support Systems ("BSS"), Digital Television Operation Support Systems ("DTV OSS") and Customer Relationship Management ("CRM") systems for cable operators in China. With approximately 90 employees, of which over 90% are engineers, Hangzhou Zhongbo serves more than 20 cable operators, including Jiangsu Cable Company, the world's second largest cable operator in terms of number of subscribers.

Internet

- **Tencent's 'QQ Dance', which currently has over 100 million unique users, will be launched in a new enhanced version on April 15th.** The game is one of the most popular titles released by Tencent and recorded 1.2 million peak concurrent users last year.
- **Baidu Toolbar, Internet browser auxiliary software built by Baidu Inc. has launched online translation service in partnership with iciba.com under the support of Kingsoft Corp. Ltd.** After installing the latest version of Baidu Toolbar, Internet users will be able to use the service by opening IE browsers. When the Web page they are viewing contains English words, they could see the translation results by suspending mouse on the contents they want to translate. If their computers are installed with TTS voice engine developed by Microsoft Corp., they are able to hear the pronunciation of the English words. Iciba.com used to cooperate with Google Inc. However, the latter retreated from China in March 2010. Hence, the former began to contact with Baidu for cooperation.
- **According to a circular issued by the Ministry of Culture, China's Internet cafe operators will face tougher penalties for allowing minors to log online.** According to the new rules, an Internet cafe will have to suspend operation for 30 days if found providing services to a minor, defined as someone below 18 years old. If such a violation occurs twice in a year, its license will be completely withdrawn. China has banned Internet cafes from providing services to minors since 2002, in wake of a series of Internet cafe accidents and increasing number of teenagers addicted to online gaming.

Hardware

- **ZTE, China's largest telecom equipment manufacturer announced strong financial results for year ending December 2009 due to robust demand for third-generation telecommunications equipment in China.** The company recorded net profit of 2.46 billion yuan (US\$360.4 million), from 1.66 billion yuan the previous year. Domestic market income rose 75% to 30.30 billion yuan (US\$4.6 billion), while income from overseas markets, including Asia and Africa, rose 11% to 29.97 billion yuan (US\$4.5 billion). China issued licenses for third-generation mobile services in early 2009, which led to stronger demand for ZTE's products and services as companies rushed to build infrastructure to support the new platform.
- **Switzerland Logitech International, the leading computer peripherals manufacturer, announced a renewed focus on the Chinese market in 2010.** The Chinese region will be treated separately from APAC from this year. China is the fastest growing market in the world for personal computers and other consumer electronic devices.

Alternative Energy

- **Beijing Taiyisi Solar Technology, Hebei Dongxu Investment and the Municipal Government of Tongliao will partner to invest 1.25 billion yuan (US\$183 million) to set up an amorphous**

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silicon thin film solar facility in Tongliao. The facility expects annual net profit of 260 million yuan (US\$38 million) upon sales of 1 billion yuan (US\$146.5 million).

- **G Group, a Chinese solar products manufacturer, has agreed to source US\$138 million of solar manufacturing equipment from Jusung Engineering, a Korean semiconductor and solar cell equipment manufacturer.** This deal is Jusung's largest contract ever and involves the supply of thin film and crystalline silicon equipment.
- **China Development Bank has granted a five year credit line facility to Suntech Power Holdings.** The credit facility is worth US\$7.29 billion and will help the photovoltaic module maker expand and grow its business. This announcement by the bank comes on the heels of its partnership with Trina Solar for US\$4.3 billion credit facility.
- **China Solar Photovoltaic SA has begun construction of its proposed solar cell manufacturing facility in Shandong.** The company plans to spend US\$30 million to build the new plant. The company recently signed a large deal with Germany's AE Photonics to supply photovoltaic modules in the next two years.

Taiwan

Telecommunications

- **FarEastone Telecommunications has entered into an agreement with China Mobile to build and test 4G networks based on the LTE technology in Taiwan.** The announcement was issued after the government of Taiwan blocked China Mobile from acquiring a stake in FarEastone.
- **Chunghwa Telecom, Inventec, Wistron and Accton entered into an alliance to promote cloud computing in the country.** The companies will share best practices and also computing power to optimize server utilization and lower cost.

Hardware

- **The world's biggest laptop manufacturer Quanta Computers announced sales figures for March 2010.** The company recorded 48% increase over March 2009 figures with sales of NT\$89.1 billion (US\$2.8 billion).
- **Handset manufacturer HTC announced first quarter results for 2010.** The company recorded net profit of NT\$5.03 billion (US\$158.8 million) on revenues of NT\$37.7 billion (US\$1.2 billion). Revenues grew by about 19.3% and profit grew by 3.1% from same period last year. HTC which is the world's fourth largest smartphone manufacturer is betting on Google's Android to drive growth in 2010.

Hong Kong

Telecommunications

- **China Telecom has expressed its interest to bid for a proposed 3G spectrum auction by the Hong Kong Telecom authority later this year.** The company criticized Hong Kong's CDMA network operator PCCW by accusing the latter of providing substandard roaming services. In related news, the regulator OFTA has postponed its proposed auction of spectrum in Hong Kong to September from the originally planned June.

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Media, Entertainment and Gaming

- **Hong Kong's Tiger Gate, a pay television service provider, announced plans to expand through Asia by acquiring media assets in different countries.** The company will launch its new channels Thrill and Kix in Hong Kong and Singapore this month. The company's promoter Lionsgate Entertainment Corp. also announced a joint venture with investment firm Saban Capital Group to manage the expansion process.
- **Movie theater owners and operators in Hong Kong are making heavy investments in upgrading their facilities to 3D technology after the phenomenal success of 3D movies in 2009 and 2010.** Thirteen 3D movies were released in 2009, compared to three in 2008, with the possibility of 20 new releases in the coming year; an indicator of the growing interest in demand for 3D content and movies globally.
- **Market research firm Nielson Online expects rapid growth in online advertising market in Hong Kong.** Revenues from online advertising registered record figures of HK\$869 million (US\$111 million) in 2009, a 17% increase over 2008. The growth is mainly driven by spending by the real estate and financial service sectors.

Southeast Asia/India/Australia

Telecommunications

- **Indian telecommunications service provider Aircel is reported to be considering an issue of commercial paper to raise US\$900 million in short term debt.** Aircel, majority owned by Malaysia's Maxis is ranked 7th among Indian mobile telephony service providers. Aircel has submitted an interest to bid for 3G wireless license due for auction shortly.
- **The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) launched the auction process for 3G licenses in the country on April 9, 2010.** The auction process for broadband wireless spectrum will be launched two days after the 3G auction closes. Nine telecom companies including the top six mobile operators in India will bid for the 3G licenses, whereas eleven bidders are expected to participate in the broadband auction. The government expects to raise at least US\$8 billion from the process although it might allow state owned BSNL, one of the bidders for the 3G licenses, a two year moratorium on license fee payment.
- **PLDT, the largest telecom company in the Philippines, is planning to launch broadband internet services through the cables of electricity retailer Meralco.** PLDT will gain access to Meralco's large distribution reach through this arrangement. PLDT's subsidiary Piltel and its sister company Metro Pacific Investment Corp. together hold about 34.7% stake in Meralco. PLDT expects core income in 2010 to be around US\$915 million, flat from last year, and attributes the lack of growth to increased competition and alternative platforms of communication such as social networking.
- **Smart Communications, the wireless services division of PLDT, announced an increase in its capex for 2010 by 9.3% over the last year.** The company plans to spend US\$364 million to expand its subscriber base and revenues streams.
- **Philippines' telecom regulator NTC has asked the country's Supreme Court to allow the auction of one last license for 3G mobile services in the country.** The Supreme Court had suspended the auctioning of the license after telecom company Bayantel filed a law suit against the NTC in 2007. Bayantel was denied a 3G license by the NTC even though it scored on all the required

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criteria. The NTC has admitted that it committed a grave error by not awarding the license to the company.

- **PT Telkom, Indonesia's largest telecom company, announced full year results for 2009.** The company reported net profit of US\$1.25 billion on revenues of US\$7.12 billion. The company's market capitalization is US\$18.6 billion and it has 81.6 million subscribers. The company also projected 7%-10% revenue growth in 2010.
- **Thai telecom regulator NTC will auction 3G spectrum in the second half of 2010.** NTC's current plan is to auction off four new licenses. The authority also ordered telecom operators in the country to implement mobile number portability.
- **Teletalk, the state owned cell phone company in Bangladesh, announced plans to offer an IPO later this year.** The company is the smallest among Bangladeshi mobile companies and has about 1 million customers. The proceeds from the IPO will be deployed in upgrading the company's network to 3G. Competitors Bangla Link and Grameen Phone have already raised US\$102 million in debt and US\$140 million in equity respectively. Robi owned by Axiata Bangladesh is also preparing to launch its IPO this year.
- **YTL Communications Bhd, a telecom subsidiary of Malaysian conglomerate YTL Corp., has chosen U.S-based Connectiva Systems as its new partner to enhance profitability of its new 4G network.** YTL is currently rolling out its nationwide 4G infrastructure based on WiMax standard and Connectiva will help identify, correct and prevent revenue leakage across the network.
- **Henrik Clausen has been appointed as the new CEO of Malaysia's leading telecom operator DiGi.com Bhd.** Henrik was previously the CEO of Telenor in Denmark. He replaced Johan Eric Dannelind who quit as the CEO earlier. Telenor in turn, appointed Jon Erik Haug as replacement for Henrik Clausen in Denmark.

Internet

- **PACKET One Networks, Malaysia's leading WiMax internet service provider, announced a partnership Malaysia's national postal company.** The agreement is in line with PACKET One's plans to acquire more customers from smaller cities and towns. Through this deal, PACKET's customers can pay their internet bills at almost 600 post offices spread across the country.

Media, Entertainment and Gaming

- **Reliance ADAG, the Indian telecom, media, energy conglomerate, announced that it has acquired a 50% stake in Codemasters, a U.K.-based computer games designer and publisher with a track record of designing games like Lord of the Rings Online, Colin McRae rally and Formula One.** Reliance will channel the investment through its media and entertainment arm, Reliance BIG, whose games division Zapak is already India's largest gaming company. Codemasters is a 20 year old company with sales of about US\$150 million in 2009.

Software

- **Iseemedia, a software company based out of Canada, has partnered with Indiatimes Mail, a leading mail service in India through a new agreement.** The partnership integrates Iseemedia's new software with Indiatimes' email service and allows customers of Indiatimes to access and use their email through regular mobile handsets. The new service will provide user experience similar to that of smart phones like Blackberry on regular feature handsets.

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Information Technology

- **3PAR, a global provider of utility storage solutions, announced the launch of a representative office in India.** 3PAR will position itself as a partner that can meet growing industry demand for technologies that can support cloud computing, hosted data center, environmentally friendly information technology etc.

United States/Canada

Mobile/Wireless

- **Apple announced the launch of the latest version of its operating system for the iPhone.** The announcement comes in the wake of the expected launch of Apple's next generation smartphone this year. The company has sold more than 40 million iPhones so far.
- **Apple has been accused of patent infringement by EMG Technology, which has included Apple's new device, the iPad as an additional product in its previously filed patent infringement law suit.** EMG accuses Apple of not paying reasonable royalties for use of EMG's patents that enable access of internet through mobile devices. Meanwhile, Apple claimed that it had sold more than 300,000 iPad units on its first day, which was higher than the expected 250,000 sales for the whole Easter weekend. The company reported total iPad sales of 450,000 units for the first week. The company also claimed that iPad users have already downloaded over 1,000,000 applications from the iTunes application store in addition to more than 250,000 books. Meanwhile, the company showcased a new smartphone operating system with an integrated advertising platform called iAd, which will allow application developers to sell advertisements through their applications. Developers can retain 60% of ad revenue generated from their applications.
- **Blackboard Inc., a global provider of learning technology solutions, unveiled a new learning application for Apple's iPad.** The solution, appropriately called the Blackboard Mobile Learning App, is available on the Apple's Applications Store and will recreate the experience of the company's flagship solution, Blackboard Learn. The application will allow students and other learners to take assignments, assessments, analyze grades, access discussion forums to share experiences with other users etc.
- **Stitcher, an application developer for mobile devices, announced completion of US\$6 million in Series B venture capital funding.** The latest round of funding was led by Benchmark Capital with the company's previous investors also participating. Stitcher's new application allows users to choose their favorite programs from hundreds of different sources and the application will stitch together and deliver all these different programs in one channel.
- **Shaw Communications Inc. will launch its new wireless service in Canada in the second half of 2011.** The Canadian cable and telecom company which is one of the five new entrants in the Canadian mobile market will invest US\$100 million to build its network in 2010. Canada's mobile market is dominated by BCE, Telus and Rogers, which together control about 95% of market share.
- **ERF Wireless announced full year results for 12 months ending December 2009.** The company recorded revenues of US\$5.5 million, an increase of 7% over 2008, and net operating loss of US\$7.6 million. ERF Wireless provides wireless and broadband products and services to institutions, large businesses and retail customers.

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- **Verizon**, one of the largest providers of wireless and fixed line communication services in the U.S., announced that it would spend about US\$8 million in the state of Kentucky to upgrade its high speed 3G network and increase its capacity by 26%. The company has invested US\$55 billion since it was formed 10 years ago. In related company news, Verizon announced that demand for data services went up by 59% during a popular basket ball semi final game last season reflecting the increased adoption of mobile phones for data services like entertainment etc.
- **VBrick**, a global leader in enterprise IP Video solutions with over 6,000 customers worldwide, unveiled its new **Mobile Broadcast System**. The system will allow field journalists to broadcast live video through a single, lightweight, portable backpack. Currently, television news stations stream live news to viewers using satellite and microwave news trucks which cost US\$250,000 upfront and US\$3,000 per day to maintain. VBrick's system is expected to drastically bring down costs of streaming live news. Journalists can now carry VBricks technology on their back to different locations and stream live video instantly. VBrick also envisions applications of the new system beyond television broadcasting, especially for police, security and emergency workers.
- **Boingo Wireless Inc.**, the global market leader in providing WiFi internet services, announced that the iPad is already the second most popular non-laptop device connecting to its networks, just four days after the iPad was available on sale. The iPad replaces devices running on Google's Android for the second place and currently trails only the iPhone.
- **Innovative Wireless Technologies Inc.**, a supplier of wireless ad hoc mesh radios, integrated systems and wireless engineering services, has won the **Small Business Research (SBIR)** contract from the **Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate**. The contract mandates Innovative to further the unattended ground sensor technology for Border security and Infrastructure protection.
- **Aeroflex Holding Corporation**, a solutions provider for the wireless communications industry that supplies to Boeing, Cisco and Raytheon, announced that it had filed with the U.S regulators for a **US\$500 million IPO**. The company's revenues for six months ending December 2009 stood at US\$297 million with a net loss of US\$31 million.

Telecommunications

- **Verizon Communications Inc.** denied recent rumors that it would pursue a merger or acquisition of European telecom company **Vodafone**. Vodafone is Verizon's joint venture partner in its Verizon Wireless mobile phone business. Verizon owns a 55% stake in that unit, while Vodafone owns the remaining 45%.
- **Cogeco Inc.**, a Canadian cable and telecom company declared financial results for **Q2**. Cogeco recorded net profit of C\$10.5 million (US\$10.43 million) on revenues of C\$329.1million (US\$326.8 million), an increase of 5.5% over the corresponding period in the previous year. Its subsidiary, Cogeco Cable recorded revenues of C\$320.4 million (US\$318 million) and net profit of C\$29.8 million (US\$29.5 million).
- **Prestige Telecom** acquired **Majetel Inc**, a Canadian company engaged in the business of providing tower construction, maintenance and project management services for the wireless telecom industry. The value of the transaction is estimated to be around C\$3 million (US\$2.97 million). Majetel is a fifteen year old company with approximately C\$10 million (US\$9.93 million) revenues in 2009. Prestige Telecom is also engaged in similar business as Majetel, providing aerial and telecom services to the broadcast and communication industries.

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- **Canada's broadband solutions company, Radiant Communications Corp. announced financial results for full year 2009.** Total revenues stood at C\$30 million (US\$29.83 million), an increase of 30% over 2008 with net income at C\$73,500 (US\$73,085).
- **Canadian telecommunications company Telus announced plans to invest C\$650 million (US\$646 million) in Canada in 2010.** The investment will be directed towards the expansion of high speed wireless broadband and high definition television services to more households in the country. Telus has invested more than C\$22 billion (US\$21.87 billion) in infrastructure and operations in the last 10 years in the British Columbia region of Canada. Telus recorded C\$9.6 billion (US\$9.54 billion) in revenues in 2009.
- **BCE, Canada's largest communications company, divested its stake in SkyTerra Communications to generate proceeds of approximately C\$111 million (US\$110.6 million).** BCE will deploy the proceeds on upgrading and expanding its Canadian broadband network. SkyTerra was acquired by private investment firm Harbinger Capital Partners. SkyTerra is North America's leading developer and supplier of mobile satellite communications services.
- **China's Huawei Telecom, a communications equipment manufacturer is lobbying in the U.S to get approval for the acquisition of Motorola's network equipment division.** The U.S administration blocks transactions in areas considered to be important to national security.
- **Iridium Inc., a company focused on providing mission-critical, satellite communication solutions to its customers, announced the appointment of Thomas J. Fitzpatrick as the new CFO.** Thomas is currently serving in a senior role in the finance function with the company and this new responsibility will give him a strategic role within the organization.
- **Atlantic Tele-Network Inc., a telecommunications company which operates land and under water fiber optic networks in North America and Caribbean Islands declared a quarterly dividend of US\$0.2 per share.** The dividend is payable on April 19th, 2010. In related company news, Atlantic's subsidiary Commnet Wireless will build and maintain a 4G long term evolution wireless network in rural America, through a project jointly funded by the federal government stimulus grant of US\$32 million, also matched by the company. This project will provide fixed and mobile last mile internet service in rural regions of the U.S., currently without high speed internet.
- **AT&T, the leading telecom operator in the U.S. announced a US\$1 billion investment plan in 2010.** The company plans to spend the money to develop and enhance network capabilities, solutions and applications in cloud services for businesses across the world.
- **Integra Telecom announced plans to raise US\$770 million in debt to refinance current debt and also working capital and other corporate requirements.** The company is seeking US\$210 million in term loans, US\$60 million in a revolving credit facility and US\$500 million in private placements. Integra Telecom Inc. provides voice and Internet solutions to business and carrier customers in 11 western states.

Media, Entertainment and Gaming

- **The FCC Media Bureau denied a request from the Mabuhay Alliance opposing the acquisition of NBC Universal by Comcast and asking the commission to stop its merger proceedings.** Mabuhay, which filed its petition with the commission March 22, made the request "on behalf of Asian Americans." On its Web site, Mabuhay, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, describes itself as "the leading resource and service provider to the Pan Asian and other underserved communities for home ownership retention and small business growth and development."

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- **Bell TV, a wholly owned subsidiary of BCE Inc., launched Canada's first 3D, High Definition television broadcast.** The TV station will stream the Masters Golf Tournament live to Bell TV subscribers at no extra charge.
- **The 2010 Masters Golf Tournament will be broadcast live on the internet to subscribers of Comcast Corporation, a leading cable television company in the U.S.** The cable company will deliver the live telecast of the tournament in 3-D across multiple platforms like television, internet and on-demand video for its customers. Comcast will deploy the service over its fiber optic network and will partner with IBM for the technology. AT &T, the largest wireless carrier in the country, will deliver the same tournament live on mobile phones for its users. Time Warner Cable television, the second largest cable operator in the U.S., will also provide on-demand telecast of the Masters Tournament in 3-D format to its subscribers.
- **THQ Wireless, a wholly owned subsidiary of THQ Inc., launched a new range of games and applications targeted at users of Apple's iPhone.** The company has announced mobile application versions of its popular Star Wars game series available for download on the iTunes Store. THQ Inc. is a publisher of video games for game consoles, handheld systems, PCs and mobile devices.
- **The largest fitness chain in the U.S, 24 Hour Fitness has unveiled 'Bodybugg Mobile', a website that allows its customers to access their proprietary Calorie Management System through their iPhones.** Fitness conscious customers of 24 Hour can now monitor their daily food intake through their mobile handsets.
- **Inlet Technologies, mDialog, Omneon Inc. and Vertigo, four companies that focus on developing technologies to optimize and enhance the online video streaming experience, announced a partnership.** The companies will launch a new set of advertisement insertion solutions to cater to the needs of new generation online and mobile video advertisers. The new technology will make it easier for advertisers to insert video advertisements into live and on-demand content streamed to devices like the iPhone and the iPad to provide a user experience similar to that of broadcast television.
- **Take-Two Interactive Software's publishing company 2K Games unveiled the new 'Borderlands Double Game' add-on pack.** The game designed for the Xbox game console is available at US\$19.99.

Internet

- **Bidz.com, a leading online auctioneer of jewelry, announced a partnership with CDC eCommerce, a cloud-based, on-demand, ecommerce platform that helps manufacturers sell across multiple channels and geographies.** Through this partnership, Bidz.com will get access to multiple product lines beyond jewelry and CDC eCommerce will be able to offer a popular alternate distribution channel to its customers.
- **Ari Balogh, the Chief technology Officer and Head, Products of Yahoo Inc., announced his resignation from the company.** Balogh was chosen by current CEO Carol Bartz to lead the newly combined technology and product groups of the company last year.
- **AOL Inc. will either sell or close its social networking platform Bebo in 2010.** The company had acquired for US\$850 million in 2008. Bebo employs about 40-50 people in the U.S.
- **Online payment gateway PayPal announced that PayPal Mobile, its mobile application for the iPhone has registered almost a million downloads in three weeks.** Users of PayPal Mobile can

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use the gateway to pay for restaurant checks, make recurring payments, access their PayPal accounts etc. PayPal's initiatives are aimed at creating a cash-free environment for its customers.

Information Technology

- **The U.S Army's training center Fort Stewart has awarded a contract worth US\$15 million to NCI Inc., a leading provider of Information Technology, Logistics and Engineering Services provider to the U.S Government.** The company will be responsible for providing support services for the training camp's wireless and wired networks, cyber security, information assurance, server and database administration and other services.
- **LogLogic, a U.S-based provider of log management and security event management solutions, joined the Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) which is a not-for-profit advocacy group focused on promoting best practices and standards in cloud security management.** LogLogic will leverage its expertise in log and security management to promote the initiative. With cloud computing gaining rapid acceptance among corporations, governments and end users, ensuring security and integrity of the data has become a very important issue.
- **BB&T Corporation, the tenth largest financial holding company in the U.S has chosen Online Resources Corporation's biller-direct electronic payment solution in a multi-year partnership agreement.** The new, fully managed solution will enable BB&T's agents to accept consumer loan payments on the phone.
- **SanDisk Corp., announced its interest in selling another 2% of its stake in Israeli chipmaker TowerJazz.** The 2% equity holding corresponds to about 6.4 million shares and SanDisk hopes to raise about US\$10.7 million through the same.

Software

- **CyberDefender Corp., a company focused on developing internet security technologies, announced the successful closure of US\$5 million in debt financing from a strategic investor.**
- **Lawson Software, a software and services company focused on diverse set of industries, announced third quarter financial results for 2010.** The company recorded US\$186.2 million revenues and US\$1.8 million net income for the three months ending February 2010. These figures reflect an increase of 7% and a fall of 64% respectively.
- **Convio Inc., a software company specifically serving the non-profit industry, announced an IPO of 5.1 million shares in the price range of US\$10 – \$12.** Around 30% of shares on offer are being sold by existing shareholders at an average offer price of US\$11. Gross proceeds are estimated to be around US\$56 million.

Hardware

- **Microsoft Corp. might announce the launch of its 'Project Pink' range of smartphones targeted at heavy users of social networking platforms.** The phones might be distributed exclusively by Verizon Wireless, the second largest carrier in the U.S. The handsets will be manufactured by Sharp Corporation. Microsoft is steadily losing market share in the smartphone market to rivals like Apple, Research In Motion (RIM) and Google. RIM currently holds 42% market share with Apple, Microsoft and Google controlling 25.5%, 15% and 9% share in the global smartphone market currently.
- **TelVue Corporation announced the launch of its TelVue Princeton HyperCaster range of IPTV digital broadcasters.** These new devices support up to 20 pure digital broadcast channels in

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one box with a drastic reduction in channel delivery cost. They also support both MPEG-2 and H.264 SD/HD transport streams.

- **Dolby Laboratories, a technology company that focuses on the entertainment industry announced the launch of a new LCD display that will cater to professionals who use high precision tools for color critical work.** The display, called the Dolby PRM-4200, attempts to combine the accuracy of conventional cathode ray tube monitors with the convenience and versatility of flat panel displays. Dolby has evolved into an expert in imaging technology in recent times from its initial positioning as an audio technology company.
- **DataSource Mobility, a technology company focused on delivering mobile solutions for the healthcare industry, unveiled the Panasonic Tough Book C1, a tablet PC that will enhance the efficiency of healthcare providers.** The product is designed specifically to make mobile computing easy so as to optimize the mobility and time of the tablet users like doctors and nursing professionals.
- **GE Intelligent Platforms, a subsidiary of GE, unveiled a new range of multi target video trackers.** The new range called ADEPT5000 is equipped with innovative technologies that save time, effort cost and minimize program risk. These devices are used in the military, aerospace, and entertainment sectors. GE Intelligent Platforms provides software, hardware services and expertise in automation and embedded computing.
- **SMSC announced financial results for three months ending Feb 2010.** The company's revenues for the quarter reached US\$83 million, an increase of 62% over the same period last year, with net income of US\$0.9 million. For 12 months ending February 2010, revenues reached US\$307.8 million, a 5% fall over previous year. SMSC is a global supplier of semiconductor solutions that distribute video, sound, photos and data in the home, automobile, office and factory
- **Unity Medical Inc., an innovator in the healthcare technology space, announced the launch of a new iPad application that will be used by leading hospital chains.** The application called the Medical Video jLog designed for the iPad uses interactive video to explain common medical procedures like CT scans, cardiac placements, physical rehabilitation etc. to train new professionals as well as patients. Major hospitals like Florida Hospital, Walt Disney Pavilion and St. Lukes will debut the video this week. In related news, Emerging Healthcare Solutions Inc., a medical technology company has partnered with VITEB to develop a new iPhone application called MedAnywhere. The application will connect patients to doctors from any location in the world for diagnostic consultation and treatment.
- **Nokia, the world's largest handset maker, acquired U.S geographic technology firm MetaCarta. based in Finland.** MetaCarta develops search technology that locates written content about any place.

Semiconductor

- **Microchip Technology Inc., a leading provider of microcontroller and analog semiconductors, completed its acquisition of Silicon Storage Technology, Inc.** Approximately 90.9 percent of the SST shares voted were voted in favor of the Microchip merger agreement, under which SST shareholders will receive US\$3.05 per share in cash. SST designs, manufactures and markets a diversified range of memory and non-memory products for high volume applications in the digital consumer, networking, wireless communications and Internet computing markets.
- **High performance semiconductor manufacturer, Analog Devices Inc. launched two new Radio Frequency Integrated Circuits (RFIC) that would reduce the number of components**

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used in the design of broadband communication systems by more than 75%. The new ICs achieve this reduction in volume without compromising on performance.

Alternative Energy

- **Applied Quantum Technology, a startup company engaged in the development of low cost, thin film solar cells, announced that it has closed US\$10 million in second round venture capital.** The company will use the funds to build a manufacturing line and aggressively expand staff. The company has raised approximately US\$15 million since its inception.

Europe

Telecommunications

- **Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom have announced the successful completion of the UK merger transaction and the formation of the new joint venture.** Tom Alexander, former CEO of Orange UK is the chief executive of the new joint venture, and Richard Moat, the former CEO of T-Mobile UK is chief financial officer and deputy CEO. Company officials said that Tim Hötting, CFO of Deutsche Telekom, will lead the board as non-executive chairman for two years. After this time, the leadership will rotate to Gervais Pellissier, Deputy CEO and CFO of France Telecom, for two years. In March Deutsche Telekom announced that it had acquired the remaining shares in the Internet payment service provider Firstgate. Through its venture capital company, T-Venture, Deutsche Telekom has held shares in Firstgate, best known for the ClickandBuy brand, since 2006 and currently owns 20.2 percent of the shares. By acquiring Firstgate, Deutsche Telekom is positioning itself as one of the leading providers of online payment solutions. Firstgate is a provider of Internet payment services, with 13 million registered users, 16,000 associated retailers and business operations in 31 countries worldwide. The company currently has 229 employees
- **MTS, Russia's leading mobile operator, has applied for approval to acquire broadband internet service provider, Multiregion.** The proposed acquisition will boost MTS' position in the broadband and cable television market in Russia. Meanwhile, MTS secured a credit line of US\$754 million from the bank of Moscow to cover expected exercise of put options on its Rouble bonds later this year.
- **Russia's Vimpelcom Communications, announced plans to issue RUR20 billion (US\$683 million) in rouble denominated bonds in the country.** The company might use the proceeds to fund expansion plans.
- **Novo Nordisk, one of the leading healthcare companies in the world has chosen Verizon to deploy and manage a communications infrastructure to connect Novo's operations across the world.** Verizon was awarded the contract by NNIT, a Danish IT consultancy mandated by Novo to identify a service vendor for the purpose.
- **Netherlands-based telecom company KPN will bid for wireless spectrum in Germany in a forthcoming auction.** The company present in Germany through its subsidiary E-Plus plans to upgrade its wireless network capacity in the country. The company however, said that it plans to be disciplined and limit its investments during the auction process.
- **SES Astra, a leading Direct-To-Home (DTH) satellite system in Europe has scheduled the launch of its new satellite Astra 3B on the 9th of April.** The new satellite will deliver DTH broadcast services and 2-way broadband services across Europe and Middle-east.

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Hardware

- **The world's largest mobile services provider Vodafone will offer web services on millions of inexpensive 2G handsets popular in emerging economies through the Opera Mini browser.** Slowing growth rates in ARPU's have compelled service providers to look for alternatives to fuel growth and providing data services even to millions of customers who use basic handsets on 2G networks could be a way to achieve it.
- **The world's leading handset manufacturer Nokia is reported to be developing its own tablet PC, to be launched later this year as a rival to Apple's iPad.** Other handset makers and PC manufacturers like Samsung and Hewlett-Packard are also expected to follow suit with their own devices.

Media, Gaming and Entertainment

- **Syncopate, a Russian online game publisher, announced its plans to source games from China and Korea and release them in Russia, CIS and other European countries.** The company might also choose to release some Russian games in China and Korea. The project is estimated to cost Syncopate about US\$20 million.

Africa/Middle East/Latin America

Mobile/Wireless

- **Mobile companies in Egypt added 642,000 new subscribers in the month of February.** According to data released by the Egyptian Communications Ministry, the total number of mobile users in the country at the end of February 2010 stood reached 56.49 million. This corresponds to a 74% mobile penetration rate. Mobinil, Vodafone Egypt and Etisalat Egypt are the three mobile companies in the country catering to an overall population of 78 million.
- **The Mexican government has decided to disconnect millions of cell phone connections in the country unless cell phone owners register their identity under a new law.** The move is part of the government's initiative to fight crime in the country. The government has been urging Mexicans for a number of weeks now to register their identity by sending a text message with their personal details. However, 30 million cell phone owners remain unidentified and might face stoppage of services. The law was passed last year after the government realized that a majority of the criminal activities in the country are implemented using cell phones.

Telecommunications

- **Vodacom, a South African mobile company locked in a dispute with its business partner in Congo CWN, announced that the two companies have agreed to seek arbitration services to resolve their dispute.** The two companies are fighting over fee sharing agreements. CWN had filed a law suit last year accusing Vodacom of charging US\$166 million in excess fees and interest charges.
- **Israeli telecommunications firm, Partner Communications might issue US\$500 million in debt in the country.** The company aims to refinance its current debt and might issue the new debt in three tranches with varying maturities.

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Other Economic Data

Currency Exchange Rates						
Currency	Units	Current Rate (on 04/09/10)	% Change 1 Week Ago	% Change 1 Month Ago	% Change 1/1/2010	% Change 1/1/2009
Japanese yen	¥/US\$	93.17	-1.52%	3.00%	3.51%	4.38%
Hong Kong dollar	HK\$/ US\$	7.7559	-0.15%	0.00%	-0.05%	-0.02%
Chinese renminbi	RMB/ US\$	6.8236	-0.03%	-0.03%	0.05%	0.15%
Singapore dollar	S\$/ US\$	1.3898	-0.76%	-0.19%	1.53%	3.12%
South Korean won	KRW/ US\$	1,118.15	-0.68%	-0.90%	1.66%	4.42%
New Taiwan dollar	NT\$/ US\$	31.553	-0.55%	-0.56%	0.19%	1.13%
Australian dollar	US\$/A\$	0.9332	1.50%	1.97%	-1.55%	-4.13%
New Zealand dollar	US\$/NZ\$	0.7162	1.44%	2.15%	-7.34%	-11.85%
Philippine peso	PHP/ US\$	44.67	-1.11%	-2.17%	-1.78%	-0.92%
Euro	US\$/€	1.35	-0.03%	-1.90%	-11.16%	-15.92%
British pound	US\$/£	1.537	1.07%	1.23%	-10.97%	-15.71%

Fixed Income Prices and Yields							
Note	Currency	Current (on 04/09/10)		1 Week Ago		4 Weeks Ago	
		Price	Yield	Price	Yield	Price	Yield
US 30-year	US\$	98.06	4.74%	97.07	4.80%	99.88	4.63%
Japan 30-year	¥	101.402	2.22%	101.22	2.23%	100.23	2.29%
Hong Kong 10-year	HK\$	92.942	3.03%	93.273	2.99%	93.73	2.82%
China (06/16)	CNY	109.38	3.03%	109.38	3.03%	108.99	3.09%
Singapore 10-year	S\$	97.29	2.84%	97.45	2.82%	98.35	2.70%
South Korea 20-year	KRW	10,728.39	5.06%	10,616.10	5.14%	10,777.60	4.99%
Australia 15-year	A\$	99.23	5.84%	99.47	5.82%	100.35	5.71%
New Zealand (12/17)	NZ\$	101.65	5.73%	101.77	5.71%	100.96	5.86%
Philippines 20-year	PHP	103.161	9.14%	103.467	9.11%	103.19	9.14%
India 30-year	INR	82.5	8.46%	82.5	8.46%	83.59	8.34%
UK 30-year	£	94.084	4.62%	96.237	4.48%	93.58	4.65%
Germany 30-year	€	115.315	3.88%	117.03	3.79%	114.24	3.95%

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