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BT announced today that it has signed an agreement with ZTE Corporation (ZTE), a leading global provider of telecommunications equipment and network solutions based in Shenzhen, China, to provide Contact Centre Services (CCS) and Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) connection service through our local partner to support ZTE's worldwide business expansion and service enhancement.

According to the agreement, BT will provide MPLS connection service to ZTE at sites in the Asia Pacific region and South America, including ZTE's Global Data Centre in Hong Kong. ZTE's Global Customer Support Centre (ZTE GCSC) will also have the support of BT Contact Centre Services.

"With the support of BT, we are confident in delivering better services to our customers around the world and achieve win-win for years to come for both companies," said Mr Xu Huijun, Vice President of ZTE. "BT has made considerable investment in the construction of the 21st Century Network which promises faster, better and more new services to customers. BT's successful transformation into a networked IT service company also means its capability to bring customers comprehensive integrated communications solutions. All these attributes make BT our ideal partner."

BT has begun providing CCS service to ZTE in mid-August and provision of MPLS through our local partner will begin at the end of September. In the first phase, BT will assist ZTE in collecting calls from customers in the Philippines, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Romania, transferring them to the ZTE GCSC. This solution will be expanded to encompass more countries around the world.

"This contract clearly demonstrates the faith that global companies like ZTE put in BT's leading product offering," said Allen Ma, President, Asia Pacific, BT Global Services. "We will continue to strengthen our offer in the China market, optimising our products and service systems to better serve leading Chinese enterprises as they continue their expansion worldwide."

Armed with a strong portfolio comprising wireline, wireless, terminal products and business service, ZTE has grown very rapidly in recent years and become a major supplier in the Chinese telecom market. It currently supplies products and services to more than 500 telecom operators in over 120 countries in the world. Fast business development and growing global demand has brought opportunities as well as challenges to ZTE. With the support of BT, ZTE will be able to leverage BT's far-reaching and resilient global network and excellent service capability to help it grow its business worldwide.

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About ZTE

ZTE is one of the leading global providers of telecommunications equipment and network solutions. The ZTE product range is among the most complete in the world - covering virtually every sector of the wireline, wireless and handset markets. The company delivers innovative, custom-made products and services to customers in more than 100 countries, helping them to achieve continued revenue growth. ZTE commits around 10% of annual turnover to research and development and takes a leading role in a wide range of international bodies developing emerging telecoms standards. It is one of the fastest growing telecoms equipment company in the world, and is China's only listed telecoms manufacturer, with shares publicly traded on both the Hong Kong and Shenzhen Stock Exchanges. ZTE was the only Chinese IT and telecoms manufacturer listed in BusinessWeek 2005's Information Technology 100 and was included in its 2006 ranking of China's Top 20 brands. For more information, please visit www.zte.com.cn.

About BT

BT is one of the world's leading providers of communications solutions and services operating in 170 countries. Its principal activities include

networked IT services; local, national and international telecommunications services; higher-value broadband and internet products and services and converged fixed/mobile products and services. BT consists principally of four lines of business: BT Global Services, Openreach, BT Retail and BT Wholesale.

In the year ended 31 March 2007, BT Group plc's revenue was 20,223 million with profit before taxation of 2,484 million.

British Telecommunications plc (BT) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BT Group and encompasses virtually all businesses and assets of the BT Group. BT Group plc is listed on stock exchanges in London and New York.

For more information, visit www.bt.com/aboutbt

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