



VODAFONE OMNITEL: FIRST 3G-2G HANDOVER EFFECTED

Rome, November 29, 2002 – Vodafone Omnitel announces that the first handover from a UMTS to a GSM network was successfully carried out today.

The 3G-2G handover, a key technical element in the commercial launch of 3G handsets, allows users to move freely outside areas with 3G coverage, even during a conversation, without affecting call continuity and quality.

The operation's success is the latest in a series of important milestones reached by Vodafone Omnitel over recent months, confirming the Company's commitment to development of 3G: the first *voice* call in November 2001, high-speed *data* packet access (up to 384 kbps) and *browsing* in June 2002, live demonstration of *video telephony* in October at the *Smau* Technology Fair.

“Following the launch of Vodafone Live!, forming the basic proposition on which our 3G services are to be based, today's achievement indicates just how advanced the development of our 3G technology is,” asserted Vittorio Colao, Vodafone Omnitel's Managing Director. “Voice, data and video telephony trials show that we are on track to fully meet the expectations of all our customers”.

The test was carried out using a Nokia 6650 handset and Vodafone Omnitel's GSM network, installed in partnership with Nokia.