

OVERVIEW OF TELECOMMUNICATION SECTOR GUYANA

A REGULATORY PERSPECTIVE

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JUNE, 2006



BACKGROUND

1990

- GUYANA TELECOMMUNICATION CORPORATION
GTC

STATE MONOPOLY

- GUYANA TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH LTD, GT&T

PRIVATE MONOPOLY



GT&T

- IS 80% OWNED BY ATLANTIC TELE-NETWORKS, ATN, AND 20% BY THE GOVT. OF GUYANA
- OBTAINED 20-YEAR EXCLUSIVE LICENCE, RENEWABLE AT THE CHOICE OF THE COMPANY FOR ANOTHER 20 YEARS
- EXCLUSIVITY APPLIES TO ALL NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL VOICE AND DATA TRANSMISSION
- COMPETITION IS PERMITTED IN CELLULAR MOBILE SERVICES, INTERNET ACCESS, CALL CENTRE SERVICES VIA VSAT



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

THE LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING STATUES AND DOCUMENTS

- THE TELECOM ACT OF 1990
- THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT OF 1990 BETWEEN GOG AND ATN
- GT&T'S LICENCE AND LICENCES OF OTHER OPERATORS AND TELECOM SERVICE PROVIDERS
- THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION ACT, 1999
- CHAPTER 47:01 OF THE POST AND TELEGRAPH ACT



REGULATORY AND POLICY MAKING BODIES

- OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
ADDRESSES SECTOR POLICY MATTERS
- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
REGULATE RATES, QUALITY OF SERVICE, S&D PROGRAMMES
- NATIONAL FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT UNIT, NFMU
RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM



CELLULAR MOBILE SERVICE OPERATORS

- **GT&T / CELLINK**

LAUNCHED A TDMA SERVICE, 800 MHz IN 1997
LAUNCHED A GSM SERVICE, 900 MHz IN 2005
COVERAGE IS NATIONAL

- **CARIBBEAN TELECOM LTD, CTL**

LICENCE ISSUED IN 1996
OPERATES A CDMA SERVICE IN BERBICE

- **CELL*STAR GUYANA / U – MOBILE**

LICENCE ISSUED IN 2001
LAUNCHED A GSM SERVICE, 900MHz, IN DECEMBER, 2004
COVERAGE IS NATIONAL



ISP SERVICES

- **ISPs DO NOT REQUIRE A LICENCE TO OPERATE**
- **NEED ONLY TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE NFMU**
- **MUST NORMALLY OBTAIN A CONNECTION TO THE INTERNET VIA THE FACILITIES OF GT&T**
- **ISPs ARE NOT REGULATED**
- **SOME 17 ISPs ARE REGISTERED, ONLY 6 OFFER SERVICE**



MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS SINCE PRIVATISATION

- INTRODUCTION OF DIGITAL SWITCHING TO THE MAJORITY OF THE NETWORK
- INSTALLATION OF FIBRE OPTIC CABLES ON KEY ROUTES IN POPULATED AREAS
- INTRODUCTION OF FIXED WIRELESS ACCESS SERVICE IN THE ESSEQUIBO REGION
- SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN INTERNATIONAL CIRCUITS – ADDITIONAL EARTH STATIONS AND AMERICA 11 CABLE



- **INTRODUCTION OF INTERNET SERVICE AND DSL ACCESS FOR ISPs**
- **INTRODUCTION OF CELLULAR TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE AND EXPANSION ACROSS GUYANA**
- **INTRODUCTION OF RURAL RADIO SYSTEMS INTO REMOTE AREAS OF THE COUNTRY – AMERINDIAN SETTLEMENTS**
- **FIXED LINE SUBSCRIBERS INCREASED FROM 20,000 TO MORE THAN 100,000, WHILE CELULAR SUBSCRIBERS HAVE GROWN TO OVER 200,000.**



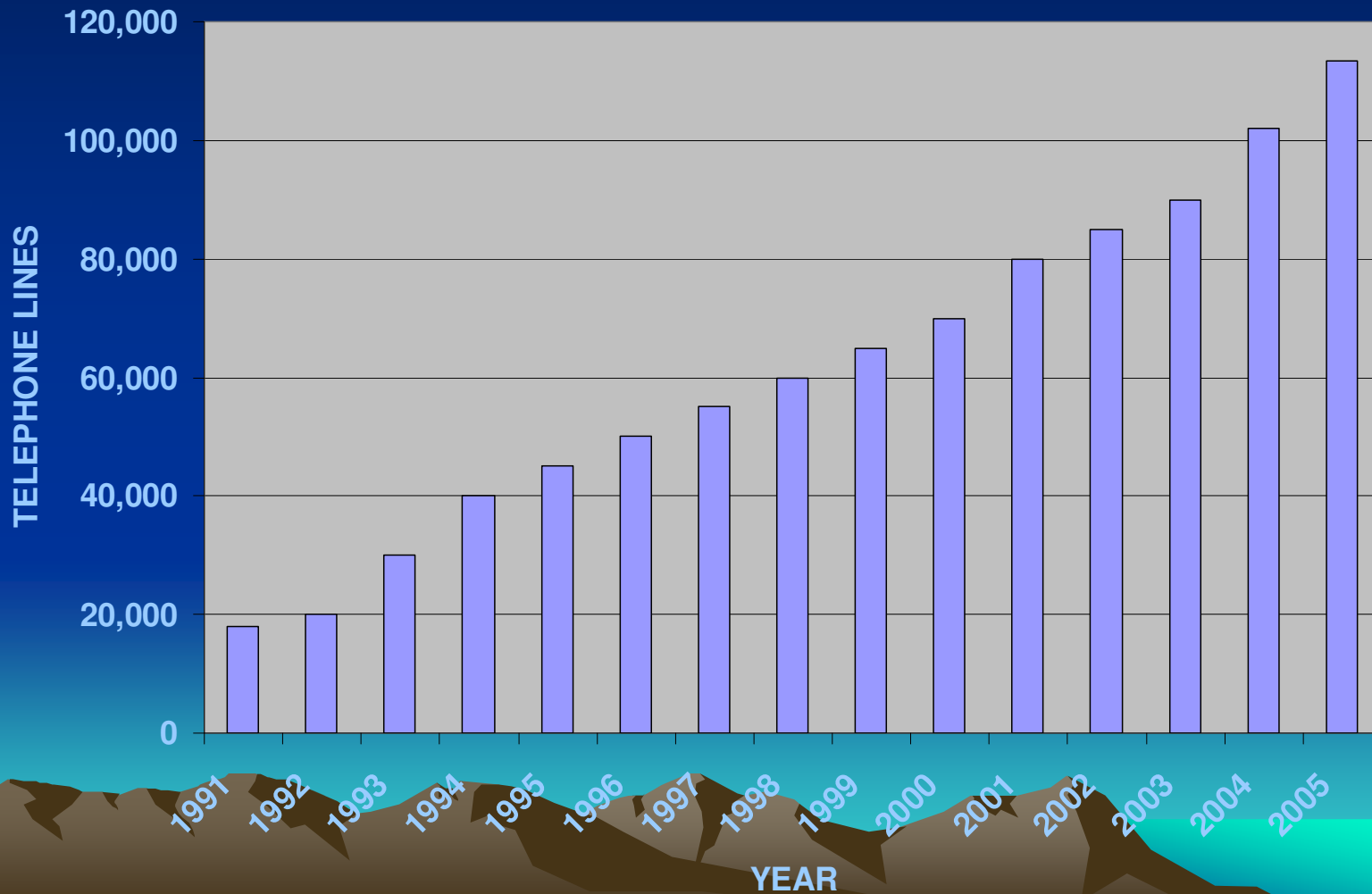
IMPORTANT MILESTONES IN THE TELECOM SECTOR

- 1990 – TRANSITION FROM STATE MONOPOLY TO PRIVATE MONOPOLY
- 1999 – CPP CHANGED TO RPP IN THE MOBILE CELLULAR SERVICE
- 2001 – CELL*STAR WAS ISSUED A LICENCE TO OPERATE A CELLULAR MOBILE SERVICE
- 2004 – CELL*STAR LAUNCHED A GSM 900 MHz SERVICE



FIXED LINE SUBSCRIBERS

GROWTH IN FIXED LINES
GT&T



CURRENT SITUATION

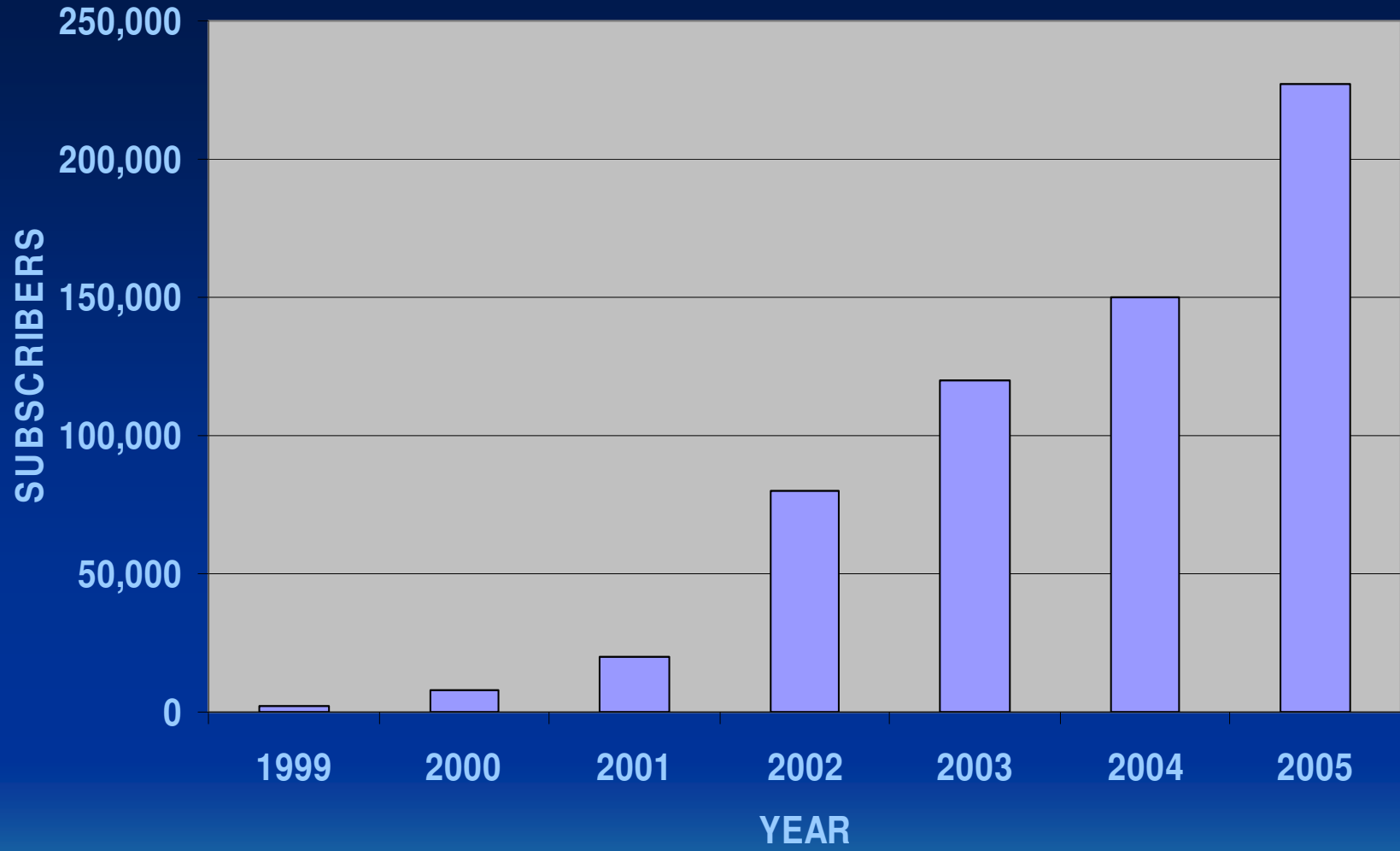
THE FUTURE OF THE INFORMATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTOR IN GUYANA IS OF GREAT PUBLIC INTEREST. IN THIS REGARD SEVERAL CONSULTATION STUDIES AND PAPERS WERE DONE, ADVISING ON REFORM AND MODERNISATION OF THE SECTOR.

A NEW NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY IS IN PROGRESS.

AN ICT POLICY PAPER IS IN PROGRESS



GROWTH IN MOBILE SUBSCRIBERS GT&T



MOBILE & FIXED LINE GROWTH GT&T

