

## Russian Embassy awards Kaspersky Lab and distributor in Bangladesh

IT & TELECOM DESK

The Embassy of Russia in Bangladesh has awarded Kaspersky Lab and its Bangladesh distributor Officextracts for outstanding contributions to the field of cyber security in the digital sector of the country and promoting Russian technology in Bangladesh.

In a unique and rare event participated by media members, Embassy staff, Kaspersky Lab South Asia representatives and Officextracts team members, the award was presented at a local hotel by Ambassador Alexander A. Nikolaev to Altaf Halde, managing director of Kaspersky Lab South Asia operations and Prabeer Sarkar, chief executive officer of Officextracts on February 24.

Miss Elena Nikolicheva, head of economic affairs, Ivan M. Korzhenko and Artur R. Zakaev, chief of protocol of the Russian Embassy were also present at the ceremony.

In his speech, The Ambassador Nikolaev emphasised on the need of cyber security and appreciated the efforts of Kaspersky Lab and Officextracts in creating that awareness and market opportunity in the Bangladesh software industry. He also cited on the success of Kaspersky Lab as a Russian technology company being so popular and successful in Bangladesh.

## Samsung to launch new dual-SIM set next week

IT & TELECOM DESK

Samsung is going to launch its new set Galaxy Grand in the Bangladesh market next week.

The newest Galaxy member is a dual-SIM handset. It will be available at the market at Tk 39,500.

Design wise Grand cuts slim profile with long rectangular shape with rounded corners like other Galaxy devices.

The set is 5.65 inches tall and nearly 3 inches wide. It has 5.01 inches large display. There is a home button at the bottom of the display.

The power button is located on the right hand side while volume/zoom button on the left hand side.

The Grand runs on Android Jellybean operating system. It is powered by 1.2 GHz dual core processor.

It also features 8 GB of internal memory, a microSD card slot that can hold up to 64GB of expandable memory, and Bluetooth 4.0, Wi-Fi b/g/n.

It has 8MP rear camera and 2MP front facing camera. The 8MP camera is capable of shooting 1080p video.

Its interesting feature is Multi Window that lets you multitask with your apps through a little access arrow on the side of the screen.

You just have to turn it on in the notification bar and tap the arrow on the side of the screen. A row of common apps will appear, such as the browser, photo gallery, and Gmail. You can then access your current app and launch another one and view both at the same time.



## Ericsson's solution wins GTI award



IT & TELECOM DESK

Ericsson has received the Best LTE TDD/FDD Converged Solutions Award under the GTI Award 2013, the inaugural Global TD-LTE Initiative (GTI) Award program at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, says a press release.

Ericsson's LTE TDD/FDD converged network solution, based on RBS 6000 and in full compliance with 3GPP standards, can maximise the value of spectrum resources for operators with both TDD and FDD spectrum.

By combining the power of both networks, the solution benefits not only the large and growing number of mobile broadband users, but also the ICT industry as a whole. Furthermore, the economies of scale promised by the converged networks will drive the transformation of other industries such as government, entertainment, transportation, education, healthcare and energy.

During the 2013 Mobile World Congress, Ericsson is supporting China Mobile in demonstrating the industry's most complete multi-vendor, multi-frequency range, end-to-end, converged ecosystem by providing a commercially verified LTE TDD/FDD converged network and making the world's first dual mode HD VoLTE call based on multi-mode chipsets, another step forward towards the globalisation of TD-LTE.

The GTI Award program aims to acknowledge the success of industry players in the TD-LTE ecosystem and encourage the industry to develop innovative products and solutions that address the opportunities and challenges faced by GTI operators.

## In smartphone's wake comes the intelligent watch

AFP, Barcelona

After the smartphone, the intelligent watch promises to become the latest hi-tech trend, allowing wearers to peek at messages and even take calls without touching their phones.

As speculation grows that Apple may be working on an iWatch, other players at the world's biggest mobile fair in Barcelona, including Japanese giant Sony, are already fighting for a place on customers' wrists.

Their target market is the person who's always glued to their smartphone, even in meetings or at the movies, or people who wish to monitor their heartbeat during exercise.

"The future in general is wearable devices," said Massimiliano Bertolini, chief executive of Italian firm i'm, as he showed off his flagship product, i'm Watch, at the industry event.

Available since 2011 and present in several European countries including Britain and Poland, it will go on sale in Spain's Corte Ingles department stores from next week, and could roll out with French retailers as soon as April, he said.

The smartwatch is an accessory to the smartphone, with which it communicates by Bluetooth wireless technology.

It means you can leave your phone in your pocket as you answer or reject a call, peruse emails or read updates from friends on Twitter or Facebook.

The i'm Watch features its own applications, too, such as i'm Sport, unveiled Monday, which links with a heart rate detector to allow a jogger to check his pulse. Such functions already exist in specialised sports watches but not on watches that are linked to smartphones, Bertolini said.

With a square aluminium frame, a 1.5-inch (3.8-centimetre) touch screen and a strap available in various colours, the watch has already found 30,000 buyers, 80 percent of them men aged mostly between 25 and 50.

"Seventy percent are iPhone users, 25 percent Samsung and



PHOTO: AFP

A hostess shows a Smartwatch by Sony on February 27, 2013 at the Mobile World Congress, the world's biggest mobile fair, in Barcelona.

the rest are other telephones using Google's Android operating system," he said.

The company aims to sell more than 200,000 watches in 2013, notably by targeting women with publicity emphasising its design rather than its technology.

Italian-made, it sells for a minimum of 300 euros (\$390) for the basic model and prices climb up to 16,000 euros for a luxury version in silver or encrusted with diamonds.

That leaves plenty of room in the market for competitors such as Sony's SmartWatch, a square, Android-compatible rival for your wrist that sells for about 130 euros or the \$150 Pebble, a rectangular, Android- and iOS-compatible offering by the company of the same name, which raised \$10 million in three weeks on "crowdfunding" site Kickstarter to develop the product.



Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google, introduces the Google Glass Explorer edition during Google's annual developer conference in this June 27, 2012 file photo in San Francisco.

PHOTO: AFP

## Brin sees Google glasses hitting market this year

AFP, California

Sergey Brin envisions Google's internet glasses hitting the market this year with an eye toward freeing people from unsocial habits engendered by "emasculating" smartphones.

Brin spoke of inspiration behind Google Glass eyewear during a brief appearance Wednesday on stage at a TED Conference known for an inspiring mix of influential big thinkers and "ideas worth spreading."

He playfully demonstrated his point on stage by ignoring a theater audience to stare down at his smartphone, saying he was intent on a message from a Nigerian prince need of \$10 million dollars.

"I like to pay attention because that is how we originally funded the company," the Google co-founder quipped about a well-known scam.

"Seriously, in addition to potentially socially isolating yourself when you are out and about using your phone, I feel it is kind of emasculating," he continued.

Brin described Glass as the first form factor to deliver on a vision he had from Google's inception that one day search queries would be outmoded and information from the internet would come to people when they need it.

Glass frees the eyes as well as the hands when it comes to connecting to the internet on the go, according to Brin.

"That is why we put the display up high, out of the line of sight," Brin said, wearing the Glass eyewear he is rarely seen without.

"If I wore a ball cap, the display would be on the brim and not where you are looking,"

he continued. "And sound goes through bones in the cranium, which is a little freaky at first, but you get used to it."

Glass wearers can speak commands to the eyewear, and built-in camera technology allows pictures or video to be captured from first-person perspectives while people take part in what is happening.

"Lastly, I realised I also have a nervous tic," Brin said. "The cell phone is a nervous habit. If I smoked, I'd probably smoke instead."

He observed that smartphones sometimes become props used by people as distractions or to appear busy, saying that Glass strips away excuses not to be sociable or to not be honest about simply wanting to take a break.

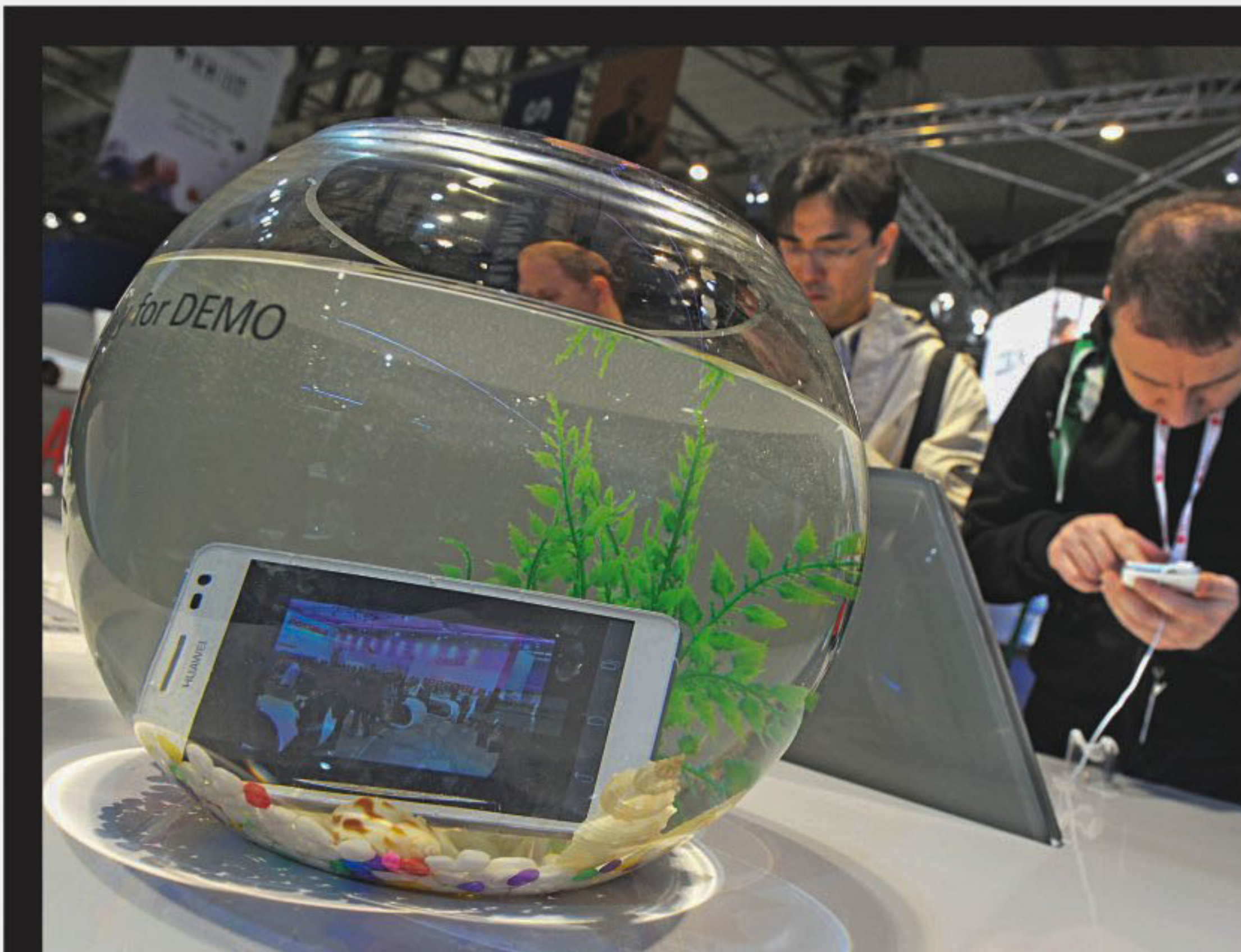
"It really opened my eyes to how much of my life I spent secluded away in email, social posts or what-not," Brin said. "There is nothing bad about that, but with this thing I don't have to be checking them all the time."

Brin said Glass eyewear will be available later this year at prices lower than the \$1,500 charged to software developers and early adopters during a restricted test phase.

Wednesday was the last day for "explorers" with creative vision and \$1,500 to spare to vie to be part of a select group of people who get to experiment with Glass.

A video intended to capture what it feels like to use Glass was online at [google.com/glass/start/](http://google.com/glass/start/).

Google has been speaking with eyeglass frame companies about ideas for a consumer version of the glasses, which he expected would cost "significantly" less than the Explorer prototypes.



TECHPHOTO

A picture taken on February 25, 2013 shows a Huawei's Ascend D2 smartphone in a fishbowl at the 2013 Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. The 2013 Mobile World Congress, the world's biggest mobile fair, is held from February 25 to 28 in Barcelona.

PHOTO: AFP