

Europe vies for lost mobile glory against Asia, US



Visitors look at phones during the 2015 Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on Wednesday.

AFP, Barcelona

Once a mobile telecom leader, Europe has lost out in recent years to giant companies in Asia and the United States. Now it wants to get back in the race.

The battle of the smartphones is now fought between South Korea's Samsung, US firm Apple with its iPhone, and Chinese upstarts such as Huawei.

Europe hosted the Mobile World Congress trade fair in Barcelona this week -- but it was dominated by several of these giants, minus Apple.

"Europe can feel like the focal point of the industry -- at least for a week. One week, then most of the major trendsetters will head back to the United States or to Asia," said Claudia Nemat, a member of Deutsche Telekom's board, ahead of the fair.

"We need European companies that can compete on the global market, especially in the digital economy. Otherwise, our only place in this global competition will be as a location for others to sell their services."

Europe's telecom industry went through a golden age in the 2000s with the launch of the 3G third-generation of network coverage.

Finland's Nokia was the leading manufacturer of handsets and a smartphone pioneer, but after being overtaken sold its mobile phone services in 2013 to the US Internet com-

pany Microsoft.

Mobile phone coverage has evolved into the faster 4G standard, but experts say Asia and the United States are far ahead of Europe in rolling out those networks.

Inside smartphones, the operating systems developed by Apple and Internet titan Google are the most widely used worldwide. Apple and Samsung are the world's biggest sellers of handsets.

Apple habitually boycotts the Barcelona fair and Samsung stole the show there this year with the launch of its top new smartphone, the Galaxy S6.

Another South Korean phone maker, LG, also made headlines with its connected phone-wristwatch, the Urbane LTE.

Elsewhere in Asia, Chinese firms such as Lenovo, Huawei and Xiaomi are booming. In the fourth quarter of 2014, they were third-, fourth- and fifth-biggest sellers of smartphones in the world, according to a ranking by consultancy Gartner.

"They are developing strongly," said Anne Bouverot, head of the GSMA association which groups 800 telecom operators. Analysts say 2015 will be a boom year for "wearables" like smartwatches, and some see an opportunity there for Europe.

"Countries like Switzerland, for example, have particular expertise" in that area, said Jan Wassmann, a new

technology specialist at German market research institute GfK.

"Our strength is being able to use the DNA of Swiss watchmaking and design watches that people will want to wear every day," Boris Brault, chief executive of MyKronoz, a Swiss startup, told AFP.

His company designs its watches in Switzerland, but like virtually all wireless devices nowadays, they are manufactured in China.

Other countries are hoping to add technical know-how to the boom in smart devices, such as France, which had 120 companies represented at the Mobile World Congress.

"One of our strengths is having very good engineering schools," said Eric Morand of Business France, an agency promoting French companies abroad. Although it is considered to be lagging in 4G, Europe is already positioning itself as phone companies plan the next generation of 5G networks, which they hope to roll out by 2020.

The European Union has set up a public-private partnership with telecom firms to invest in developing 5G networks. In Barcelona on Tuesday, the EU's digital economy commissioner Guenther Oettinger presented the bloc's 5G vision.

"With 5G Europe has a great opportunity to reinvent its telecom industrial landscape," he said.

Carrefour rings up rise in operating profit

AFP, Paris

International supermarket group Carrefour recorded a solid rise in operating profit in 2014, but said Thursday that net profit fell as it invested in improving the shopping centres that host its stores.

The world's number two supermarket group said operating profit from recurring business rose 6.7 percent to 2.38 billion euros (\$2.63 billion) while net earnings slipped 1.5 percent to 1.24 billion.

Sales data, which had been published earlier, showed a dip of 0.3 percent to 74.7 billion euros, but when stripped of variations including exchange rates indicated growth of 3.9 percent.

Exceptional items that weighed upon the bottom line included Carrefour's contribution to the creation of a property development company that will try to boost the value of the shopping centres in which its supermarkets are located, as well as a discount retail chain in France.

Emerging markets continued to drive gains in operating profits, rising by 14.9 percent.

Conditions in Europe, which had been difficult in recent years due to the eurozone crisis, have improved with France posting a 6.1 percent in operating profits and a 9.6 percent gain for the rest of Europe.

"Carrefour turned in very fine year in 2014 that confirmed that it is on the road to recovery," said financial director Pierre-Jean Sivignon, one of two executives who has been helping chief executive Georges Plassat run the company while he recovers from surgery.

China backs e-commerce expansion in win for Alibaba, JD.com

REUTERS, Beijing

China will back e-commerce development and guide international expansion by Chinese internet companies, Premier Li Keqiang said on Thursday, in an endorsement for firms such as Alibaba Group Holding Ltd and JD.com Inc.

Addressing the opening of China's annual parliamentary meeting in Beijing, Li broadly laid out China's "Internet Plus" strategy, which includes promoting cloud computing, online banking, mobile internet, along with logistics to help e-commerce expansion.

He also stressed the need for more state investment in the internet sector. "In addition to the 40 billion yuan (\$6.38 billion) government fund already in place for investment in China's emerging industries, more

funds need to be raised for promoting business development and innovation," Li said.

Li's support would benefit Alibaba, the world's largest e-commerce company, which is already investing in cloud computing and internet finance. Its biggest rival, Beijing-based JD.com, has seen its transactions more than treble in its online marketplace.

Others firms likely to benefit include social networking and entertainment company Tencent Holding Ltd and online search firm Baidu Inc. Both have internet finance operations and are expanding internationally.

State-backed shipping and logistics firms China Cosco, China Shipping Container Lines and Sinotrans, as well as local delivery firms YTO Express and S.F. Express, should gain too.



Kazi Manzur Ahmed, general manager of Okapia, and Ashish Chakraborty, general manager of SSL, exchange documents of a deal at Okapia's head office in Uttara, Dhaka recently. SSL will provide infrastructure facilities for selling Okapia devices online. Md Tofazzul Hossain, managing director of Okapia, was also present.

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
CEMSU, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229

Invitation for International Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Civil Aviation Authority.	
2	Agency	N/A.	
3	Procuring entity name	CEMSU, CAAB.	
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.	
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.	
6	Invitation for	Supply of 2 Nos. 10,000 ltr capacity ARFF (Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting) vehicle for HSA, CAAB.	
7	Invitation Ref No.	CAAB/1901/CFR/Part-2/13/317/5841	
8	Date	12-02-2015	
KEY INFORMATION			
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method (Single stage two envelope).	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10	Budget and source of funds	CAAB's own fund.	
11	Development partners (if applicable)	N/A.	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	N/A.	
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	N/A.	
14	Tender package No.	46(100)	
15	Tender No.	CEMSU/13/2014-2015	
16	Tender package name		
		Date	
17	Tender publication date	Within 09-03-2015	
18	Tender last selling date & time	19-04-2015	
		Date	Time
19	Tender closing date and time	20-04-2015	12:00 noon
20	Tender opening date and time	20-04-2015	12:15pm
21	Name & address of the office(s)	Address	
	- Selling tender document (principal)	Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.	
	- Selling tender document (others)	Cash Section of Director (Finance), CAAB HQ, Dhaka.	
	- Receiving tender document	Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.	
	- Opening tender document	Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.	
22	Place/date/time of Pre-tender meeting	Office of the Director, CEMSU.	
		Date	Time
		01-04-2015	12:00 noon
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
23	Eligibility of tenderer	Manufacturer who have local agent/distributor in Bangladesh and have minimum of 05 (five) years specific experience of producing/manufacturing and supplying of ARFF (Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting) vehicle are eligible to participate in the tender competition.	
24	Brief description of goods or works	Supply of 2 Nos. 10,000 ltr capacity ARFF (Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting) vehicle for HSA, CAAB.	
25	Brief description of related services		
26	Price of tender document (TK)	2000.00 (two thousand), (non-refundable).	
27	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location
	1	-	-
			Tender security amount
			US\$ 60,000.00 (sixty thousand) (refundable)
			Completion time
			360 days
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
28	Name of official inviting tender	Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.	
29	Designation of official inviting tender	Director.	
30	Address of official inviting tender	CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.	
31	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel No. 8901791, 8901088	Fax No. 88-02-8901411 e-mail
32	N.B:	i. Two separate envelope (one for technical & other for financial) must be sealed properly and then put into another envelope. Only technical offer will be opened on the fixed opening date. Financial offer of the responsive tender will be opened by notifying them. Bid bond must be submitted along with the technical offer. ii. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders thereof.	
Md. A Hamid Zamadder Director CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka Phone: 02-8901791			
CAAB/PR-93/2015/189 Date: 5-3-2015 GD-885			

Euro hits new 11-year low on dollar before ECB meets

AFP, Tokyo

The euro hit a new 11-year low on the dollar Thursday as investors waited for the European Central Bank (ECB) to announce details of its bond-purchase programme.

The single currency bought \$1.1055 in Tokyo against \$1.1080 late Wednesday in New York, its lowest level since September 2003.

With the ECB's decision-making council meeting on Thursday, President Mario Draghi is set to unveil details of the bank's 1.1 trillion euro quantitative-easing plan, due to be launched this month to ward off deflation.

The ECB's stance is in stark contrast to the Federal Reserve's plan to exit crisis support, having ended its asset-purchasing plan in October. It is now planning to raise interest rates this year.

The dollar was at 119.85 yen against 119.70 yen in New York late Wednesday.

"Clearly there looks to be an element of currency-market positioning ahead of the ECB decision," Philip Borkin, a senior economist at ANZ Bank New Zealand wrote in a client note, according to Bloomberg News. "Beyond that, the global economy needs more than one engine, the US, to give it sustainability."

Adidas optimistic for 2015 amid focus on US market

REUTERS, Berlin

German sportswear company Adidas expects robust sales growth in 2015 as its golf business improves and consumer confidence recovers, while net profit should rise faster still despite exchange rate hits and higher marketing spending.

The world's second-biggest sportswear group after Nike hopes to more than compensate for the non-recurrence of sales from last year's soccer World Cup thanks to strong momentum at its main Adidas and Reebok brands, a recovery at its revamped golf unit and an expansion of retail selling space.

"We will see sales increases across all our brands, despite tough comparison with the 2014 World Cup year as well as the geopolitical crisis in Ukraine," Chief Executive Herbert Hainer said in a statement. Adidas expects 2015 sales to rise at a mid single-digit percentage rate on a currency neutral basis, after a 6 percent increase in 2014, while net profit from continuing operations should climb 7-10 percent.

Adidas' 2014 results were hit by problems at its TaylorMade golf business as the popularity of the sport waned in the US market. It was also hurt by the weakness of the rouble as the Russian market is one of its biggest.

বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ
Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
বিজ্ঞান

বিগত ১৩.০২.২০১৫খ্রিঃ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত ডিআরআইসিএম-এর সায়েন্টিফিক অফিসার পদে লিখিত পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ নিম্নবর্ণিত প্রার্থীদের মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য নির্বাচিত করা হল। নিম্নোক্ত সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী বিসিএসআইআর-এর বোর্ড সভা কক্ষে মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ করা হবে। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতাসহ সকল সনদের মূলকপি ও লিখিত পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্র সঙ্গে আনতে হবে। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার জন্য প্রার্থীদেরকে কোন টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

তারিখ ১৩.০৩.২০১৫খ্রিঃ সকাল ৯ঃ০০টা থেকে

বিষয়ঃ রসায়ন

রোল নম্বরঃ ২০, ২৭, ২৯, ৩০, ৩৩, ৪৫, ৪৮, ৪৯, ৫২, ৭৫, ৭৯, ৮২, ৮৬, ৮৭, ৮৯, ৯৩, ৯৪, ৯৬, ৯৮, ১২৪, ১২৫, ১৩৬, ১৫৩, ১৬৪, ১৮০, ১৮১। মোট ২৬ জন।

বিষয়ঃ বায়োকেমিস্ট্রি এন্ড মোলিকুলার বায়োলজি

রোল নম্বরঃ ৮৩, ২১২, ২১৪, ২১৯, ২২১, ২২২, ২২৩, ২২৪, ২২৫, ২২৭, ২২৯, ২৩২, ২৩৩, ২৩৭, ২৪৪, ২৪৫, ২৫৩, ২৬১, ২৬৪, ২৬৫, ২৬৭, ২৬৮, ২৭২, ২৭৬, ২৭৮, ২৮২, ২৮৩, ২৮৪, ২৯৩, ২৯৪। মোট ৩০ জন।

বিষয়ঃ পদার্থ বিদ্যা

রোল নম্বরঃ ২৯৮, ২৯৯, ৩০৬, ৩১৩, ৩২০, ৩৩২, ৩৪০। মোট ৭ জন।

তারিখ ১৪.০৩.২০১৫খ্রিঃ সকাল ৯ঃ০০টা থেকে

বিষয়ঃ জেনেটিক ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এবং বায়োটেকনোলজি

রোল নম্বরঃ ৩৫৮, ৩৬০, ৩৬৩, ৩৭৮, ৩৮৪, ৩৮৭, ৩৯০, ৩৯৩, ৩৯৪, ৩৯৬, ৪০৩, ৪০৮, ৪১২, ৪১৩, ৪১৪, ৪১৯, ৪২০, ৪২৩, ৪২৭, ৪৩২, ৪৩৪। মোট ২১ জন।

বিষয়ঃ ফার্মেসী

রোল নম্বরঃ ৪৩৮, ৪৪১, ৪৪৯। মোট ৩ জন।

বিষয়ঃ মৃত্তিকা, পানি এবং পরিবেশ বিজ্ঞান/পরিবেশ বিজ্ঞান

রোল নম্বরঃ ৪৯১, ৪৯৩, ৪৯৪, ৪৯৫, ৪৯৭। মোট ৫ জন।

বিষয়ঃ এগ্রাইড কেমিস্ট্রি এন্ড কেমিক্যাল টেকনোলজি

রোল নম্বরঃ ৫১৩, ৫১৪, ৫১৬, ৫১৮, ৫১৯, ৫২৬, ৫২৭, ৫২৯, ৫৩১, ৫৩৩। মোট ১০ জন।

বিষয়ঃ মাইক্রোবায়োলজি

রোল নম্বরঃ ৫৪৬, ৫৪৭, ৫৪৯, ৫৫৬, ৫৫৭, ৫৬৩, ৫৬৭, ৫৭০, ৫৭১, ৫৭৬, ৫৮১, ৫৮৬। মোট ১২ জন।

মোঃ খলিলুর রহমান
সচিব

জিডি-৮৮৯