

# vodafone vibes™

THE NEWSLETTER OF VODAFONE FIJI

SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

## Moving to a new exchange

**V**ODAFONE FIJI is moving its network to a new, multi-million dollar, state of the art exchange this coming weekend.

Chief executive Aslam Khan says the switching over to the new exchange will take place over a 24-hour period between the early hours of Sunday (September 17) morning and Monday morning (September 18).

Khan says that during this period all Vodafone services will be affected.

But he says the disruption will be minimal and will happen overnight when the old exchange will have to be shut down and customers moved across to the new exchange.

"You will find that at certain times during this 24-hour period you may not be able to access all Vodafone services. But we are hoping to restrict

this to the early hours of Sunday morning and Monday morning when generally speaking there is little activity on the network," he says.

He says with the commissioning of the new exchange, Vodafone Fiji will enter a new era in mobile telecommunications, being able to offer more functions and features and more capacity to handle calls.

He says the new exchange will also ease the recent congestion on the network.

"Exchange capacity was one of the contributing factors leading to the network congestion. The new exchange will allow us to add more pre-pay capacity and more base stations over the next few months, rapidly easing any congestion that customers may have experienced in recent times," Khan said.

"The new exchange will also



The new \$5 million Vodafone Fiji head office at Princes Road will house the new exchange.

allow us to offer more functions and features and more capacity to handle calls," he says.

"It will have the capability to offer innovative services like closed user group (Vodagroup), regional charging, advanced pre-pay

services capable of handling high volume of calls as well as high data speeds - the new exchange is capable of supporting speeds of 384 kbps using 3G technology compared to 56kbps using GPRS technology."

### Base station in time for Methodist meet

**THOUSANDS OF** people who converged on chiefly Bau Island recently for the Methodist Church annual conference were blessed with the gift of mobile communications from Vodafone Fiji.

The company commissioned the new base station, its 108th, just before the start of the Methodist Conference, on Bau Island.

Bau chief Ratu Epenisa Cakobau praised Vodafone for getting the site up and running before the start of the Methodist Conference.

"The new site will certainly help people of the province in communicating from Bau and surrounding villages," Ratu Epenisa said.

"It certainly helped the people from all over Fiji who came to Bau for the Methodist conference," he said.

"I would like to thank Vodafone Fiji, with whom we have worked closely in the past, for installing a base station in the area at such short notice."

The new base station was launched a few weeks after new base stations at Vanuabalavu, Lau and at Nasau in Nadi went live.

Vodafone Fiji now has a total of 108 base stations, providing mobile coverage for over 65% of the population.

Another 15 new base stations, based on increasing coverage and capacity in the greater Suva area as well as better rural coverage and taking access to tourism resorts on outlying islands, are to be put in place this year.

"We were pleased to be able to extend coverage in time for the most important event on the Methodist calendar, says Vodafone Fiji chief executive Aslam Khan.

The Bau Island site covers a wide area including Toberua Island Resort, Viwa Island, Bau and Nadave.

The site extends or improves mobile phone coverage to areas such as Dromuna, Vatani, Dravo, Ovea, Natakala, Naikelawaqa, Sebi, Vatao, Namuka, Nadave, Cautata, Namara, Natakala, Tavo, Kuva, Daku and Buretu villages.

### Share ur story with us n win

**AT VODAFONE**, we've heard so many stories of how our products and services have saved the day.

These include the story of how someone's Vodafone helped save a group of people from drowning to stopping a crime to just plain enabling people to better their lives such as starting a new business from home or being able to stay in touch with family all around the world because mobile phones brought communications access to previously unwired areas.

Now your story can win you the latest mobile phone. Each week we will give away the featured handset in this newsletter to the person who submits the best true story of the week.

All you have to do is email [ligavatu.gukisuva@vodafone.com.fj](mailto:ligavatu.gukisuva@vodafone.com.fj).

\* The judges' decision is final.

### Legends go to Hayman Island

**VODAFONE FIJI'S** Onisimo Rokotuiniasau and Shiu Nandan are going to Hayman Island as the Vodafone Fiji Legends for 2006.

The 2006 Legends get a 4-day getaway with a fellow staff or family member on the beautiful Hayman Island in Australia from November 4th - 8th.

They will have an opportunity to meet Legends from other Vodafone operating companies around the Pacific.

The Vodafone Legends are chosen on how they live Vodafone Values and how well they are an ambassador of Values.

It is a yearly event at Vodafone and is one way we recognise outstanding people.

People are nominated on the basis of performance, values alignment (what Vodafone culture is about), years of service and attendance.

Colleagues are given the opportunity to nominate who they feel deserve the title of "Vodafone Legend".

These individuals are then assessed by a panel of previous legends.

### How Hibiscus Queen is chosen

**ONLY 25%** of the total points towards Miss Vodafone Hibiscus 2006 came from Txt voting, says Vodafone Fiji Product Manager Txt Winston Penjueli.

He was commenting on remarks by some people that the winner was decided by SMS or Txt voting.

"In fact, Txt voting only counted for 25% of the total points; the rest of the points were awarded during the talent night, two public judgings and one private judging" says Penjueli.

He said despite it being the first time this was done and only a 25 per cent weighting, Tinting added a new meaning to the phrase "people's choice".

"It allowed everyone to share in the Vodafone Hibiscus Festival Spirit by having some say on whom they believed should be Queen," Penjueli said.

This has been recognised by the organisers of the Miss World contest. In what is thought to be the world's largest Txt vote, people in over 200 countries voted via Txt for their favourite contestants in the finals of Miss World 2005.

This set the contest on a roll, with each girl realising the importance of gaining support from the public.

This month in Poland, Miss World 2006 will also mostly be decided by the public through another Txt vote.



Miss Hibiscus Luisa Delai & Lady Hibiscus Senimoli Dallina.

Penjueli says that with almost one in every three people in Fiji owning a mobile, what better and more efficient way to ensure that as many people as possible had a say in the crowning of Miss Vodafone Hibiscus 2006, the queen of Fiji's largest charity festival.

He thanked everyone who voted, congratulated the winners and says he looks forward to greater public participation in the future.

### Batibasaga defends Vodafone Fiji Open title

**BRISBANE-BASED** Fiji golfer Marika Batibasaga defended his Vodafone Fiji Open title at the Fiji Golf Club this month.

More than 170 overseas and local professional and amateur golfers competed for \$30,000 in prizemoney as the tournament looks set to regain its status as the premier event on the national golfing calendar, with golfers from Australia, New Zealand and the United States competing this year.

The Minister for Sports, Rajesh Singh, says Vodafone Fiji's generous sponsorship should enable the once prestigious tournament to regain its status as one of the South Pacific's premier golf events.

"The presence of such a large number of golfers is a good omen for us as we try to put this tournament back where it belongs - being an important and integral part of the South Pacific and Australian/NewZealand golf circuit," Singh said at the opening ceremony.

Singh said he was also excited by the National Golf Association's plans for junior golf



Vodafone Fiji's Chief Financial Officer Pradeep Lal with Marika Batibasaga.

and to start primary schools' golf later this year.

The Minister for Sports congratulated Vodafone Fiji in giving a helping hand to the National Golf Association when they needed it to revive the Fiji Open.

Singh said this kind of commitment to Fiji, and sports particularly by Vodafone Fiji, is the kind of corporate responsibility that was needed.

He reminded everyone of Vodafone Fiji's unwavering and continuing commitment to investing in Fiji started in the post-1987 period, when few foreign global firms were interested.

### GET UR PHONE CONFIGURED

**VODAFONE FIJI** mobile phone customers, if your phone has not already been set up to receive screensavers, themes or wallpapers and polyphonic ringtones, just call 123 and get your mobile rocking.

You will get a pre-configured setting on your mobile which you will have to activate. The instructions are simple and the customer care rep will advise you what to do depending on the model of your handset.

Alcatel, Sharp and LG handsets have to be set up manually by bringing them to one of our shops while Nokia, Sony Ericsson, Motorola, Panasonic, Samsung and Sagem can be set up by the customer care representatives.

### PRODUCT INFO

#### On the move with BlackBerry

**THE NEW** BlackBerry 8707v Wireless Handheld is the first 3G wireless handheld for business, with full QWERTY keyboard. Email, attachments, applications, phone and Internet; it's never been easier to stay connected on the move.

- With built-in 3G modem - attach the device directly to a laptop to deliver broadband-speed wireless connectivity.
- No need for a costly data card.



- Simultaneously send emails, access applications or browse the web while on a conference call.
- Remote access to up to 10 supported business and/or personal email accounts.
- Bluetooth® enabled for hands-free headset and car kit support, plus microphone and speakerphone for conference calling.

### HANDSET UPDATE

#### Sagem MY C2-3



**Size** 73 x 42 x 21 mm  
**Weight** 75 g  
**Display Size** 101 x 80 pixels, downloadable wallpapers  
**Ringtones Type** Polyphonic (16 channels), Hi-Fi  
**Vibration** Yes  
**Memory** Phonebook 255 entries, contact groups  
**Call records** 20 received, dialed and missed calls

**Card slot** No, 240 KB embedded memory  
**Data** GPRS Class 10 (4+1/3+2 slots), 32 - 48 kbps  
**Features** Messaging SMS, EMS, MMS  
**Browser** WAP 1.2  
**Battery** Standard battery, Li-Ion 700 mAh, Standby Up to 240 hrs, Talktime Up to 3 hrs  
**Calculator, Currency converter, Built-in handsfree, no camera**

### DID YOU KNOW?

**VODAFONE** Fiji Limited is part of Vodafone Group Plc, the world's largest mobile community with over 133.4 million proportionate customers worldwide - 25 percent of the world's mobile phone users are connected to Vodafone. The company has equity interests in 26 countries and partner networks in a further 13 countries.