

Mobile industry backs Symbian

for mobile OS leadership

July 07, 2004 09:00 ET | Source: [Nokia Oyj](#)

Follow

LONDON, United Kingdom - Symbian Software Limited today announces that its shareholders have concluded an agreement regarding Symbian's future funding, governance and equity structure.

Symbian's continuing shareholders reiterate their continued full support for Symbian's strategy and objectives as an independent, for-profit company, and have provided significant further investment to ensure the long-term success of Symbian OS as the industry's chosen technology platform for mass market, advanced phones for 2.5 and 3G networks. Shareholders have participated in a rights issue to raise £50m in additional funding for Symbian. Nokia, Panasonic, Siemens and Sony Ericsson have also agreed to participate in the pre-emption process for the purchase of Psion's equity stake in Symbian. The process is expected to complete on 12th July 2004. In addition, Shareholders have jointly agreed to appoint an independent, non-executive Chairman to the Symbian Board.

Highlights

- £50m rights issue to accelerate investment in Symbian OS development to facilitate further adoption of Symbian OS as a platform for lower cost, mass market advanced phones.
- Symbian's costbase will expand from c.£70m to c.£100m per annum, with permanent employee & contractor headcount rising from c.900 to c.1,200.
- Symbian's continuing shareholders will appoint an independent, non-executive Chairman to the Board. The selection process is under way and is anticipated to be completed during the latter half of the year.
- The pre-emption process to determine allocation of Psion's 31.1% equity stake amongst Shareholders has been completed; the new shareholding structure will be as detailed in the table below.
- In subscribing to the rights issue and in purchasing Psion's equity, Shareholders will invest a total of £187.7m in their shareholdings in Symbian.
- Shareholder and non-shareholder Symbian OS licensees continue to expand their use of Symbian OS as a platform for advanced phones. At 30th June 2004, 34 phones and variants based on Symbian OS were being readied for market by 10 licensees. (Q2 2003 - 26 phones, 9 licensees) (see Notes to Editors for definitions).

Company Profile

Nokia Oyj

Industry:
Telecommunications
Equipment

Website:
<https://nokia.com>

Press Release Actions

- [Print](#)
- [Download PDF](#)
- [Subscribe via RSS](#)
- [Subscribe via ATOM](#)
- [Javascript](#)

Share

- [Facebook](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Reddit](#)
- [Email](#)
- [Print](#)
- [More](#)

Set Your Preferences

By clicking "Accept All Cookies," you agree to the storing of cookies on your device. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#)

Cookies Settings

Reject All

Accept All

[Newsroom](#)

[Services](#)

[Sign In](#)

[Register](#)



[Contact Us](#)

David Levin, CEO, Symbian said:

"Symbian and Symbian OS have today won massive endorsement from the leaders of the mobile industry. The agreement provides strong support for Symbian OS as the industry's chosen platform for the mobile phones of the future. I am delighted with the Shareholders' unanimous commitment to Symbian's future as an independent company. The additional investment will enable Symbian to accelerate Symbian OS development, in particular to support Symbian OS for lower cost, mass market, advanced phones for both 2.5G and 3G environments.

With 6.67m Symbian OS phones shipping in 2003 and 2.4m in the first quarter of 2004, and with 34 phones in development with 10 licensees, Symbian is the clear leader in the emerging smartphone market.

Symbian's target is to take Symbian OS into lower cost, mass markets for advanced phones for 2.5G and particularly for the emerging 3G networks. Today's agreement shows Symbian's shareholders are backing Symbian to meet that challenge."

Karl-Henrik Sundström, Chief Financial Officer, Ericsson said:

"As a founder of Symbian, we are pleased that the independent future of Symbian has been secured by a broad participation among existing shareholders in the pre-emption round, the decision to appoint an independent non-executive Chairman as well as a substantial fund-raising round. Our participation in Symbian will continue with Ericsson's participation rights taken up with a substantial investment by our joint venture Sony Ericsson."

Matti Alahuhta, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Nokia said:

"Nokia has been working actively to ensure Symbian's long term success and leadership in the global mobile OS market. Smart phones are heading towards accelerated growth and strong competition. The successful completion of pre-emption with additional funding - both of which Nokia has encouraged all Shareholders to participate in - will provide Symbian with the means to meet this next phase of growth. The broad and unified shareholder commitment shown today is the best evidence of Symbian's ability to support demanding needs of the industry today and in the future."

Yoshiaki Kushiki, President, Panasonic Mobile Communications Ltd., said:

"Panasonic's decision to exercise its full pre-emption rights in respect of the Psion shares evidences its firm commitment to the independence of Symbian. Maintaining such independence through a broad, balanced shareholding base is critical if the Symbian OS is to remain the de facto standard in the mobile phone industry and continue to win the support and loyalty of a broad spectrum of manufacturers and network operators.

Set Your Preferences

By clicking "Accept All Cookies," you agree to the storing of cookies on your device. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[Services](#)

[Sign In](#)

[Register](#)



[Contact Us](#)

Rudi Lamprecht, Member of the Board of Siemens AG and CEO of Siemens Mobile said:

"The smartphone market is quickly growing. We estimate that by 2008 a quarter of all mobile devices sold will be smartphones. Smartphones offer the flexibility that allows the greatest variety of data applications. These applications thrive best in an open environment the way Symbian OS and its worldwide developer community is offering it. That is why Symbian and its open platform is an essential part of our smartphone strategy."

John-Peter Leesi, Chief Financial Officer Sony Ericsson said:

"We are pleased to see the broad participation of Symbian's shareholders in the pre-emption of Psion's shares and the Symbian rights issue. By maintaining Symbian as an independent company, we can build on the strong momentum for Symbian and facilitate further adoption of Symbian OS. For Sony Ericsson, basing our line of smartphones on Symbian OS has proven successful, as consumers, application developers and mobile operators alike are appreciative of the ease-of-use, application openness, and customization capability that Symbian-based smartphones provide."

About Symbian

Symbian is a software licensing company that develops and licenses Symbian OS, the global open industry standard operating system for advanced, data-enabled mobile phones. Symbian licenses Symbian OS to the world's leading handset manufacturers. The following Symbian OS licensees have Symbian OS-based mobile phones in production and development: Arima, BenQ, Fujitsu for NTT DoCoMo FOMA, Motorola, Nokia, Panasonic, Sendo, Siemens, Samsung and Sony Ericsson. In 2003, over 6.67 million Symbian OS-based mobile phones were sold worldwide and more than 12 million have been sold to date.

Symbian has its headquarters in London, United Kingdom with offices in the United States, Europe and Asia. For further information about Symbian and its forthcoming annual trade show Exposium04 -The Smartphone Show, please see www.symbian.com or email press@symbian.com.

About Nokia

Nokia is the world leader in mobile communications, driving the growth and sustainability of the broader mobility industry. Nokia is dedicated to enhancing people's lives and productivity by providing easy-to-use and innovative products like mobile phones, and solutions for imaging, games, media, mobile network operators and businesses. Nokia is a broadly held company with listings on five major exchanges.

Media enquiries:

Symbian Contacts:
Anatolie Papas
E: anap@sympb.com

Set Your Preferences

By clicking "Accept All Cookies," you agree to the storing of cookies on your device. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#)

Technology Communications
Tel. +358 7180 28244

Notes to Editors
Equity sale & rights issue participation (by £m paid)
The table below shows the shareholdings in Symbian after completion of the equity sale and rights issue:

	£m for equity purchased (i)	£m invested in rights issue	Equity participation
Ericsson	-	-	-
Sony Ericsson	£40.3m	£17.0m	£57.3m
Nokia	£70.3m	£23.0m	£93.4m
Panasonic	£16.9m	-	£16.9m
Samsung	-	-	-
Siemens	£10.1m	£10.0m	£20.1m
Total	£137.7m	£50.0m	£187.7m

Notes
i) Including deferred payments based on Symbian OS unit shipments in 2004 and 2005 as noted by Psion in its Circular to Psion Shareholders dated 23rd February 2004.
ii) Including £2.1m offer to employee and former employee minority shareholders.

Shareholdings table in Dollars
The table below shows the shareholdings in Symbian after completion of the equity sale and rights issue:
Based on exchange rate of £1 = \$1.83

	Previous % equity	Current % equity	Equity purchase & rights issue participation (\$m) *
Ericsson	17.5	15.6	-
Sony Ericsson	1.5	13.1	\$104.9m
Nokia	32.2	47.9	\$171.0m
Psion	31.1	0.0	-
Panasonic	7.9	10.5	\$30.9m
Samsung	5.0	4.5	-
Siemens	4.8	8.4	\$36.8m
Total	100.0	100.0	\$343.6m

* Notes
i) Including deferred payments based on Symbian OS unit shipments in 2004 and 2005 as noted by Psion in its Circular to Psion Shareholders dated 23rd February 2004.

Set Your Preferences

By clicking "Accept All Cookies," you agree to the storing of cookies on your device. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[Services](#)

[Sign In](#)

[Register](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Nokia selected by Verizon as hardware and software provider for Thames Freeport multisite private 5G deal

Press ReleaseNokia selected by Verizon as hardware and software provider for Thames Freeport multisite private 5G deal Verizon Business, in collaboration with Nokia, will deliver multiple Verizon...

[Read More](#)

June 23, 2025 07:00 ET | Source: [Nokia Oyj](#)

Changes in Nokia Corporation's own shares

Nokia CorporationStock Exchange Release23 June 2025 at 14:00 EESTChanges in Nokia Corporation's own shares Espoo, Finland – A total of 113 390 Nokia shares (NOKIA) held by the company were...

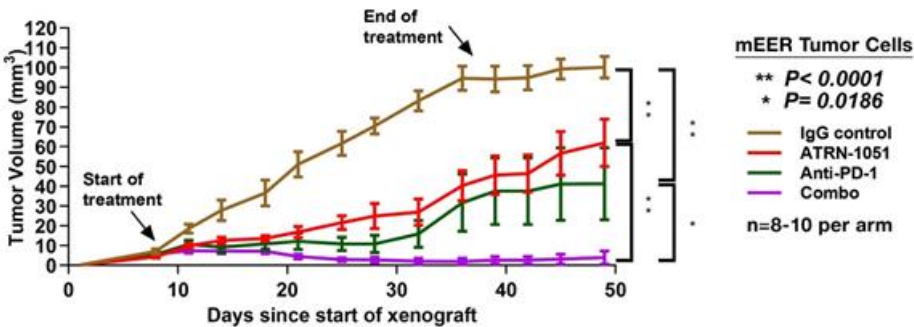
[Read More](#)

Explore



June 25, 2025 09:00 ET

H2O America Appoints Megan Mattern as Chief Accoun...



June 25, 2025 09:00 ET

Aprea Reports Anti-Proliferative Results and Promi...

Set Your Preferences

By clicking "Accept All Cookies," you agree to the storing of cookies on your device. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#)



[Newsroom](#)

[Services](#)

[Sign In](#)

[Register](#)



[Contact Us](#)

© 2025 Digital Media Innovations, LLC. All rights reserved.



Set Your Preferences

By clicking "Accept All Cookies," you agree to the storing of cookies on your device. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#).