

### **Rural and Remote Radio Systems**

To service rural and remote areas, Telecom has employed radio systems as well as cable. The Digital Radio Concentrator System (DRCS) is a solar power system designed by Telecom with a reach of 600 km from an automatic exchange and can connect up to 127 customers. High Capacity Digital Radio Concentrator Systems (HCRC) are being installed in high growth areas. These systems have a range of 2000 km from an automatic exchange and can connect up to 300 customers with a wide range of services including ISDN facilities.

### **2.2.3 Operational Profile**

Three domestic carriers now operate under an interconnection agreement.

1. Telstra Corporation Limited, a full service carrier, was formerly the Australian and Overseas Telecommunications Corporation (AOTC), incorporating Telecom Australia (domestic trading name) and Telstra (international trading name). It provides domestic and international communications services (including satellite). It is wholly owned by the Australian Government.

Revenues in 1992/93 were A\$12,656 million.<sup>1</sup> Assets A\$23,160 million; 68,000 staff, Profit A\$2,356 million, adding A\$7.3 billion of value to the Australian economy, (2.1% of the GDP).

2. Optus Communications Pty Ltd, bought Australia's communications satellite system (AUSSAT) in 1992 and is the main competitor to *Telstra*, it provides long distance and mobile services only. It is privately owned (51% Australian, 24.5% Bell South Corp. and 24.5% Cable and Wireless).
3. Vodaphone Australia Ltd. (formerly Arena GSM), provides mobile services only.

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<sup>1</sup> All \$ used in Section 2 are in Australian currency