

given to the integrated use of the system and facilitating the installation and operation of earth stations by the private sector. SCT plans to continue adding new ground stations to the ones now operating in the Morelos Satellite System; expand coverage and increase the number of users of MSS by increasing the capacity of the existing ground stations, in particular those to operate on the KU band for rural and private applications; and to install 500 earth stations for the educational system. In 1990, SCT issued a call for bids for the supply of the new Solidaridad satellite system, consisting of two basically identical satellites, to be launched between 1993 and 1994. The bid for construction was won by Hughes Communications International, and the French company Arianespace won the launching bid. Each satellite will basically have 18 active transponders on the C band and three times more power on the Ku band, and will also operate on the L band for rural communications, and an estimated lifespan of 14 years.

SCT has announced the renewal of 430 radio broadcasting and 67 TV broadcasting stations within the Secretariat's program to enhance radio and TV coverage. The program calls for the installation of 400 new stations under concession, 250 for TV and 150 for radio. However, these concessions are exclusively for Mexican citizen. The system will operate both through concessions and permits. It also contemplates incorporating new technology to update installations already functioning, improving the quality of operating programs and the development of human resources. A recent agreement assigned 100 kilocycles on the radio band to Latin American countries, extending the AM band to 1,750 kc. This expansion increases the capacity to permit 1,000 new radio stations in Mexico.

3.2 TELEFONOS DE MEXICO

TELMEX is one of the largest corporations in Mexico, with sales of \$4.5 billion in 1990, 44.3% above 1989 levels in real terms. It has nine subsidiaries and is involved in the whole range of telephone related services, such as construction, telephone equipment production and providing the telephone service itself.

On September 19, 1989, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Mexico's President, ordered the state-run company Teléfonos de México privatized. In December 1990, the company's voting shares, equivalent to 20.4% of total capital, were sold to a group of investors led by Carlos Slim Halu of the Mexican Grupo Carso, that included Southwestern Bell and France Telecom. Grupo Carso is the operator of the company as per the concession granted to the investor group, that will expire in 2026 with an optional renewal period of 15 years after that. The two foreign partners play an important role as counselors on new technologies, networking, commercial policy, supervision, reference and support. The Mexican government received \$1,757.6 million dollars in January 1991 as a result of this sale. During the month of May