



twimbit

Uncover 2023

Is growth here to
stay for APAC telcos?

Executive Summary



Executive Summary



#1 Industry revenue growth at 6.9 percent in 9M 2022 vs 9M 2021 (YoY)

1

40 Asia Pacific telcos added US\$ 28.3 billion net new revenues in 9M 2022

2

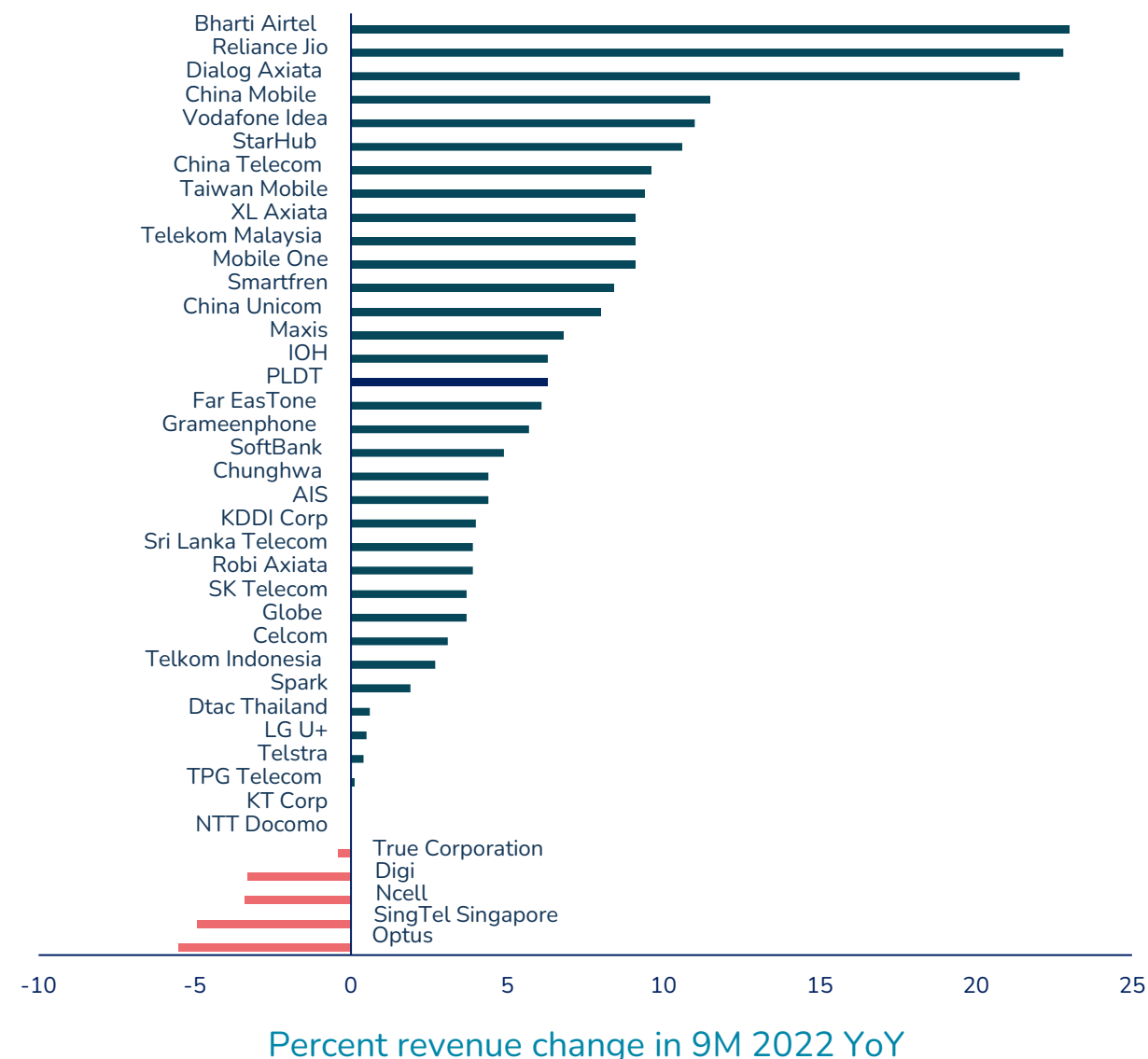
87+ percent of telcos record a positive YoY change

3

The performance of the Indian telcos have been exemplary throughout 2022 primarily because of the tariff hike. The top 3 Indian telcos have set new growth benchmarks for other markets in the region of 17 percent in 9M 2022 YoY

4

China Mobile adds the highest YoY net new revenues in 9M 2022 of US\$ 11.2 billion



#1.1 Asia Pacific telcos expected to sustain growth levels in 2023

1

2021 saw the industry experience an all-time high growth of 6.4 percent in the previous 5 years.

2

The high YoY growth levels in 2021 were also accredited to a weak performance in 2020 due the Covid 19 pandemic

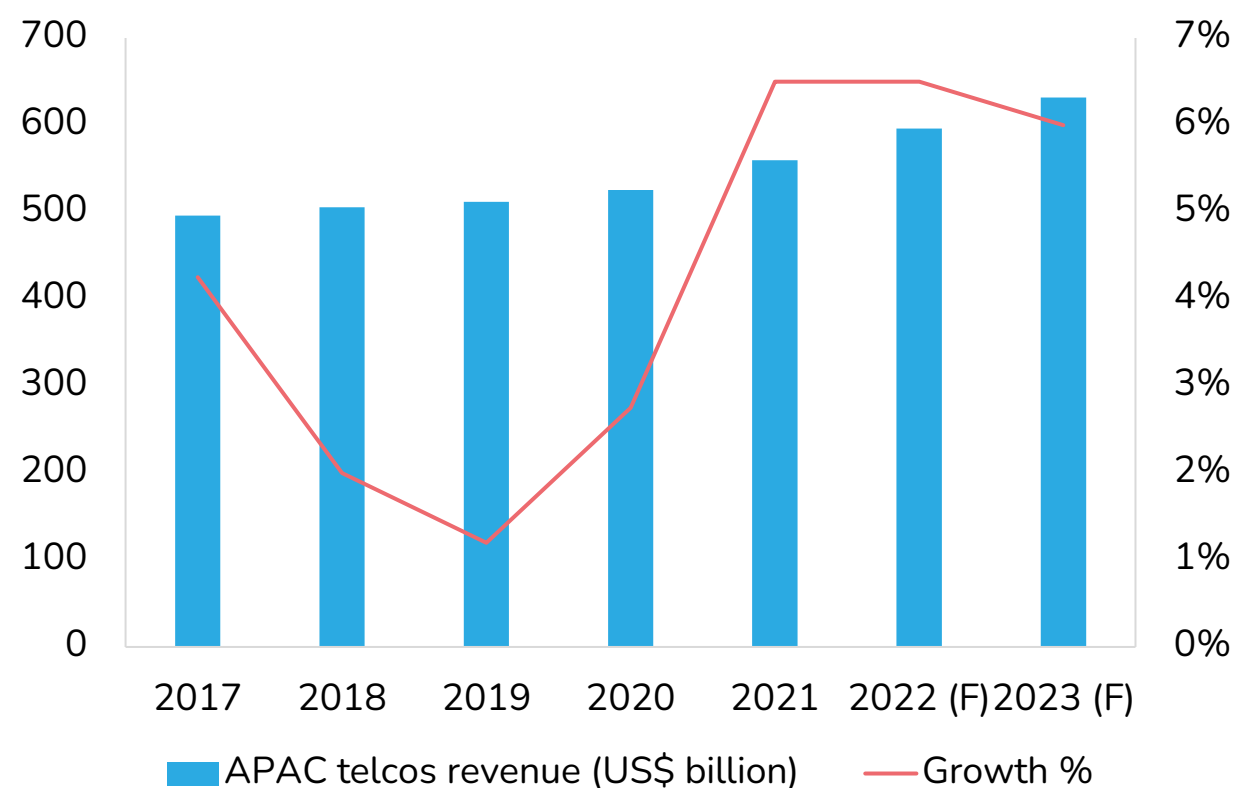
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Asia Pacific telcos have sustained the levels of growth. Non-connectivity business and enterprise business have been key growth drivers.

4

We expect telcos to sustain these growth levels in 2023.

US\$ billions



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Tariff hikes help Indian operators drive growth of 17 percent YoY



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My own sense is that we should start seeing some tariff increases during the course of this year. I do believe that the tariffs at that level are still very low. The first port of call is to get to Rs 200 which will require at least one round of tariff increase.

Quoted - May 2022 in
anticipation of another tariff hike



Gopal Vittal, CEO

Highest revenue growth
in APAC in 9M22



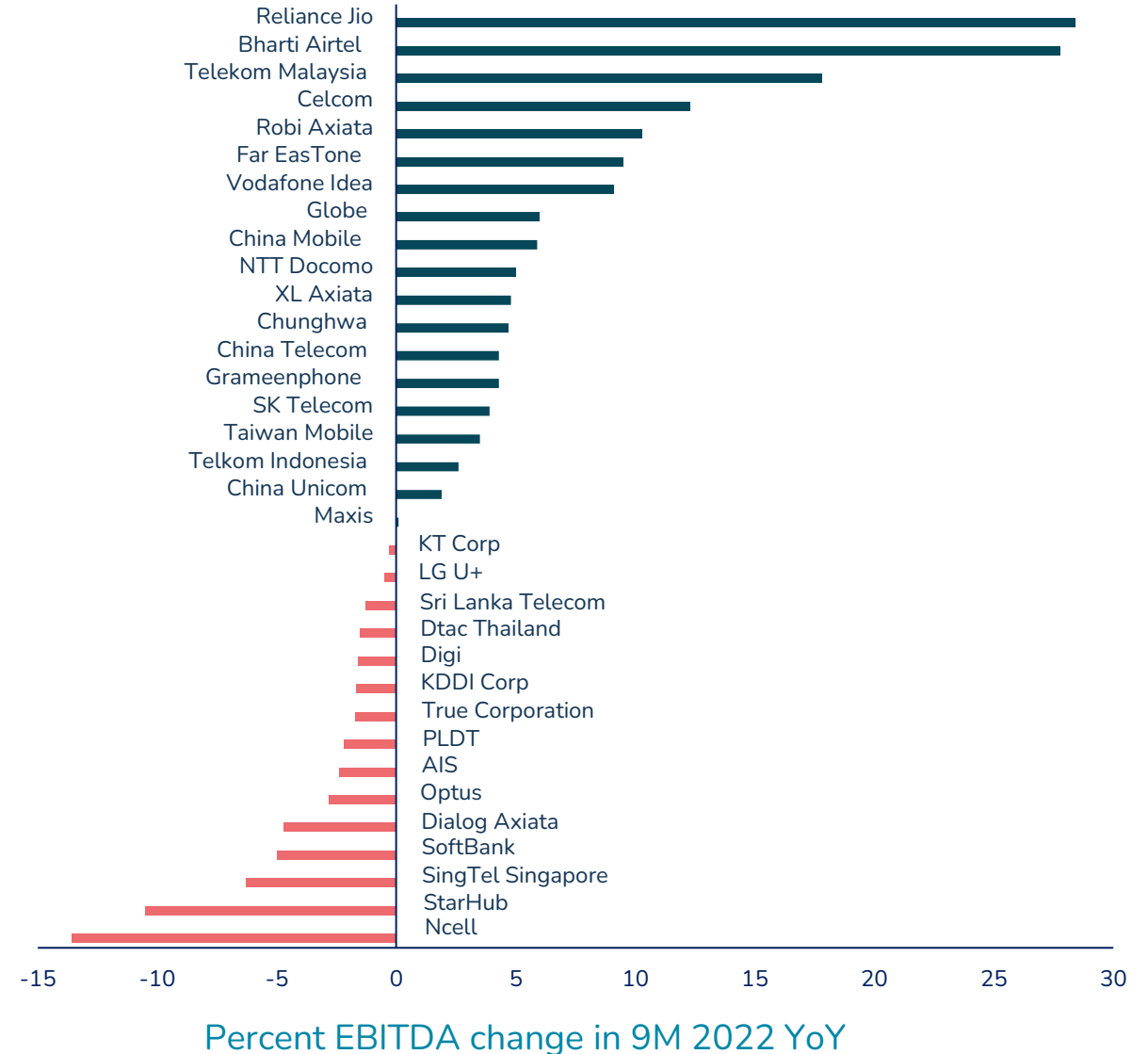
#2 45 percent of the telcos register a decline in earnings (EBITDA), despite notable growth in revenues

1

APAC telcos witness a nominal average growth in EBITDA of 3.9 percent in 9M 2022 YoY

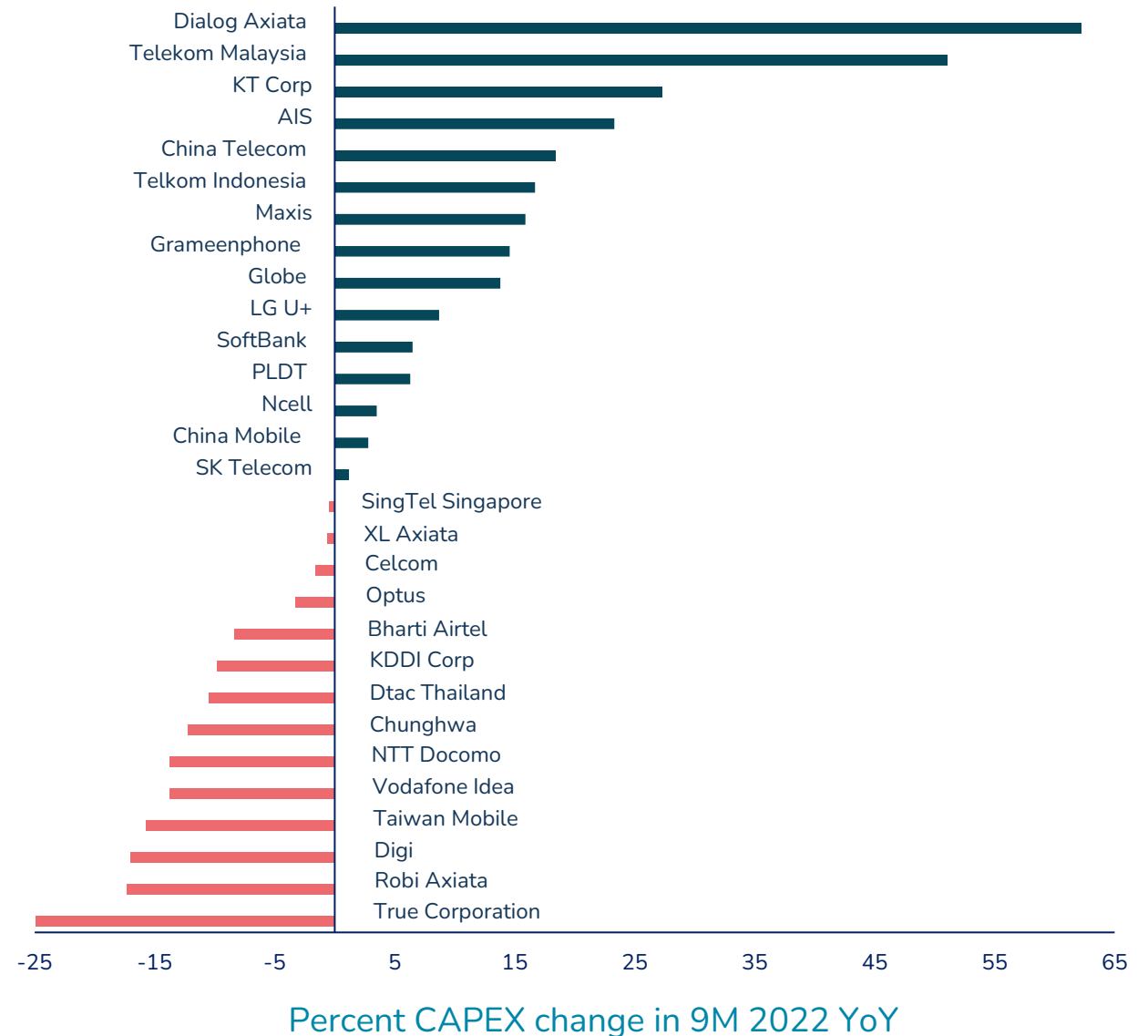
2

Indian telcos continue to show strong EBITDA growth. The tariff hikes have impacted both the revenue and profitability positively



#2.1 CAPEX spending continues to slowdown in 9M 2022

- 1 Close to 50 percent of the telcos charted a negative change in their CAPEX in 9M 2022.
- 2 The trend is consistent since the beginning of 2022 and is expected to continue in 2023.
- 3 There is growing momentum towards infrastructure sharing. The key markets of China, Japan, South Korea have passed the peak investment phase for 5G.
- 4 5G led CAPEX spending is expected to increase substantially in two of South Asia's largest markets, viz., Indonesia and India in 2023.



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Cost disciplinary measures to restore earnings to optimal levels



“

2022 is indeed the year to build our commercial resiliency to face the anticipated headwinds in 2023 – easing of economic growth, high supply chain cost and more measured customer spending



Imri Mokhtar, CEO

Highest EBITDA change for a telco after Jio and Bharti Airtel



#3 Enterprise accounts for 20.2 percent of total revenue in 9M 2022

1

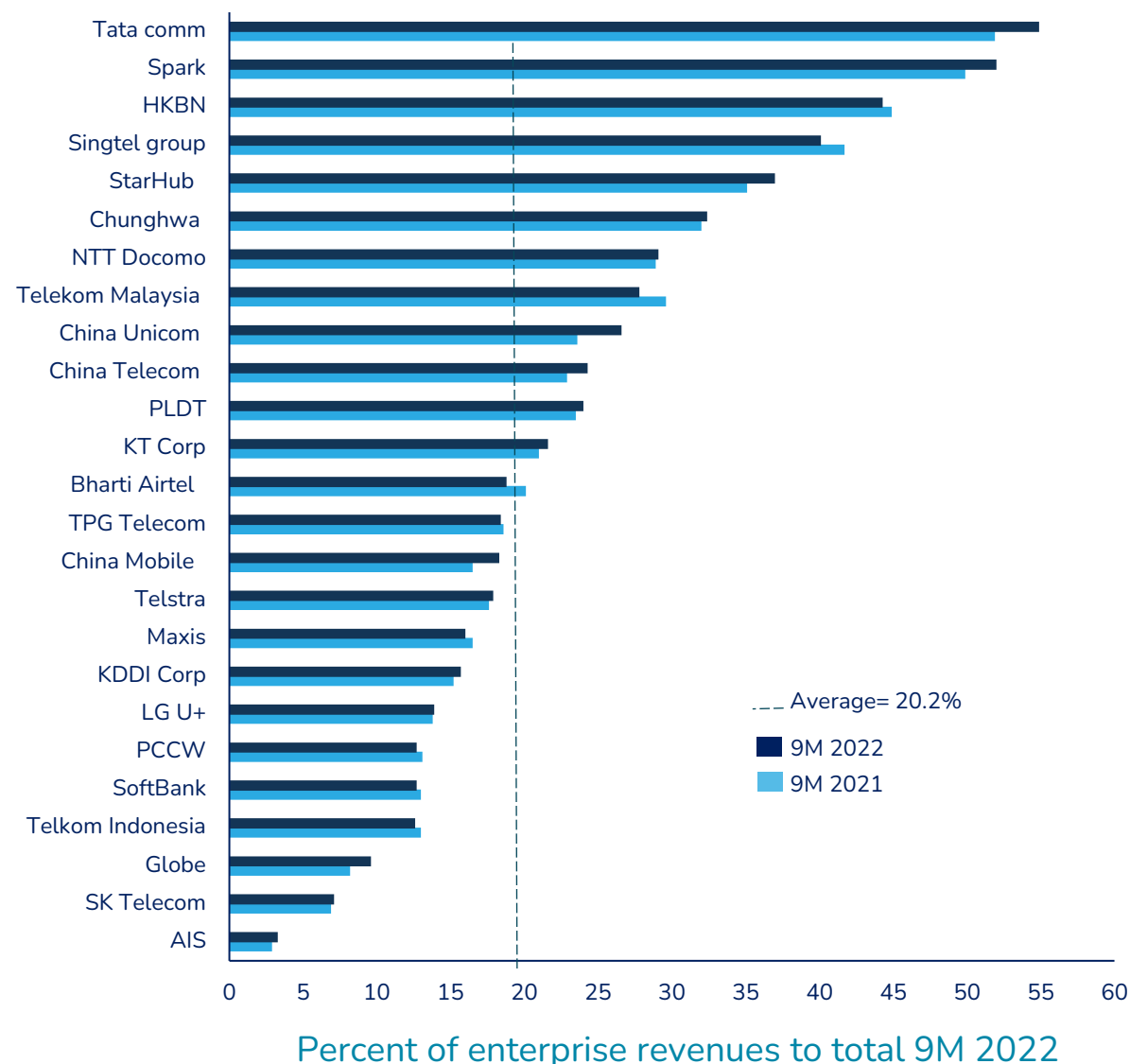
Enterprise revenue grew **12 percent** in 9M 2022 (YoY) compared to 7 percent overall revenue growth (Analysis of 25 telcos)

2

80 percent of the operators studied recorded a positive YoY change in this segment

3

The average revenue share for enterprise to total has increased from 19.3 percent in 9M 2021 to 20.2 percent in 9M 2022.



#3.1 Enterprise non-connectivity accounts for 11 percent of total revenue

1

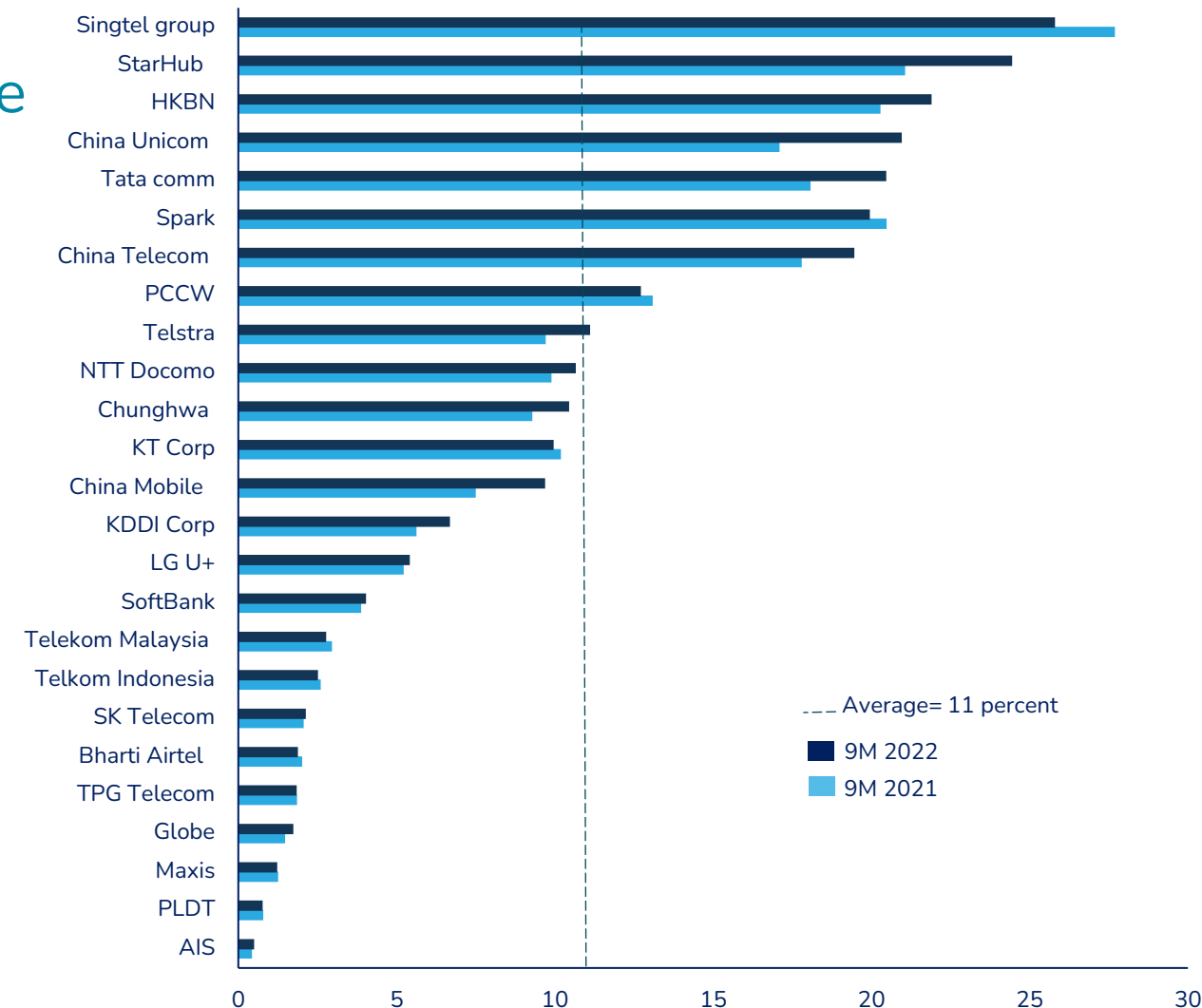
Enterprise non-connectivity revenue grew 22 percent in 9M 2022 (YoY) compared to 7 percent overall revenue growth (Analysis of 25 telcos)

2

Non-connectivity services (cloud, IoT, cyber security, managed applications, etc) accounted for 54 percent of total enterprise revenue

3

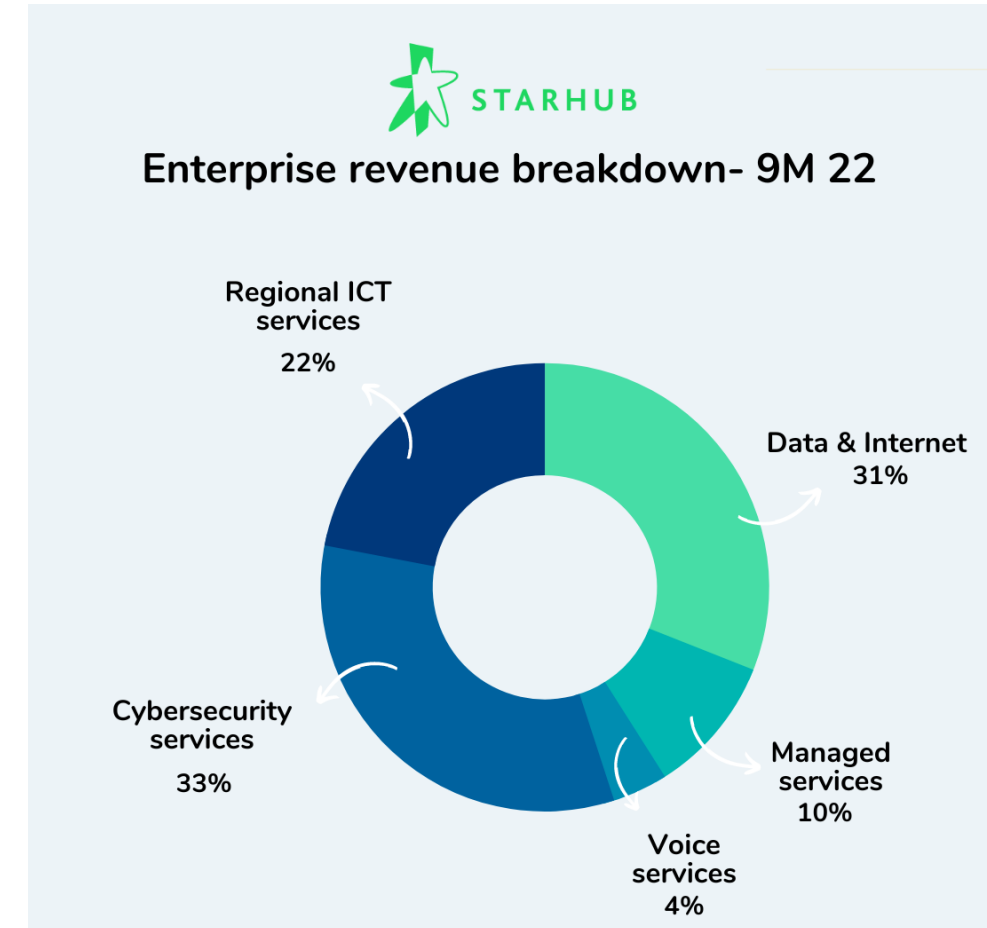
The average revenue share for enterprise non-connectivity to total revenues has increased from 9.6 percent in 9M 2021 to 11 percent in 9M 2022.



Percent of enterprise non-connectivity revenues to total 9M 2022

#3.2 StarHub's focus on 3C's- Cybersecurity, Cloud and Connectivity pays off

- 1 StarHub has articulated its focus on converged platforms to bring together the 3C's
 - 2 It intends to invest heavily in this domain, positioning itself well through collaboration with key partners.
 - 3 It has noted a huge growth in its regional ICT services business after the acquisition of JOS SG & MY in Jan 2022
- StarHub is prioritising:
1. 5G next-gen network products,
 2. A managed Secure Access Service Edge (SASE)
 3. Digital/cloud transformation services.



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Cloud and security: the growth engines for enterprise leaders



“

It's about business outcomes and not telco outcomes. We are focusing on some exciting outcomes such as Infinity Play, Super App, Cloud Infinity, Green Tech, Cloud + Cloud Connectivity + Cyber. These are war cries for us.



STARHUB

Nikhil Eapen, CEO

Non-connectivity the key driver
for enterprise business growth



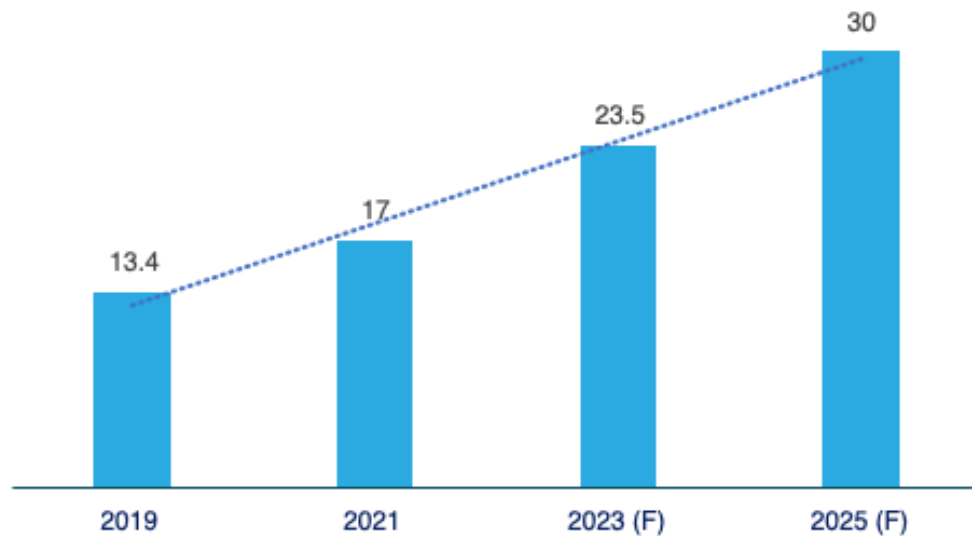
#4 Non-connectivity accounts for 20 percent of total revenue in 9M 2022

1

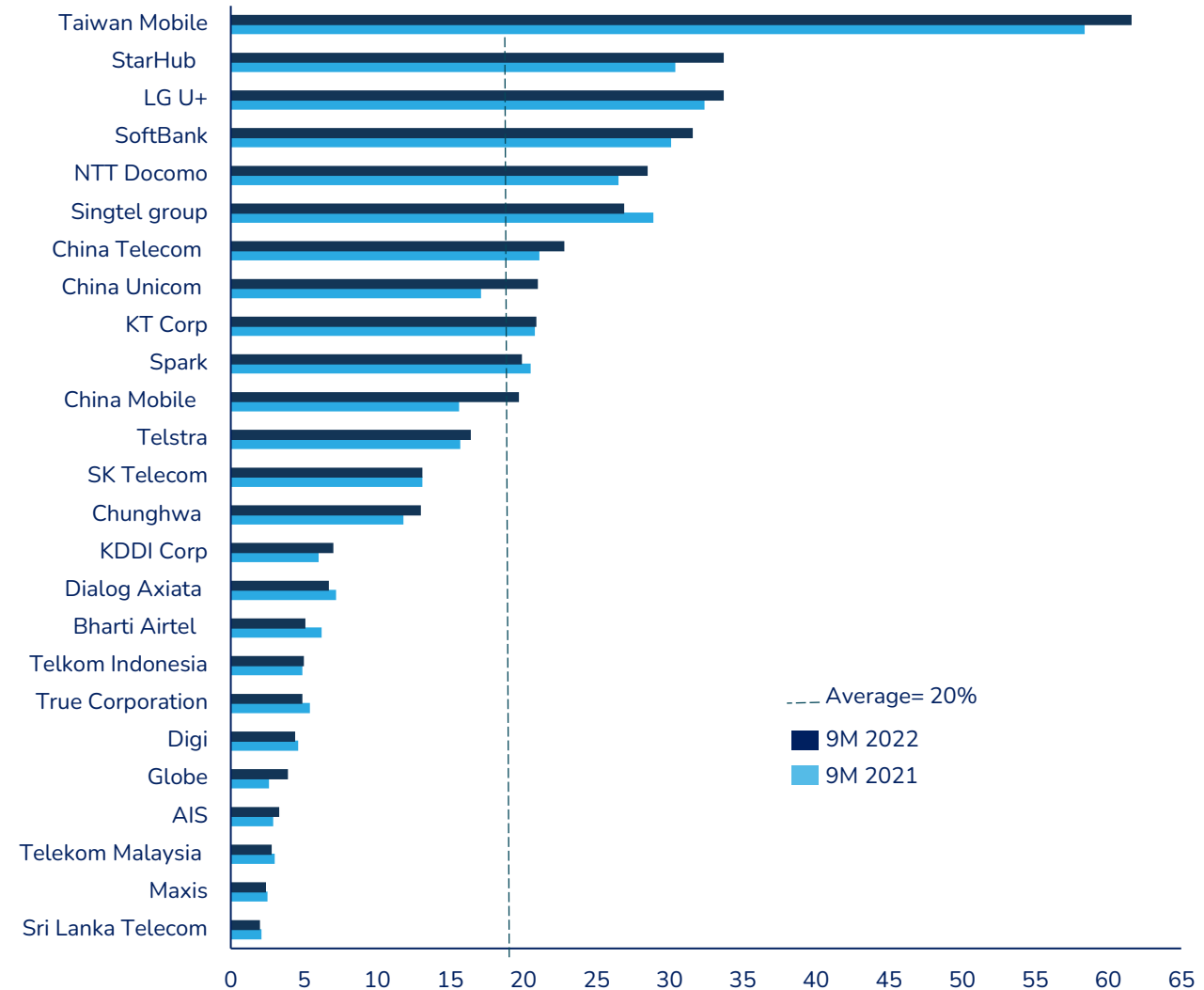
Non-connectivity expected to account for **30 percent of total revenue** for telcos in Asia Pacific by 2025

2

Non-connectivity revenue **grew 19.5 percent in 9M 2022 (YoY)** compared to 7 percent overall revenue growth (Analysis of 25 telcos)



Source: twimbit analysis, industry reporting



Percent of non-connectivity revenues to total 9M 2022

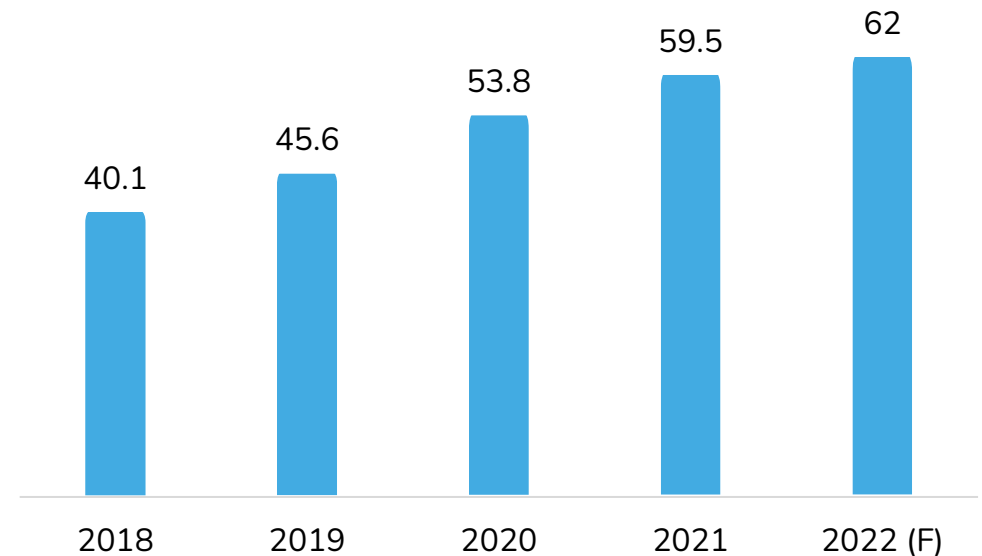
#4.1 59 percent of business comes from e-commerce services for a telecom company

- 1 Taiwan Mobile stands out as an exceptional telco to diversify business beyond traditional services
- 2 momo by Taiwan Mobile is the second largest e-commerce platform in the country
- 3 E-commerce constitutes close to 59 percent of business (US\$ 2.6 billion) in 9M 22
- 4 Such digital services are easily scalable beyond domestic markets and enjoy a global reach
- 5 Post its initial success in the domestic market, momo expanded to markets like Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam



Taiwan Mobile

% of non-connectivity revenue to total business



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Growth in adjacencies propel growth



“

We believe momo's (e-commerce platform) secular growth story is very much intact, given the relatively low e-commerce penetration in Taiwan. Our continuous investments in logistics should ensure that our leadership position will be further solidified and the popularity of momo card and momobile bundles will only lend to momo's moat.



Taiwan Mobile

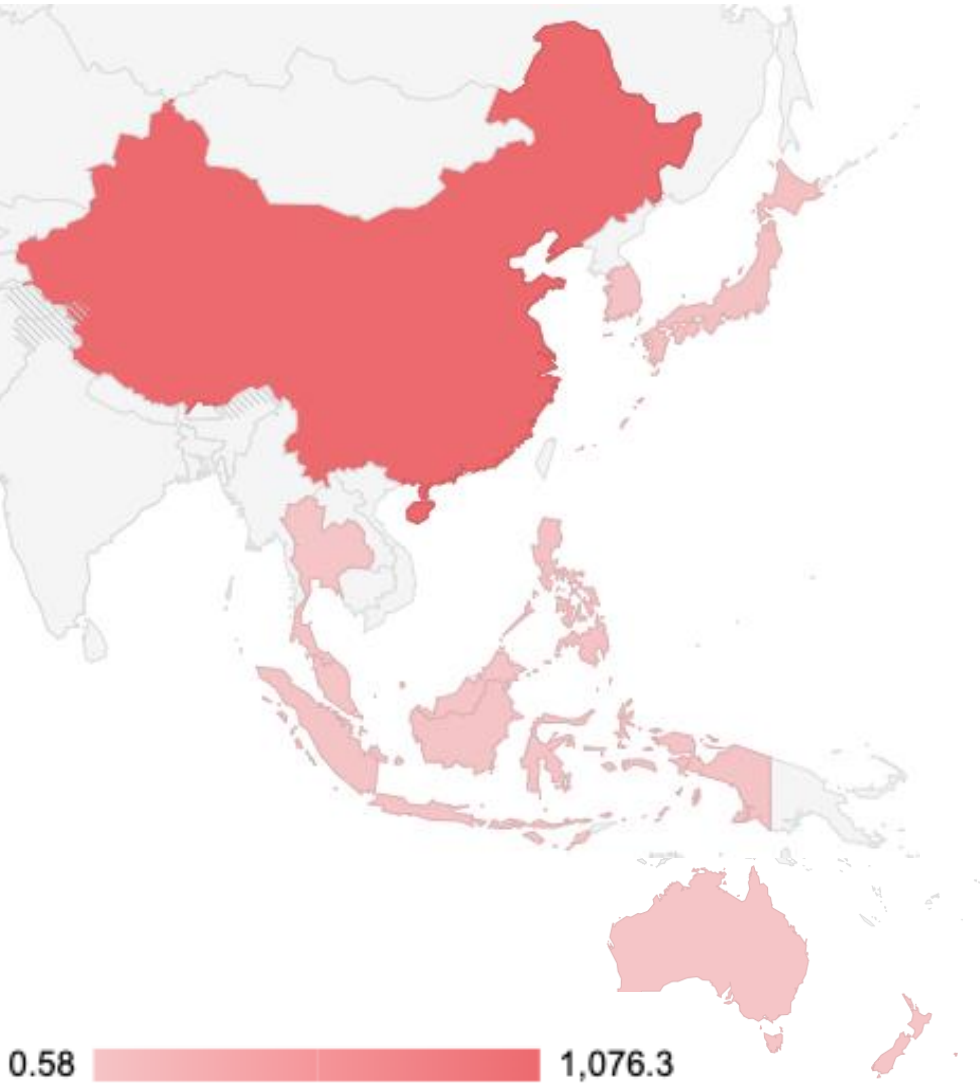
Jamie Lin, CEO

Highest non-connectivity
revenue to total business
in APAC of 61.6 percent



#5 Total 5G subscribers touched 1.2 billion in 2022

Country	5G subscribers in 2022 (millions)
South Korea	24.6
Japan	40.6
Australia	3.1
Singapore	2.1
China	1076.3
Thailand	5.1
Indonesia	15.4
Malaysia	0.58
New Zealand	2.0
Philippines	27.1
Total	1196.9



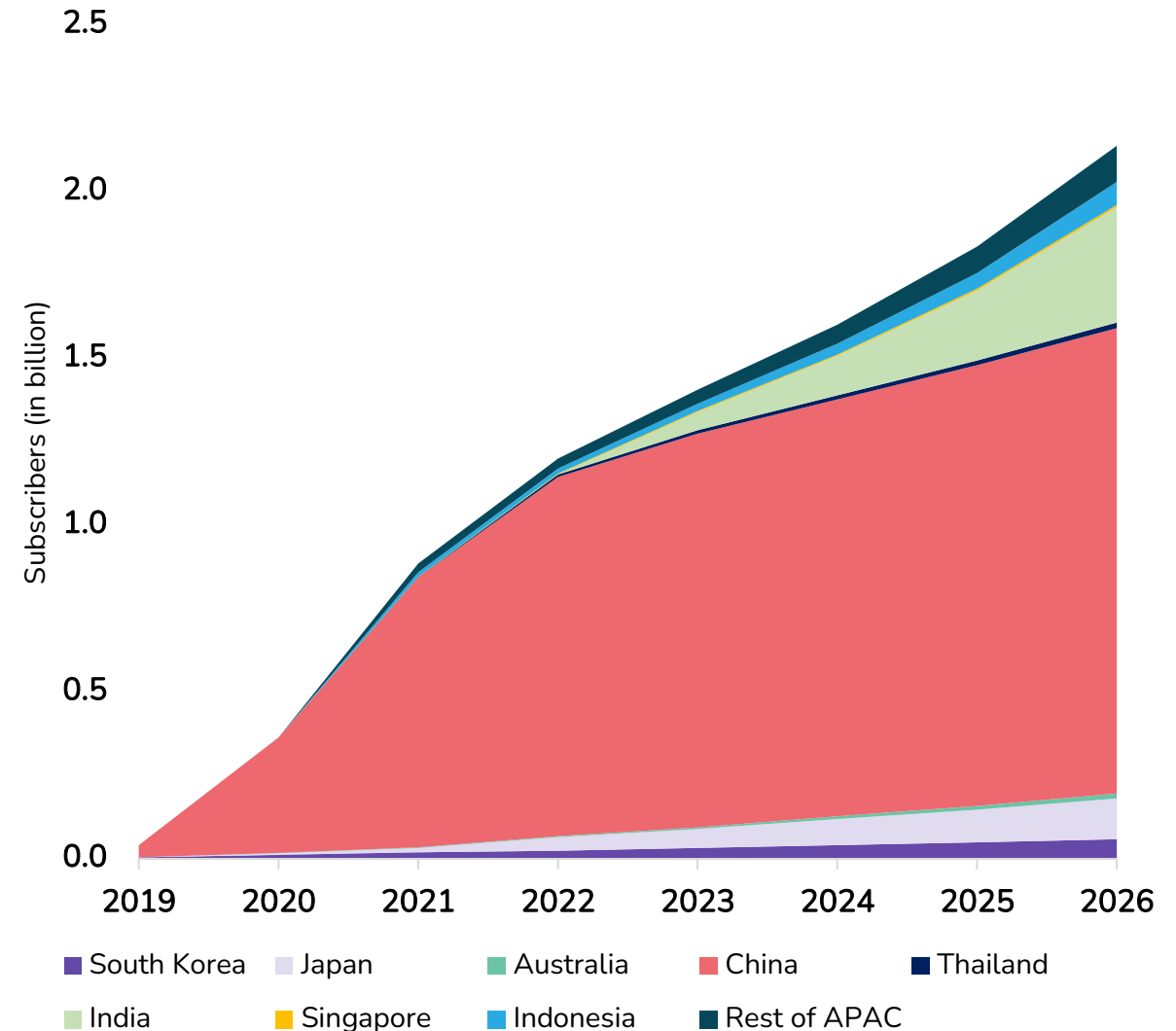
Source: twimbit analysis, industry reporting

#5.1 5G mobile subscriptions in APAC to reach 2.1 billion in 2026

- 1 5G mobile subscribers is expected to grow with a CAGR of 15.8 percent from (2021 to 2026)
- 2 Mobile subscribers is expected to grow with a CAGR of 0.8 percent from (2021 to 2026)
- 3 Developed 5G markets like China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and Singapore will have 68.3 percent of its total subscribers as 5G subscribers

Note:

1. 5G package subscribers' data is considered for China
2. Rest of APAC includes Malaysia, New Zealand and the Philippines



#5.2 Ushering Industry 4.0 with 5G

Smart manufacturing

Factory production has been completely transformed by smart manufacturing. **This has improved safety by 10 percent, product quality by 30 percent, asset efficiency by 20 percent, and reduced costs by 30 percent.**

A case of ZTE Nanjing (China)

In 2021, ZTE introduced smart manufacturing at ZTE's Binjiang site with 5G-enabled processes in place at almost every level of operation, via integration of information technology and operational technology supported by 5G network.

ZTE's smart manufacturing practices have yielded significant benefits: **80 percent decrease in the rate of missed inspections of assembly quality, a 46 percent reduction in the defectiveness rate of key processes, a 28 percent cut in the need for production line personnel, and a 20 percent shorter adjustment cycle on the production line.**

Smart mining

Smart mining is now a reality in China. In 2021, the China Coal Group ended its coal production of 247 million tons, exceeding the annual financial budget of 14.77 million tons - a record high. A YoY increase of 2.59 million tons was recorded from January to May 2022. There was an increase in production, while mine workers' fatality and injury rates declined by 10 percent and 20 percent, respectively.

A case of Daisy Coal Mine (China)

Coal mining equipment is remotely controlled in Daisy Coal Mine (630 meters underground). It takes only 50 people to complete a knife mining in under 5 minutes. At the mine train loading station, the distant innovative railroad stacking structure helps complete the train's loading activity in under 50 minutes, with the ergonomics per person being increased by 25 percent.

#5.3 Ushering Industry 4.0 with 5G

Smart energy

A smart power grid enables the power grid to run efficiently, stop blackouts, and detect faults immediately.

A case of China Southern PowerGrid

Using 5G technology, the average latency reduced by 75 percent and the fatality rate on high tension wire reduced by 13 percent using intelligent robots at workstations to identify faults.

Smart harbour

Smart ports are equipped with sensors, cameras, and devices that are fully connected to a network infrastructure. This creates a completely integrated communications system.

Automated container weighing systems will reduce weighing times, while remote controlled quay cranes will lower vessel completion time, **increasing productivity by up to 25 percent.**

A case of Smart Harbour at Qingdao Port (China)

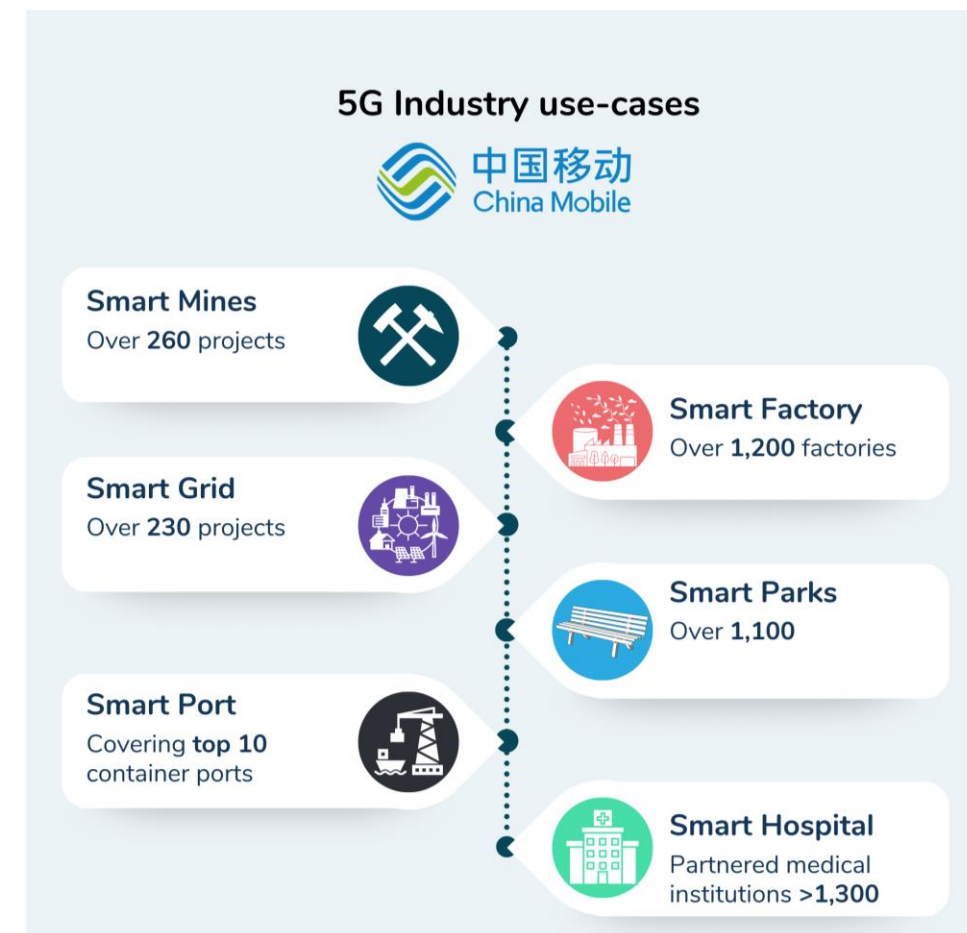
The use of 5G technology and a latency of less than 1ms has helped applications like AGV (automatic guided vehicle) increase transport system efficiency.

The throughput increased to 23.71 million TEU in 2021 from 19.30 million TEU in 2018 (TEU: Twenty-foot equivalent unit).

#5.4 5G industry use cases drive strong growth for China Mobile; now the benchmark for other service providers

- It has the largest enterprise business in the region with revenues of US\$ 13.6 billion (18.3 percent of total) in H1 2022
- The non-connectivity business achieved US\$ 14.7 billion in revenues, growing at an exceptional rate of 41.4 percent in H1 2022

Component	Measurement (H1 2022)	Growth (YoY)
Enterprise revenue	US\$ 13.6 B	24.6 percent
Corporate customers	21.12 million	2.29 million (net addition as of 2021)
Industry cloud revenue	US\$ 2.8 B	93.9 percent
IDC revenue	US\$ 2.2 B	24.5 percent
ICT revenue	US\$ 1.6 B	35.5 percent



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China leads the 5G surge and the deployment of industry applications



“

We focused on key areas such as smart city, smart transportation and Industrial Internet and further promoted the integrated development of network, cloud and DICT



Dong Xin, CEO

Largest 5G enterprise business in APAC



#6 In-country mergers gain momentum

1

Most mergers in 2021 and 2022 were motivated by the desire to cut costs, build economies of scale and reducing competitive pressures

2

Three major telecom markets in the Asia Pacific region, viz., Indonesia, Malaysia & Thailand are seeing a merger of 2 leading players to drive scale and capex efficiency.

true



dtac

indosat
ooredoo

celcom



Major mergers in the region

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Trend for mergers between telecom companies



“

We have gone through 365 days (referring to the merger), and many initiatives have been carried out in IOH's efforts to meet our larger purpose. This is a great start to IOH's journey ahead, and we will continue to focus on delivering marvelous customer experiences.



Vikram Sinha, CEO

Achieved subscriber growth in Year 1 of merger

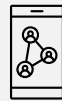


#7 Digital Telco – “a growing mantra”

3 key priorities

- Transition from selling connectivity to orchestrating experiences
- Build a SuperApp
- Enhancing experiences for all stakeholders, viz, employees, partners, customers & society

Measures of digital success



Efficiency Score

(Ease of buying, product utilization & getting support)



Engagement Score

(Frequency of interaction & engagement with the brand)



Ecosystem Value

(Total value of non-connectivity revenues)



Brand Experience

(Customers' brand perception influence by the brand story captured at all touchpoints)



Employee Experience

(Adoption of industry-leading practices for managing employees and learn how to drive cultural initiatives in a digital-first environment)

#7.1 twimbit benchmarks the top 10 telcos to ace CX in Asia Pacific

- Shortlisted 80 network service operators across the Asia-Pacific region
- Developed informed perspectives on CX through company reports, published anecdotes, contemporary CX literature and press releases
- Shortlisted top 10 telcos by screening on 4 pillars of twimbit CX framework



Digital Experience



Service Experience



Employee Experience



Brand Experience

Source: twimbit analysis, industry reporting

Top 10 Asia Pacific telcos to ace CX



twimbit CX score



Case studies

#7.2 Use tech to go from zero to one



Using public and private data to launch tech-based solutions

SoftBank is using such data to understand societal problems and design solutions around them.

For example, Monet, addresses key issues like traffic jams, accidents of the elderly people, decrease in public transportation users, driver shortage and availability of public transportation in remote areas. It provides on demand mobility services and help users search, pay, and make reservation for all type of public transportation.



Integrate communications and life design services

au is strengthening its point of contact with customers by using big data to find entry points into users lifestyle needs.

'**au PAY**' is being positioned as a super app that will become the launchpad for customers daily life activities by integrating services such as hailing taxis and making restaurant reservations.

#7.3 A shift from selling to experiencing



Retail stores as brand experience centers

'd garden' stores are proof-of-concept shops that focus on how subscribers can use smartphones more comfortably instead of acquiring new subscribers.

The 7 prototype stores are designed on themes such as a cafe, kids, mobility among others to meet diverse customers needs.



Flagship store to showcase tech capability

'T Factory' store has been designed to show SKT's transformation from a telco to an ICT player by seamlessly connecting customers offline and online experiences.

The store displays latest technologies and products developed by SKT and its tech partnerships.

#7.4 Happy employees, the secret sauce of great CX



Keeping diversity as a backbone for growth

Spark has 50 percent of board and leadership positions represented by women. .

It also became the first telecom company in New Zealand to achieve the Rainbow Tick certification in 2017.

Under its Blue Heart pledge, Spark encourages employees to make a personal commitment to supporting diversity and inclusion by being inclusive in everything they do.



Employees designing their own happiness

SKT actively measures employee happiness using digital tools and its annual 'Employees Happiness Survey' to identify employees perception of work life happiness.

They launched the Happiness Management initiative in 2020. The company diagnoses the happiness levels of its employees in a bottom-up approach and uses the results to develop and improve its plan to achieve its purpose.

#7.5 Impact customers' life beyond being a telco



'Zero Questions' is a utopian idea

Airtel launched 'Open to Questions' campaign aiming for getting closer to 'Zero Questions' from customers. In this campaign, they invited questions from each of its segment and used these as insights to improve product functionalities and add new features.

The objective was simple, Airtel wanted to address every single query.



'Donate Your Data' program to help the underprivileged

This program enables customers to donate unused data to young people, their families and other Australians in need.

As of end of 2021, 25,000+ youngsters were a part of this program. Consumers donated 28,371,456 GB of data, and Optus has made donations of 3,100,000 GB of data.

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Prioritizes selling an experience vs selling connectivity



“

As we open a new chapter in our corporate history, we will strengthen our market leadership by offering customer-centred technologies and services, and make redoubled efforts to become a socially responsible company



Ryu Young-sang, CEO

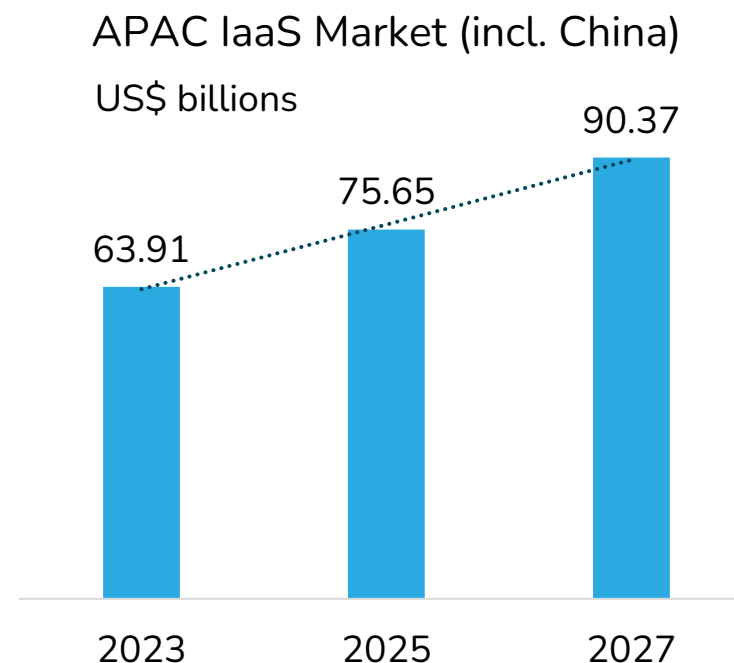
Leader in acing
consumer experience



#8 Telco's warm up to cloud

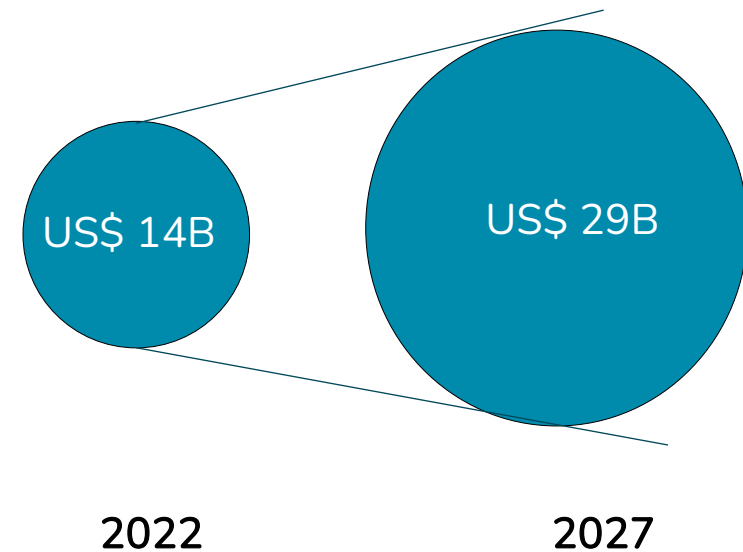
There are three distinct areas for telcos to adopt cloud:

- **Sell-with:** A cloud practice to help support enterprise customer cloud adoption and digital transformation. Telcos see this as a priority and opportunity area. Many are acquiring boutique cloud partners to build their capabilities. This has been the easiest to operationalize of the three.
- **Migrating network workloads to cloud:** We are in very early stages. Pioneers like Rakuten have shown the way in building an end-to-end cloud native mobile network. Many telcos have initiated small projects to test out cloud-based architectures.
- **Migrating back-office and IT applications to the cloud:** Billing, service management, mobile app and other back-office operations are being incrementally moved to the cloud in the app refresh and upgrade cycles.



#9 Cybersecurity is one of the fastest growing opportunities. It is also one of the biggest challenges for the telcos

- Security services market is growing at a CAGR of 16 percent between 2022 and 2027 in Asia Pacific.
- Telcos are in powerful position to address opportunities particularly around small and medium businesses.
- Many telcos have been on an acquisition spree to build their capabilities.



Growth of APAC cyber security market from 2022 to 2027

#9.1 Devastating data breaches rock the industry in 2022

OPTUS

- Personal details of 11 million customers were accessed. The information included names, dates of birth, phone numbers, email and home addresses, driver's license and/or passport numbers, etc.



- Experienced a hack of its Hosted Exchange service, which compromised the email accounts of 15,000 customers. The attackers targeting financial and cryptocurrency data of TPG Telecom's iiNet and Westnet clients.



- The personal information of more than 130,000 Telstra customers has been exposed in a privacy breach.
- The company attributed the breach to a "misalignment of databases" rather than hacking



- Subsidiary of SingTel, IT services consulting company, Dialog, had its servers hacked in September 2022, and a small sample of its data, including some employee personal information, was published on the dark web on October 7th.



- Breach affected 250,248 Unifi Mobile customers. It involved customer names, phone numbers and emails.

- Data leak involving Indihome, a subsidiary of Telkom Indonesia in which personal data of 26,730 Indihome customers, including their names, addresses, surfing history on the internet, such as dates, passwords, domains, platforms, browsers and URL links was accessed

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Security is now a board room priority



“

Throughout we have used the ‘what’s best for customers’ approach to guide our response through this attack and that is why we wanted to put out a call out for all our customers to be on alert in the best way we can

OPTUS

Kelly Bayer Rosmarin, CEO

Responded well following a massive data breach



#10 twimbit key takeaways on ESG

Are telcos fulfilling their role towards the society?

Sustainability has become one of the key challenges of our generation.

Telcos have made progress in reporting ESG, but they have an opportunity to redefine what ESG means to them.



Digital Inclusion

Addressing the issue of digital inclusion across the country (that could include network penetration, affordability of services etc.)



Cyber security

Addressing the issue of cybersecurity across the nation (not only as an offering, but rather towards protecting the citizens)



Data privacy/protection

Pushing the conversations forward and addressing the challenges of data privacy/protection and digital well-being.



Impact on other industries

Not only focusing on emissions from your operations but helping enterprise customers achieve their sustainability goals.

#10 Top 10 telcos to ace ESG in Asia Pacific's

- The telcos have been ranked using an ESG ratings framework developed based on discussions with leading industry experts, review of existing ESG literature, reports on major industry participants, industry sources, and twimbit analysis.
- The ESG framework encompasses 15 parameters & 45 sub-parameters across the 3 pillars of E, S and G.



Environment



Social



Governance



Case studies

Key takeaways:

#10.2 Start with CHG emission

50 percent

Leaders show a YoY decline in both scope 1 & scope 2 emissions

30 percent

Leaders who still do not declare scope 3 emissions

#10.3 Managing energy consumption

60 percent

Leaders with a YoY increase in use of renewable energy

80 percent

Leaders with a YoY increase in total energy consumption

Key strategies of our leaders!



- ❖ Proactively record and declare ESG data such as 'GHG emissions intensity' and 'Scope 3 emissions'
- ❖ Move beyond local ESG regulations and match global standards such as GRI, TCFD and SASB
- ❖ Telcos with high renewable energy use invest in production of renewable energy alongside sourcing externally
- ❖ Build or source an AI based electricity tracking system for real time management of electricity consumption

Key takeaways:

#10.4 Effective use of resources

60 percent

Leaders with a YoY decrease in waste generation

60 percent

Leaders with a YoY increase in water consumption

#10.5 ESG assessment of supply-chain

60 percent

Leaders with a YoY increase in use of renewable energy

10 percent

Leaders with a YoY increase in total energy consumption

Key strategies of our leaders!



- ❖ Waste management champions target – cell phone and network waste recycling, sustainable packaging, and use of plastics
- ❖ Develop efficient water harvesting capabilities to reduce dependence on potable municipality water for operational uses
- ❖ Aim for 100 percent ESG screening rate of new suppliers (across tiers)
- ❖ Complement ESG education of suppliers with on-site visits to oversee ESG implementation and provide corrective support

Key takeaways:

#10.6 Led by the BOD

80 percent

Leaders have BOD as the top body overseeing ESG initiatives

70 percent

Leaders with 75 percent or less independent directors in the board

#10.7 Run transport operation

50 percent

Leaders who do not provide political contributions in any form

30 percent

Leaders have not provided details of their anti-trust or fair-trade practices

Key strategies of our leaders!



- ❖ Have the BOD nomination committee comprise only of independent non-executive directors
- ❖ Remove performance incentives for non-executive directors to maintain independence and impartiality
- ❖ Publicly disclose any direct or indirect (lobbying) political contributions
- ❖ Ensure easy discovery and wide circulation across organization of – fair trade practices, code of conduct, whistle blower policies and conflict of interest statements

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Driven by purpose



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We will take concrete action to increase the share of renewables to 100 percent by 2050 and gain recognition as an eco-friendly ICT leader. We will also continue to exert positive influence through campaigns such as happy habit to encourage customers to reduce the use of disposable plastic products.



Ryu Young-sang, CEO

Leader in acing ESG



twimbit
be more



Insights



Immersions



Challenges

How can we help?

reachus@twimbit.com