

July 14, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

STARCOMMS BAGS AWARD FOR FIGHTING 419, SPAM

Starcomms Plc, Nigeria's leading Telecommunication Company and the country's number one data providing network has been honoured with a White Hat award by Spamhaus, the international organization that has the mission to track the Internet's spam operations.

This is in recognition of the Nigerian network's effort at fighting Internet crimes and its zero tolerance to spam.

Starcomms, the only telecommunication company in Nigeria to be given this recognition, has been the network of preference in internet provision in the country. The award came at the heels of the company's expansion of iZAP, its super fast broadband data service to more cities in addition to the availability of its 1x CDMA data service in all parts of Nigeria under its coverage.

The mission of the Spamhaus Project, an international non-profit organization, apart from tracking the Internet's spam operations, is to also provide dependable real time anti-spam protection for Internet networks, to work with Law Enforcement Agencies to identify and pursue spammers worldwide, and to lobby governments for effective anti-spam legislation.

The organisation, which was founded in 1998, is run by a dedicated team of 26 investigators and forensics specialists located in 10 countries but its central bases of operations are in Geneva, Switzerland and London, UK.

The White Hat status of Starcomms is considered a giant stride in West Africa by industry watchers, given the fact that 419 and related internet scams are a social drawback in the perception of the international community of Nigeria, the biggest telecommunications consumer in the sub-region.

The achievement of the company is further heightened by the fact that Starcomms is the largest retail Internet Service Provider in the country. This will therefore go a long way in changing the negative perception of Nigeria by the international community for better.

Starcomms leads Nigeria's telecomm industry in providing triple-play services. It pioneered the 1xEV-DO-based mobile broadband deployment in the country. iZAP, by Starcomms is a specimen of CDMA's response to the need for broadband services that can deliver very high speeds. Starcomms first deployed EVDO services in Lagos and Port Harcourt, and later Abuja through the mobile data cards for laptop users and USB modems for other computers. It has now expanded iZAP coverage to Calabar and Ibadan.

The CDMA technology provides greater capacity for voice and data communications than other commercial mobile technologies, allowing more subscribers to connect always. It also allows for greater security on any networks employing it.

Starcomms has delivered superior data services through the use of cutting edge technology and innovative packages since 2006.