

By ~~May 2008~~ Broaca, Communications News Editor

## **Samsung SGH-L288 Brings 3G to China**

*The first 3G-enabled phone for the Chinese users*

**Samsung** SGH-L288 (or simply Samsung L288) is the first mobile phone to be launched in China and to feature 3G connectivity, working on TD-SCDMA frequencies. The TD-SCDMA technology is developed by the Chinese Academy of Telecommunications Technology, especially for China and for its 3G needs. Part of the AnyCall series, the new Samsung comes in a candybar form factor and it looks like a mid-end device, which it actually is. The handset is compatible with the standard GSM networks, as well as with the brand new TD-SCDMA network that **China** has. Well, not all China, as currently only eight major cities can benefit from it, but in the future a nationwide 3G network will be deployed. With 3G, Chinese users will be able to browse the Web and download / upload content much faster than they currently do, when using only the GSM, GPRS and EDGE standards. The new L288 phone features a 2.6 inch TFT display with 260K colors and a 240 x 320 pixel resolution, track-ball navigation key, FM radio, Music player (MP3, AAC, AAC , eAAC and WMA support), Video player (3 GP and MP4 support), Bluetooth 2.0, USB 2.0 and video-call front camera. There's also a 2.0 Megapixel photo camera with flash, digital zoom and video recording (no auto focus), which should enable users to take photos at a decent quality. Other specs of the L288 are a mystery for now, but if they resemble the above mentioned ones and if the battery included in the handset is a good one, then the new Samsung can be really attractive for the Chinese mobile users. Although Samsung SGH-L288 seems to be available right now, its price is not known, and neither are the locations where it can be bought. Anyway, the phone's price is probably neither too **cheap**, nor too expensive.