

Realme launches new midrange smartphone

REALME Philippines on Wednesday launched its latest midrange smartphone, the realme 10, in the country, at the same time as its global debut.

"As a brand that aims to be the tech lifestyle companion of every Filipino, we've always adapted to the needs of our consumers. Now that we have seen an increasing demand for battery and storage, we are introducing the realme 10 which will bring in #EpicPerformanceNewVision experience to our users," Austine Huang, realme Philippines' vice-president for marketing, was quoted as saying in a statement last week.

The realme 10 8GB memory + 128GB storage variant will be available on both the company's Lazada and Shopee stores and at realme's official stores and dealers nationwide, starting Nov. 11 at a suggested retail price of P12,999, the company said on Wednesday.

The phone will also be offered at a discounted price of P10,999 and with an additional one-year warranty on realme's Lazada and Shopee stores from Nov. 11-13 as part of these platforms' 11.11 sale period.

Meanwhile, the realme 10's 8GB+256GB variant will retail for P14,999 and will be available for pre-order from Nov. 26 to Dec. 2. Every purchase of this model will come with a free realme Cobble Bluetooth speaker worth P1,590.

The phone will be available in two color options: Rush Black and Clash White.

The realme 10 is powered by a MediaTek Helio G99 processor, which allows for longer battery life, faster display, and overall reliable connectivity. The smartphone also comes with expandable RAM via Virtual RAM technology up to 5GB with Dynamic RAM Expansion.

The phone features with a Super AMOLED Display with a 90Hz refresh rates for smoother scrolling and viewing. It also has a 200% UltraBoom Speaker for louder and clearer audio.

The realme 10 has a 5,000mAh battery with 33W SUPERVOOC Charge, which the company said can charge the phone from 0% to 50% in just 28 minutes.

It comes with a 50-megapixel Color AI Camera with Nightscape and Street Mode 2.0 photography modes.

Alongside realme 10's launch, the company also unveiled its realme-WithYou holiday campaign featuring actress Kathryn Bernardo. Following the 11.11 sale, the brand will also offer Christmas promos starting next month. Details of the holiday promos will be available on realme's official social media accounts.

11.11 PROMOS

Other smartphone brands are also participating in Lazada and Shopee's 11.11 sale.

HONOR will be giving a free JBL 5 Bluetooth speaker worth P6,990 until supplies last for every purchase of its HONOR 70 5G smartphone on Lazada and Shopee.

For every purchase of HONOR Magic4 Pro, customers can get a free HONOR Watch GS3 worth P11,990, while a purchase of Honor X8 will come with a free HONOR Band 6 worth P1,990.

HONOR will also give customers free shipping and shop vouchers for purchases on both platforms.

Meanwhile, selected POCO smartphones will be available for up to 38% off on its Lazada and Shopee stores from Nov. 11-15. The smartphone models on promotion are: the POCO C40, F4 and F4 GT, M4 PRO, M5 and M5S, and X4 GT and X4 PRO 5G.

Technology, collaboration to boost PHL cybersecurity efforts

THE Philippines can strengthen its cybersecurity measures by using threat intelligence technology and collaborating with other countries or institutions amid increasing digitalization.

Threat intelligence technology will help organizations prepare against potential cyber risks and enable incident response teams to tackle cyberattacks as they arise, Kaspersky Head of Corporate Communications for Asia-Pacific Jesmond Chang said in an e-mail.

"Threat intelligence involves sifting through data, examining it contextually to spot problems, and deploying solutions specific to the problem found. It encourages proactive, rather than reactive, behaviors in the fight against cyberattacks," Mr. Chang said.

"Then there's collaboration. If we want to advance the country's readiness, we must open the channels to collaborate for cross-border coordination, public-private partnerships, building trust partnerships, bridging the

cybersecurity skills gap, capacity-building, and education, among others," he said.

Mr. Chang said due to increased digitalization, cyberattacks are getting more complex, making everyone vulnerable to cyber threats.

"Through collaboration, you can exchange data and strategies to combat a certain cyberattack and pick the best cybersecurity practice of that certain country or company. You can do exchange programs as well to train your security officer and the list goes on," he said.

"We encourage both the government and private organizations to collaborate with neighboring countries, security vendors, and others to strengthen their cybersecurity capabilities," Mr. Chang said.

He added that collaboration can help address cybersecurity loopholes through the exchange of data and strategies on current threat trends. It can also educate governments and businesses on

how to protect themselves against cyberattacks.

"You cannot have the most advanced technology and strong processes if your people are not trained on how to use it or have bad cyber habits that don't follow the regulations in place. And you cannot have well-trained people or security officers if you cannot supplement them with technology that can help them mitigate such attacks," he said.

Mr. Chang noted that one of their studies showed there is a gap between awareness and action among Filipinos in acting versus cyberthreats affecting digital payment channels.

"Hopefully, with the regulations and campaigns in place initiated by the government and other private sectors, we'll see lesser attacks against the Philippines. And that more Filipinos, if not all, will not only be armed with facts and knowledge on these cyber threats but also be proactively securing their devices and practicing good cyber hygiene," he added.

ATTACKS ON BANKS

For its part, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has been prioritizing cybersecurity following several hacking incidents that targeted banks, Fitch Asia-Pacific Financial Institutions Director Tamma Febrian said in an e-mail.

"Recent initiatives such as implementing mandatory notifications for fund transfers exceeding a predefined amount, cooling off period for key account changes, removing clickable links in email/SMS, and encouraging banks to use cyber incident platform to expedite fraud investigations are all steps towards building a better cyber defense," Mr. Febrian said.

"But no system is foolproof and therefore, we think that cybersecurity risks are unlikely to be completely mitigated. The broader push towards better cyber hygiene in the sector should, however, help to reduce down times or impact when cyber incidents inevitably occur," he added. — **Keisha B. Ta-asan**

Twitter to introduce 'Official' label for some verified accounts

BILLIONAIRE Elon Musk's social media platform Twitter will introduce an "Official" label for select verified accounts including major media outlets and governments when it launches its new \$8 premium subscription product, its early stage Products Executive Esther Crawford said on Tuesday.

Ms. Crawford also confirmed that the revamped Twitter Blue subscription product, which will allow paid users to carry blue check marks on their accounts, will not actually verify users' identities.

The lack of ID verification is likely to raise concerns about the possibility of people impersonating public figures.

Already, such concerns have caused Twitter to hold off on launching the new version of Twitter Blue until after the US midterm elections on Tuesday, tweeted Yoel Roth, Twitter's head of safety and integrity.

Fake accounts for government officials are a recurring issue for Twitter globally, according to sources familiar with the matter and researchers.

Not all Twitter accounts that were previously verified with a blue check mark will get the "Official" label and the label is not available for purchase, Ms. Crawford said.

Accounts that will receive the official label include governments, commercial companies, business partners, major media outlets, publishers and some other public figures, she tweeted.

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link <https://bit.ly/3zZhwfy>

The introduction of a new label alongside the existing check marks "creates a confusing system" where some, but not all, previously verified accounts will be deemed official, said Jason Goldman, a former Twitter board member who served as head of product in its early years. "It's a complete mess," he said. — **Reuters**

Huawei powers the first Asia-Pacific smart campus for a financial institution with Union Bank of the Philippines

Huawei has been selected by Union Bank of the Philippines as a key partner in its digital transformation. The groundbreaking of the UnionBank Innovation Campus (UBIC), the first smart campus for a financial institution in the Asia-Pacific region, powered by Huawei Technologies.

One of the drives of the UBIC is to build an all-in-one platform to provide subsystem interoperability with an intelligent operation center for comfortable, efficient, and cost-saving operations. The campus also adopts WiFi-6 and Software Defined Network connectivity to establish an AI-driven campus access for employees and visitors.

Alex Luan Mingming, President of Huawei Philippines Enterprise Business Department, delivered a speech at the ceremony. "We are honored to work with UnionBank to promote digital transformation. Together, we aim to design and launch an AI-driven and fully connected 5G SD-campus that



can provide smarter, greener, and sustainable workspaces for campus employees," Alex Luan Mingming said.

He also expressed Huawei's appreciation to UnionBank for choosing Huawei as a partner: "To be chosen as your trusted partner for so many years, we feel very honored that you gave

us this opportunity to bring this digital lifestyle to Filipinos."

UBIC will provide a permanent home for the bank's AI, blockchain, and other cutting-edge solutions for the future of banking in a digital native environment conducive to innovation, creativity, and technology.

"This building is the peak manifestation of UnionBank's digital transformation journey... A first-in-industry facility designed to further the Bank's innovation initiatives through advanced agile-centric facilities."

CHESTER B. VELASCO
Enterprise Communication,
Collaboration and Security Head
UNION BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES



"We leveraged on IoT solutions to fully enable a smart campus that strengthens the Bank's framework for productivity and security. This campus serves as a glance to the future of intelligent digital technologies."



STEWART M. GO ROA
IT Head of UBIC & UnionBank's
Cybersecurity Team Lead
UNION BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES

'The Future of Banking is with U'

Along with the inauguration of the building, UnionBank launched "The Future of Banking is with U," the 2022 UnionBank Innovation Festival at the UnionBank Innovation Campus complex in San Pedro, Laguna from Sept. 7 to 9, 2022. This three-day festival showcased the innovative technology experience of many global technology partners of the bank, and how digital solutions, applications, and the latest technologies are applied to fields such as AI, Open Finance, and Metaverse.

"What started as a dream is now a reality. Today is a testimony that we can achieve

anything we set our minds to," said Henry Aguda, UnionBank Chief Technology & Operations Officer, and Chief Transformation Officer, in his welcoming remarks during the event. "UnionBank Innovation Campus was built to serve as a breeding ground cultivating new talents, evolving new products, and developing new ways to be competitive in the new economy."

UnionBank and Huawei Philippines are both committed to being at the forefront of innovation to provide clients with cutting-edge products and services, bringing the world closer to a fully connected intelligent world.



L-R: UnionBank EVP and Transaction Banking Center Head Ramon G. Duarte, UnionBank Board of Director Manuel D. Escueta, Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Undersecretary David Almiro, Jr., UnionBank President and CEO Edwin R. Bautista, and UnionBank Chief Technology & Operations Officer and Chief Transformation Officer Henry R. Aguda



L-R: Huawei Enterprise Solution Director Jeffrey Chen, Enterprise President Alex Luan, Account Manager Vivi Chen, UnionBank's Chief Information Officer Dennis Omila, Chief Technology & Operations Officer and Chief Transformation Officer Henry Aguda, Huawei Enterprise Finance Director Neo Zhang, and Service and Delivery Director Jack Zhao