

Safaricom, Airtel to absorb 175 yuMobile employees

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Kenyan telecoms operators, Safaricom and Airtel, have agreed to absorb 175 employees from rival yuMobile, as part of a joint buyout of the smaller operator.



Bob Collymore. Image courtesy of [Africa Telecom & IT](#)

[HumanIPO reported](#) in March [Safaricom and Airtel agreed to buy yuMobile](#) from parent company Essar, with the operators to share yuMobile's assets including subscribers, infrastructure, employees, and spectrum.

Earlier this month, Safaricom CEO Bob Collymore said he [expected the deal to close](#) within a matter of months.

According to a report by Business Daily, [150 employees will be absorbed by Safaricom](#) which will also acquire frequency spectrum, transmission towers and IT equipment for KSh.6.9 billion (\$77.8 million)

Airtel will take on 25 employees as well as yuMobile's subscribers and operating licence for KSh.4 billion (US\$45 million); meaning Airtel will thereafter have two Global System for Mobile (GSM) communications licences.

A source told Business Daily the agreement regarding employees will close this week.

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