



Media Release – 28 December 2007

ComReg opens the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz frequency bands for high capacity radio links

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has today opened the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz frequency bands for very high capacity point-to-point radio link usage.

The opening of these bands for high capacity radio links is in line with the agreed European technical standards and recommendations, and builds upon the successful tests of this technology that have been carried out in Ireland under ComReg's wireless test-and-trial licensing regime.

These tests demonstrated that radio links in these bands are capable of carrying very high speed data transmissions (e.g. in the range 1 GBit/s to 10 Gbit/s) over relatively short distances (e.g. 1-3 km). Such radio links could provide an alternative to optical fibre, particularly where speed and ease of installation are key factors.

ComReg Chairperson, John Doherty, commented, "ComReg believes that opening these frequency bands for high density fixed point-to-point radio link applications will capitalise on the bands' potential. Moreover, such use could potentially facilitate a swift and efficient rollout of broadband services to areas where optical fibre cables are not available or may not be cost effective".

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Issued By

Kerry O'Hare

Public Affairs Executive, ComReg

Ph: 01 804 9661 Mobile: 087 9470590

kerry.ohare@comreg.ie