

Amendment to Technical Standards to allow EVDSL Services approved by ComReg

Information Notice

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Additional Information

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Text of Information Note

On 12 June ComReg approved a request from Eircom to change the technical standards relating to the provision of broadband services¹. Eircom had proposed the change in order to allow the deployment of Exchange Launched Very High Speed Digital Subscriber Line (EVDSL) technology in Eircom's exchanges. This technology will allow high speed broadband services to be made available to approximately 110,000 additional homes and premises which cannot currently avail of high speed broadband.

When Eircom made the proposal a number of operators raised concerns that, when deployed, this technology could cause interference to existing services and disrupt and degrade the quality of some broadband services, thereby having a detrimental impact on the consumers who use these services.

In order to address operators' concerns and to ensure service users were protected ComReg engaged independent consultants² to analyse the risk of interference. The consultant's report stated that there was a risk to broadband services in some circumstances. ComReg requested assurances from Eircom that processes would be put in place to ensure that the potential impact would be monitored during the rollout of EVDSL services and that service degradation faults arising from its introduction would be rectified.

In approving the required changes to the technical standards ComReg stipulated that the approval would take effect from the date the required assurances were received by ComReg. ComReg has now received these assurances and therefore the technical standard can be changed to allow EVDSL services effective from the date of this Information Notice.

¹ See ComReg Information Note 15/50 dated 12 June 2015.

² TNO, The Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research, an independent research organisation.