



## Media Release- 17 June, 2008

### **ComReg Quarterly Report shows Broadband take-up continues to grow strongly**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has published its Quarterly Report on the electronic communications market for the first quarter of 2008.

Highlights of the report include:

- Including mobile broadband, the total number of broadband subscriptions at the end of March 2008 in Ireland stood at 991,970, a penetration rate of 22.9%. Without mobile broadband the number of subscribers was 805,932 (an 18.6% penetration rate). Total Broadband take-up grew by 12% during the first quarter of 2008.
- Mobile broadband subscriptions have grown by 46% over the quarter to 186,038.
- The mobile penetration rate stood at 121% in Q1 2008 with mobile subscriptions increased by 278,000 during the quarter. This equates to 5.4 million 2G and 3G mobile subscriptions.
- Since 2003 an estimated 1.3 million mobile phone users have changed mobile provider using the Mobile Number Portability process. During the first quarter of 2008, 82,000 numbers were ported to an alternative mobile operator.
- A total of 2.32 billion text messages were sent by Irish mobile users in Q1 2008. This is an average of 156 messages per subscription, per month compared with 125 messages per subscription, per month in Q1 2007.
- Total voice traffic increased in the quarter. There were around 2.55 billion voice minutes originating on mobile networks during the quarter, while 2.4 billion minutes originated on fixed networks. Mobile originating minutes now account for 52% of all voice traffic in the Irish telecommunications market. VoIP minutes accounted for almost 2% of total fixed voice minutes.
- Eircom's share of fixed line market revenues fell by 1% in the three months to the end of March 2008 and by 2% year on year. This is due in part to enhanced increased competition from OAOs and data from operators as whole.

The full report which contains statistical information on fixed voice, internet, mobile and broadband markets is available from the ComReg website, [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie), document number 08/43.

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**Issued By**

**Tom Butler**

**Public Affairs Manager, ComReg**

**Ph: 01 804 9639 Mobile: 087 2536358**

**tom.butler@comreg.ie**