

Media Release- 16 September 2003

ComReg receives 128 applications for Local Area Fixed Wireless Access Licences

ComReg today announced that it has received 128 applications from 12 applicants for the first round of the new Fixed Wireless Access Local Area (FWALA) licences at 3.5 GHz band. The closing date for receipt of applications for the first phase of the process was 5 pm Friday 12 September, 2003.

The Chairperson of the Commission, Etain Doyle said: "I am very excited about the level of response to this new initiative. It can provide an important way forward in increasing the availability of competitive broadband services in Ireland and the roll-out and provision of new and innovative technologies"

Fixed Wireless Access offers the opportunity to provide service without using eircom's local loop. It is intended to benefit both residential and business users.

Applicants were invited to submit applications to provide service in local areas (maximum service area, 15 Km radius). Applicants were also invited to submit voluntary offerings in respect of pricing for residential and business services and performance guarantee bonds.

Applicants who did not apply for the first phase will get another opportunity to make applications for licences. A second phase starts after the issue of the first round licences. Applications for the second round will be considered in order of their arrival, starting from 5 pm on 12th September 2003.

More information on the process is available in document 03/97 "Guidelines to Applicants for Fixed Wireless Access Local Area – 3.5 GHz Licences".

List of Applicants for FWALA 3.5 GHz Licences (First Phase)

Budget Wireless Ltd
Chorus Communication Ltd
Digiweb Ltd
European Access Providers Ltd
Fulnett Ltd
High Speed Data Solutions Ltd
Irish Broadband Internet Services Ltd
Last Mile Ltd
Mid West Network Solutions Ltd
Net2Cell Ltd
Real Broadband Ltd
Titan Consultancy Ltd

ENDS

Issued By

Tom Butler Public Affairs Manager, ComReg Ph: 01 804 9639 Mobile: 087 2536358

tom.butler@comreg.ie