

MEDIA RELEASE

10 July 2002

Regulator Encourages Advanced Internet Protocol

The Telecoms Regulator encourages network operators to consider expanding the use of **Internet Protocol Version 6** (IPv6) in a Briefing Note which she issued today 10^{th} July 2002.

IPv6, also known as 'next generation IP', is a newer version of the Internet protocol, designed to cope more effectively with modern applications such as 3G mobile and e-commerce than the current Internet protocol. IPv6 is currently being deployed to a limited extent in networks in Ireland and around the world. The European Commission is also promoting its adoption in European networks.

Today's Briefing Note, which has been produced as part of the ODTR's Forward-Looking Programme, outlines some of the problems network operators are currently facing or are likely to face shortly and offers IPv6 as a possible solution for consideration as they move forward with more advanced Internet applications.

According to Etain Doyle, the Telecoms Regulator: "the internet has become a key enabling technology to many sectors of the Irish economy and IPv6 is a technology that could help to advance Ireland's telecommunications networks, thus enabling the further development of new communications applications."

The Internet Protocol Version 6 Briefing Note is available on the ODTR website <u>www.odtr.ie</u> odtr02/63.

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