



Media Release- 6 June 2008

## **ComReg announces the outcome of the 26 GHz National Block Licence Award Process**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today announced the outcome of the 26 GHz National Block Licences award process.

13 national channels have been licensed to 5 different bidders to support national point-to-point and point-to-multipoint applications. Each licence will run for ten years and will enable operators to upgrade the backbone of existing and future networks to provide innovative products and services to the consumer.

The details of the award are as follows:

- BT Ireland has been awarded 2 national point-to-point channels.
- Digiweb limited have been awarded 1 national point-to-multipoint channel.
- Irish Broadband has been awarded 1 national point-to-point channel.
- Telefonica O2 Ireland has been awarded 3 national point-to-point channels and 2 national point-to-multipoint channels.
- Vodafone Ireland has been awarded 4 national point-to-point channels.

Both O2 Ireland and Vodafone Ireland paid additional fees to secure their positions for frequency assignments. Hutchison 3G Ireland declined the offer of 1 national point-to-point channel.

ComReg Commissioner Mike Byrne said “The availability of these national licences offers high volume users of spectrum greater flexibility and opportunities for more effective network planning and use of spectrum.”

**ENDS**

**Issued By**

**Tom Butler**

**Public Affairs Manager, ComReg**

**Ph: 01 804 9639**

**Mobile: 087 2536358**

**tom.butler@comreg.ie**

### **Note for Editors**

On April 8 ComReg received applications for 14 of the 17 blocks on offer and as demand did not exceed supply ComReg proceeded directly to the assignment stage. The purpose of the Assignment Stage was to determine how the available frequencies were distributed among the applicants and the final price to be paid by each applicant. Applicants were given the opportunity to bid an additional amount over and above the reserve price of €70,000, for the particular package of frequencies that they required.