

Media Release - 25 October 2007

ComReg consults on high capacity radio links

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today issued a consultation document proposing the utilisation of the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz frequency bands for very high capacity point to point radio links.

Currently, the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz bands are not used by any radio frequency service in Ireland. Successful tests have recently concluded in these frequency bands under ComReg's wireless test-and trial-licensing regime.

The new and innovative technology used in these tests demonstrated that it is possible to deploy radio links in these bands that are capable of carrying very high speed data transmissions (e.g. in the range 1 GBit/s to 10 Gbit/s) over relatively short distances (e.g. 1-3 km). Such radio links could provide an alternative to optical fibre, particularly where speed and ease of installation are key factors.

The consultation period will run until November 22nd 2007, after which ComReg will review the submissions received and make its final decision on the future use of these bands.

The Consultation Paper: ComReg Document 07/85 - Consultation on Utilisation of the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz Spectrum Bands - is available on the ComReg website www.comreg.ie.

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