



Media Release- 5 April 2004

ComReg enforces compliance of radio licensing regulations

On Friday April 2nd in Drogheda District Court, Mercury Communications Ltd., pleaded guilty to three charges brought by the Commission for Communications Regulation under Section 9 of the 1988 Broadcasting & Wireless Telegraphy Act.

Under the 1988 Act it is an offence for a Business Radio dealer to supply licensable equipment to a customer unless they have had sight of a valid licence held by the customer for that equipment.

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) is the statutory authority which is responsible for licensing radio equipment in Ireland. Licences are required for most pieces of two-way radio equipment because of the potential for interference to other licensed users and to the Emergency Services.

Radio dealers have a legal obligation to check that a customer holds a valid licence before supplying such equipment. In this case Mercury Communications Ltd. had installed a radio system at a location in Co. Meath for which no valid licence was in place.

ComReg will provide every assistance to Business Radio users and suppliers to ensure that their equipment is licensed and does not cause interference. ComReg also provides a free service to licensed users who are suffering interference.

The Judge accepted the guilty pleas in relation to the three charges and on the basis of the facts of the case as outlined to him, applied the provisions of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1907.

For further information on the issue of Licensing please contact ComReg at: 01 – 804 9600 or see the Licensing & Exemptions page of the Radiocommunications Sector on the ComReg web site at: <http://www.comreg.ie/>

ENDS

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