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ComReg Q1 2006 Report shows continuing growth in broadband uptake

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has published its Quarterly Report for the 1st quarter of 2006. The broadband market continues to grow strongly, to the extent that more than one third of Internet users were using some form of broadband by the end of March 2006.

The report highlights a number of other key trends in the electronic communications market:

- Operators in the electronic communications market generated €1.1bn for the quarter, or €4.5 billion on an annualised basis.
- Broadband subscribers at the end of March 2006 stood at over 322,000 subscribers, accounting for 35% of all internet subscriptions in the market. One year ago, broadband subscribers accounted for 19% of total internet subscriptions.
- Irish mobile subscribers talked for over 1.5 billion minutes in Q1 2006, and sent over 1.25 billion text messages during the first quarter of 2006. Irish consumers are also increasingly using picture and multimedia messaging- 7.8 million MMS (Multi-media messages) were sent in Q1 2006.
- 543,000 mobile subscribers have retained their original mobile phone number when switching their mobile operator, since the introduction of mobile number portability in June 2003.
- There are almost 1 million pay-TV subscribers in Ireland, 66% of whom use a digital pay-TV service from a cable or satellite operator.

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