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## **ComReg Report shows Broadband take-up has exceeded 600,000**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has published its Quarterly Report for the first quarter of 2007. It shows continued strong growth in Irish broadband markets. At the end of March 2007, there were 602,000 broadband subscribers in Ireland. Almost 84,000 new broadband subscriptions were added between January and March 2007, the highest number of quarterly net additions since the launch of broadband in Ireland in 2002.

Other highlights of the report include:

- The number of broadband subscriptions exceeded narrowband subscriptions for the first time in Q1 2007, with broadband representing 58% of all internet subscriptions, a broadband penetration rate of 14.2%.
- ComReg estimates that there are around 450,000 residential sector broadband subscriptions in Ireland. This equates to 30% of all households, compared to 25.4% last quarter.
- Overall revenue for the electronic communications market grew to €1.2bn in the three months to end March 2007, or €4.49 billion on an annualised basis.
- Total fixed line revenues were €580million in the quarter, a 4% increase on the previous quarter. *eircom's* market share of fixed line revenues was 70% in Q1 2007, a 1% decline on the previous quarter and a 6% decline year-on-year.
- There were 4.7 million 2G and 3G mobile subscribers in Ireland at the end of Q1 2007, a penetration rate of 112%, up 1% on the previous quarter.
- There were over 2 billion voice minutes originating on mobile networks during the quarter and over 1.7 billion text messages.

For the first time in this report, ComReg has analysed and published minutes of use for the mobile market. Minutes of Use (MoU) calculates the average number of mobile voice minutes used by each subscriber per month in Ireland. Average monthly minutes of use in Ireland was 223 minutes in Q1 2007.

The full report which contains statistical information on fixed voice, internet, mobile and broadband markets is available from the ComReg website, [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie), document number 07/34.

**ENDS**

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