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## **ComReg to review framework for Voice over Internet telephone services**

The Commission for Communications Regulation today published a consultation document that looks at the existing framework for Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone services.

The utilisation of VoIP services is growing in Ireland, particularly at this point in the business market, and this provides the basis for enhanced competition and choice for consumers. ComReg is keen to ensure that innovative services such as VoIP are available for the benefit of consumers. ComReg proposes, as previously indicated, to carry out a review of progress to date and try to identify whether further measures are necessary or appropriate at this time.

The initial framework sought to focus on encouraging both consumer protection and increased competition in the telecommunications market. One measure to encourage the uptake of VoIP services which was put in place at that stage was the designation of a new range of numbers (beginning with the prefix “076”). Currently, 20 different service providers have been allocated numbers from this range.

Responses to this consultation are invited until close of business on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2006.

**ENDS**

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