



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

MEDIA RELEASE

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ODTR Briefing Note Series - Wireless Local Area Networks

The Office of the Director of Telecommunications Regulation (ODTR) today (Friday 1st February 2002) issued a Briefing Note on Wireless Local Area Networks (WLANs).

WLANs are wireless networks capable of providing low-cost broadband telecommunications services, for example within offices, homes, universities, and businesses. They have already made a significant market impact in Ireland and elsewhere and are being installed in public areas such as hotels, train stations and shopping centres providing users of portable data devices with local services and Internet access. The technology is readily available has being incorporated in lap top computers.

According to the Telecoms Regulator “alongside 3G and other new and developing technologies, WLANs looks set to make a significant contribution to broadband applications and access in Ireland. In issuing this paper it is my intention to encourage potential users to examine whether WLAN technology may meet their needs, and to help stimulate wider choice of communication technologies and services in Ireland.”

This Briefing Note has been produced as part of the ODTRs Forward-Looking Programme and forms part of the Briefing Note Series launched in August¹. These documents are intended to inform and raise awareness with a view to encouraging development of Ireland’s telecommunications market. They are primarily aimed at non-technical readers with some background knowledge of current telecommunications technology.

¹ ODTR Doc 01/59 and ODTR Doc 01/88

The Wireless Local Area Networks Briefing Note is available on the ODTR website www.odtr.ie odtr02/16. The Director welcomes comments from interested parties.

ENDS

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