Office of the Director of
Telecommunications
Regulation

26th September 2001

Regulator issues further direction to *eircom* on wholesale bitstream ADSL

Telecoms Regulator, Etain Doyle today (Wednesday 26th September 2001) issued a further direction to e*ircom* to submit revised wholesale pricing proposals and to provide evidence that their pricing proposals were not in breach of competition law. Following an earlier direction to *eircom,* further discussions and information have clarified the situation but e*ircom* have, to date, not satisfied the Regulator that their proposed wholesale prices are offered on a cost oriented and non-discriminatory basis.

In order to ensure that other licensed operators are in a position to compete with eircom, the ODTR has issued a direction to e*ircom* which, amongst other matters, obliges eircom to use rates for the weighted average cost of capital and asset life profiles as previously determined.. The Regulator has also directed e*ircom* that no launch can take place until 21 days after she has approved the revised prices.

According to the Regulator " the ODTR is required to ensure that every new product is offered on a cost oriented and non-discriminatory basis. We have reviewed eircom's position and the issues carefully and believe that the framework can be adjusted in a way that meets these objectives and enable eircom to launch. I am looking forward to receiving new price proposals from eircom.

ENDS

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Note to Editors

ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line)

Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line. ADSL is a technology that transforms ordinary phone lines into high-speed digital lines. The word "asymmetric" refers to the fact that the cable is reconfigured so as to encourage faster flow of data in one direction: data travelling from the network to the user goes faster than data in the other direction. ADSL is asymmetric in that it transmits data faster "downstream" (i.e. to the user) than it does "upstream" (to the network).