



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

MEDIA RELEASE

30th July, 2002

Speedy Rollout of Wireless Internet on the Way

The Telecoms Regulator, **Etain Doyle** has paved the way for the provision of a new wave of wireless broadband services when she signed an order today, 30th July 2002, exempting from licensing, a number of wireless short range devices including some for the provision of fixed wireless access (FWA) in the 5.8GHz band. Equipment for this band is relatively inexpensive and is available from a number of international suppliers.

This exemption from licensing will enable rapid deployment of FWA services such as wireless internet provision and will complement existing licensed FWA services. Enhanced power levels are being permitted to enable higher capacity and flexibility of use.

The decision was made following public consultation and after careful consideration of the status of this frequency band both in Ireland and internationally, in particular the designation of the band for use by industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) devices and a variety of short range devices.

In accordance with the proposals made in this document, base-stations providing FWA services in this band must be registered with the ODTR. This will, inter alia, enable operators deploying this equipment to co-operate with each other in using the frequencies available.

Details on the type of devices to be exempted under the order are available on www.odtr.ie Document No: 02/71.

Technical Note:

In addition to several SRDs (including devices for short range telemetry, wireless local area networks (WLANs), motion detection, radio microphones, inductive loop systems and medical implants) and FWA at 5.8GHz, the order will also provide an interim exemption from licensing devices for the provision of indoor WLANs in the band 5150 – 5350MHz utilising technologies such as IEEE 802.11a facilitating higher data rates.

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