

P 2 : CURRENT EVENTS

P 3 : GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF BROADBAND

P 4 : STATISTICS – 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2006

P 4 : ELECTRONIC COMMERCE – NEW FORM

P 5 : EUROPEAN UNION

P 8 : 2006 REGIONAL RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

(+info) In order to facilitate the consultation of information, the links have been replaced with this new designation

## □ NEW REFERENCE CONDUITS ACCESS OFFER (RCAO) APPROVED

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved by determination dated 26 May 2006 a set of changes to introduce in the Reference Conduits Access Offer (RCAO) of the concessionaire *PT Comunicações* (PTC) and to the processes of building, maintaining and updating a descriptive database of the associated conduits and infrastructure. The indicated, changes, which PTC must

include in the RCAO within 15 days, concern a wide range of associated aspects; it was likewise determined that the RCAO should take effect 30 days after this decision and that any change to same will have immediate effects on relations with beneficiaries, unless this Authority stipulates the contrary. (+info)

## □ LEASED LINES – LLRO CHANGES APPROVED

ANACOM approved on 26 May the decision concerning the leased lines reference offer (LLRO), which determines that *PT Comunicações* (PTC) must modify the LLRO and publish same within 15 days, taking into account the principles of non-discrimination and orientation to costs. The changes in question specifically aim to reduce line prices, shorten installation deadlines and define the compensation for not meeting those deadlines, among other aspects. The prices

for digital lines with capacity between 256 Kbps and 2 Mbps have thus been cut by 15 percent vis-à-vis the proposal submitted by PTC, while the prices for 155 Mbps lines were cut by 20 percent. Besides, this, the introduction of additional changes in the LLRO was submitted to the prior hearing of interested parties, including the definition of a set of top prices; interested parties were given 10 days to comment on same. (+info)

## □ PRE-SELECTED CUSTOMER WIN-BACK DEADLINE CHANGED

ANACOM determined on 25 May that the compulsory waiting period previously imposed on the *Grupo PT* companies (determinations of 17 May 2003 and 14 December 2004), during which they are not allowed to carry out operations to win back pre-selected customers, would be maintained. It was nevertheless decided to cut the respective period from six to four months, and at the same time to enhance the measure's efficiency by a number of additional adjustments. The waiting period is thus applied regardless of whether the direct access provider complies with the deadline of five working days set for the acti-

vation of pre-selection, counted from the date the electronic request for pre-selected provider is submitted. In order to facilitate the audits and oversight actions carried out by ANACOM or by a contracted entity, the *Grupo PT* companies must continually update and maintain available information that explains the processes used in this context. This determination takes effect 30 working days after the respective notification of the *Grupo PT* companies and is applicable to pre-selection requests submitted after that date to *Grupo PT* companies that provide access to the public telephone network at a fixed site. (+info)

## □ BROADBAND CONSUMPTION SURVEY

In January 2006 about 26 percent of Portuguese homes had broadband internet access, for growth of more than nine percentage points over the situation in December 2004, indicates the broadband consumption survey conducted by ANACOM and TNS Euroteste between 19 December 2005 and 23 January 2006. With respect to the broadband internet access technologies, ADSL is the main form of accessing that service, as it is used by 47.2 percent of the users sur-

veyed. Cable-modem is used by 46.6 percent of the respondents. The report also indicates that the switch from narrowband to broadband is being accompanied by a significant change in the barriers to that switch: increasingly fewer respondents justified their decision not to switch by not needing to or not being interested (38 percent), while there has been an increase in the users for whom price and geographic coverage are significant barriers to the switch. (+info)

## ■ NEW ANACOM ADMINISTRATION APPOINTED

The Council of Ministers appointed on 8 June 2006 the president and three new voting members of the Board of Directors of the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM). The presidency will be held by José Manuel Amado da Silva, whose vice president will be Alberto Souto de Miranda. The new voting members are Eduardo Miguel Vicente de Almeida Cardadeiro and José Manuel Ferrari. The term of the voting member Teresa Maury was maintained. (+info)

## ■ CURRENT EVENTS

**NOMADIC VoIP SERVICES – STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) defined in a determination dated 25 May the draft decision on the statistical information the providers of nomadic voice over IP technology (VoIP) services must submit to the Authority. To that end, a form was prepared containing the indicators in question, which should be sent in by the providers by the 20th day of the month following the end of each quarter, via electronic mail to [dee.stats@anacom.pt](mailto:dee.stats@anacom.pt), and in writing to DEE – Departamento de Estudos e Estratégia, ANACOM, Av. José Malhoa, n.º 12, 1099-017 Lisbon. (+info)

**MODIFICATION OF THE WHOLESALE “PT ADSL NETWORK” OFFER**

ANACOM determined on 21 April that *PT Comunicações* (PTC) must inform the beneficiaries of the “PT ADSL Network” (“Rede ADSL PT”) offer within five working days that all requests for switching and any change in bitspeed will be free regardless of the aggregation mode and whether or not there is a change of service provider (transfer between providers). It is free for at least six months following the entry into force of the new offer conditions. It must also be guaranteed that any migration of customers is correctly implemented and carried out under proper and non-discriminatory conditions. (+info)

**MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The ANACOM Advisory Council met in Lisbon for the fifth time chaired by Álvaro Dâmaso. It conducted a preliminary consideration of the Regulation Report for 2005, which also includes two other reports envisaged in the statutes: the activities report and the report on the situation of communications. The draft opinion of the Advisory Council will be elaborated, as per current practice, in a specialised commission, given that it will be submitted to the plenary meeting for a decision. (+info)

**RADIOCOMMUNICATION SERVICES**

ANACOM has harmonised the procedures for granting special calling codes, to meet the requests for same it has regularly received from radio amateurs and the respective associations. (+info, Portuguese only)

The available information on audio broadcasting operators has also been updated. (+info)

**PORTUGAL TELECOM UPDATES THE RIO, RIAO AND RUO**

*Portugal Telecom* has posted on its website the updated versions of the reference interconnection offer (RIO), reference internet access offer (RIO) and reference unbundling offer (RUO). (+info, Portuguese only)

**NEW ECC DECISIONS PUBLISHED**

Ten decisions adopted in the context of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC), which ANACOM has decided to apply, are available in Portuguese. (+info, Portuguese only)

**ITED WORKSHOP – TECHNOLOGICAL EVOLUTION**

A technical workshop on ongoing technical progress in infrastructures for telecommunications in buildings (the Portuguese acronym is ITED) will be held on 22 June in the Ruy de Carvalho Auditorium in Carnaxide, Oeiras, Portugal. Two years after the first edition of the ITED Manual and associated procedures was published, the current and expected evolution with regard to European technical standardisation and some technical subjects will be presented. The workshop includes the participation of two officials from the European Committee for Eletro-technical Standardisation (CENELEC), Mike Gilmore and Ebrhard Gauguer, experts in copper-pair, coaxial cable and fibre optic technologies. Professor Carlos Salema of the Telecommunications Institute has also been invited. He will give a presentation on the design and implementation of wi-fi

networks. Participation in the event is free, though subject to prior registration.

(+info, Portuguese only)

The Association of Vendors and Installers of Telecommunications Systems (ACIST) has been designated by ANACOM as an ITED training entity. This designation is valid for three years counting from the respective date of approval, i.e., 25 May 2006. (+info, Portuguese only)

ANACOM has also designated the Institute of Soldering and Quality (ISQ) as an ITED training entity for an identical period, as per a determination dated 18 May.

(+info, Portuguese only)

The draft decision determining the cancellation of registration of the certifying entity *Vasconcelos & Filho* was approved on 18 May; the said company was given ten days to comment on same. (+info, Portuguese only)

**RESULTS OF THE 2006 LETTER WRITING CONTEST**

Miguel António Direito Pintão Pereira Melo from Palmela, in the first category (age 9–11), and Catarina Bastos Cardoso from Barreiro, in the second category (age 12–15), are the winners of the 2006 letter writing contest, a joint initiative of ANACOM and the *CTT-Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service), targeting young people between nine and 15 years old resident in Portugal. The winning letter in the first category will represent Portugal in the International Letter Writing Contest organised by the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The authors of the winning letters are awarded a prize of 1000 euros in saving certificates, which will be delivered to them in the ceremony held on 9 October – World Post Day.

(+info)

**VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL – APDC COLLOQUIUM**

The presentations from the Lisbon colloquium on “VoIP: Fundamental Change, or More of the Same?”, organised by the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC), are now available. (+info, Portuguese only)

**NATIONAL NUMBERING PLAN**

The National Numbering Plan has been updated with respect to short numbers (information services – other directories), telephone service available to the public at a fixed site (Lisbon geographic area), services of private voice networks, universal access, utilitarian and with augmented price, set cost per call and inter-operator routing numbers (universal access services), and services of free calls for the caller, shared cost calls, virtual calling card and personal number (free call for the caller services). (+info)

**FCCN STRENGTHENS THE BACKBONE OF THE RCTS**

The Foundation for National Scientific Computation (FCCN) has launched an international public tender to enhance the backbone services of the Science, Technology and Society Network (RCTS), with an 11 July deadline for receiving proposals. At stake is a 12-month contract to provide electronic communications services in various points of the RCTS, a computer network that uses the IP protocol for a communication platform and to ensure collaboration between institutions from the teaching, science, technology and culture system. (+info)

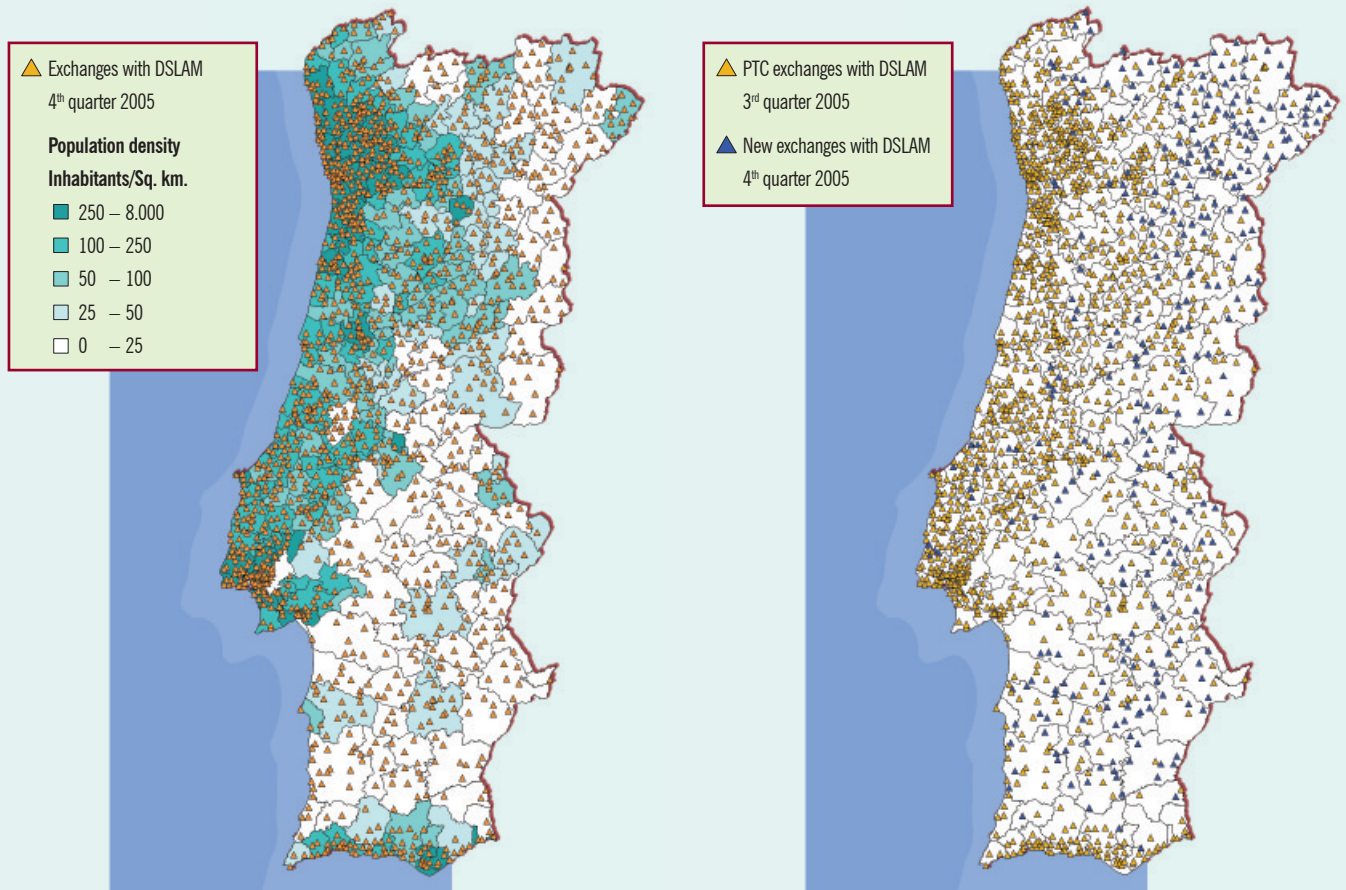
**MOBILE TELEPHONE COVERAGE ON THE LISBON METRO**

The *Metropolitano de Lisboa* company, which runs the capital's underground transport system, has announced that mobile telephone coverage for the three national operators (Optimus, TMN and Vodafone) is already in place on the Blue (Baixa-Chiado – Amadora-Este), Green (Cais do Sodré – Telheiras) and Yellow (Rato – Odivelas) lines. The service has been available on the Blue and Green lines since mid-March and April, respectively. Mobile network coverage has now been extended to the Yellow line and the company expects that the entire Metro network will be covered this coming summer. (+info, Portuguese only)

## ■ GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF BROADBAND

At the end of 2005 there were 1,837 public telephone network exchanges equipped with DSLAM (digital subscriber line access multiplexer) in mainland Portugal, corresponding to about 98 percent of all *PT Comunicações* exchanges, for growth of 44 percent over the 2004 figures. These infrastructures are concentrated in the Greater Lisbon and Greater Oporto regions, along the northern coast and in the Algarve. In the Madeira and Azores Autonomous Regions there are

similarly high percentages of exchanges with DSLAM, with more than 97 and 96 percent, respectively. Regarding broadband internet access by cable-modem, it is noted that the mainland's existing distribution networks are concentrated in the Greater Lisbon and Greater Oporto regions. In the autonomous island regions, Madeira has a percentage of cabled households above 93 percent, while in the Azores this indicator stands at 60 percent. **(+info)**



## □ PORTUGUESE COMMUNICATIONS FOUNDATION PRIZE

December 31 is the deadline for receiving work submitted for the Portuguese Communications Foundation (FPC) prize, an initiative which annually recognises the best research work in the area of communications carried out by employees of member organisations of the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators in the Portuguese-speaking Countries (AICEP) and the regulatory bodies from those countries. Candidate information should be sub-

mitted to the head office of the FPC, on Rua do Instituto Industrial, no. 16 – 1200-225 Lisbon, Portugal. The 7,600 euro prize may also be accompanied by up to three honourable mentions, each worth 1,250 euros. The prize will be awarded during the next AICEP Forum, to be held in 2007 in Mozambique.

**(+info, Portuguese only)**

## □ PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE

The public discussion period is under way for the first part of the preliminary draft of the Public Contract Code (PCC), which will establish the new legal regime governing public contracts. The aim is to concentrate in one single legal document the material associated with the preparation and execution of public contracts, such as the concession of public works and public services, the acqui-

sition of services and tasks for public works, and also covers the postal services sector, among others. Once approved, this code will transpose into the internal legal order Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC, revoking Decrees-Law no. 59/99 of 2 March, no. 197/99 of 8 June and no. 223/2001 of 9 August, currently applicable to matters involving public contracting. **(+info)**



### □ ANACOM FORBIDS CLIX/ADSL FROM CHARGING FOR PORTABILITY

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) ruled in a determination dated 25 May that Novis must within 15 working days stop invoicing and collecting the additional monthly fee of two euros for making portability available in contracts to provide Clix/ADSL service. It was also determined that the corresponding advertising should be immediately withdrawn from that company's

internet website or from any other place where the respective offer conditions are available. The associated price table, under which maintenance of the PT telephone number (portability) has a monthly cost of two euros, was deemed to be incompatible with the Portability Regulation – Regulation no. 58/2005, published on 18 August 2005. **(+info)**

### □ STATISTICS – 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2006 REPORTS PUBLISHED

ANACOM has published on its internet website statistical information on electronic communications (mobile service and internet) and cable distribution networks in Portugal, concerning the first quarter of 2006 (1Q06), which will be provided in a paper supplement in the next edition of *Spectru*. Analysis of the new data indicates that there were 11.56 million mobile telephone service (MTS) subscribers – an increase of 1 percent over total subscribers in the previous quarter and 8.6 percent over the same quarter in 2005. The service's penetration rate rose to 109.8 percent, above the EU15 average, which stood at 101.9

percent. Regarding the internet, at the end of 1Q06 there were about 1.557 million internet access service customers in Portugal, of which 1.312 million used broadband (growth of 38.2 percent over the same quarter of the previous year). ADSL technology accounted for 769,000 accesses, and cable connections for 540,000. As for the cable distribution networks, the report indicates that there were 3.813 million cabled households, 4.3 percent more than in the same quarter of 2005. The Lisbon region (1.754 million) and the North region (1.042 million) continued to dominate the geographic distribution. **(+info)**

### □ ELECTRONIC COMMERCE – NEW FORM

The form to register intermediary networking service providers, associated to the procedure envisaged in Decree-Law no. 7/2004 of 7 January, is now available. This measure stipulates that “intermediary networking service providers who wish to pursue steadily the activity in Portugal shall previously register with the

central supervisory entity”, i.e., ANACOM. The said registration consists of filling out this form, available on physical support at the ANACOM public attendance service and on electronic support via the Online Services section on the Authority's website. **(+info)**

### □ ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LISBON ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL COURT

By order handed down in Case no. 356/06.OBELSB, under way in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Court of the Lisbon Administrative and Fiscal Court, in which Novis, AR Telecom, Oni-telecom, Cabovisão, Colt Telecom and G9SA-Telecomunicações are parties as plaintiffs and the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) as defendant, this Authority was ordered to publish an announcement of the citation

by the same means used to publicise the contested act. ANACOM proceeded per these terms to publish on its website the announcement from that Court, vis-à-vis the impugnation of the determination dated 26 October 2005 (call termination in the public telephone network at a fixed site of the operators with significant market power). **(+info, Portuguese only)**

### □ ECSI PORTUGAL – NATIONAL CUSTOMER SATISFACTION INDEX

A summary of the results of the ECSI Portugal – National Customer Satisfaction Index for 2005 is now available on the website of the Portuguese Quality Institute (IPQ). The project covered the following sectors of national economic activity: banking, fuel, communications (fixed and mobile telecommunications, postal communications and cable television), insurance and public passenger transport (Lisbon and Oporto metropolitan areas). Noteworthy among the study's various conclusions is the fact that the “mobile telecommunications” sub-sector had the maximum value for the sectors and sub-sectors studied in

almost all the indices. The “fixed network telecommunications” sub-sector had the minimum for the set of sectors. When the “price” variable was introduced in the study, there was a penalisation in the customers' assessment of the quality of products and services offered by the companies, especially for the fuel, banking and communications sectors, and in the “fixed network telecommunications” sub-sector. Lastly, the “communications” sector registered variations tending to be positive, particularly in the perceived value index. **(+info)**

## ■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Decree-Law no. 112/2006** (I Series-A, *Diário da República* of 9 June) – Amends the general bases for the concession of universal postal service, approved by Decree-Law no. 448/999 of 4 November, and creates the electronic postbox public service.
- **Decree-Law no. 102/2006** (I Series-A of the D.R. of 9 June) – Approves the Media Regulatory Agency (ERC – *Entidade Reguladora para a Comunicação Social*) fee system.
- **ANACOM notice** (III Series, D.R. of 18 May) – Publicises the updated list of standards and specifications published in OJEU no. 331 of 31 December 2002.
- **Resolution no. 52/2006** (II Series, D.R. of 11 May) – Relieves, at his request, the chairman of the ICP-ANACOM board of directors.
- **Resolution no. 50/2006** (I Series-B of the D.R. of 5 May) – Determines the creation of the nominal electronic postbox.

## □ EUROPEAN UNION

### **ERG ADOPTS COMMON POSITION ON REMEDIES**

The European Regulators Group (ERG) adopted at its 17th meeting, held on 18-19 May in Vienna, a revised version of the common position on the application of remedies under the regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services. The initial version of this common position dated from 1 April 2004. The document now adopted reflects the comments received during the public consultation launched in November 2005. **(+info)**

### **2006 REVIEW – NEW REPORT ANNOUNCED**

As part of the process of revising the regulatory framework for electronic communications (2006 Review), the European Commission will publish in July 2006 a Communication about the new report on how the current regulatory framework is functioning, which will be accompanied by a document containing possible changes to same. Following the Consultation, a public consultation should be launched, with the respective public presentation scheduled for 13 July in Brussels. Plans also call for a workshop to be held, most likely this coming 20 September. Both sessions will be open to interested parties, with the only requirement being prior registration. **(+info)**

### **CONSULTATION ON EUROPEAN SPECTRUM POLICY**

The Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) of the European Commission has placed in public consultation until 14 July two documents concerning spectrum policy at European Union level. One of them, a draft Opinion, has to do with the introduction of multimedia mobile services in the frequency bands allocated to broadcasting services, among them the 470-862 MHz and 1452-1492 MHz bands. The other document is a progress report about the RSPG's work involving the scientific use of radio spectrum. Additional information on the matters under consultation may be found on the consultation page of the RSPG website ([http://rspg.groups.eu.int/consultations/index\\_en.htm](http://rspg.groups.eu.int/consultations/index_en.htm)). **(+info)**

### **i2010 STRATEGY REPORT**

The European Commission (EC) has released the first annual report on implementation of the i2010 strategy for "A European Information Society for Growth and Employment", which urges the member States to improve broadband access, facilitate community-wide dissemination of digital content, free up radio spectrum for new applications, integrate research and innovation, and modernise public services, thus giving a new boost to national policies concerning information and communication technologies (ICTs). The Commission notes that after the i2010 strategy was adopted, and even though all the member States have deemed research and innovation policies to be strategic priorities, information society policies have not been stimulated nor have some growth sectors been dealt with, such as the convergence of digital devices, content and networks. On the positive side, it mentions the investment in communication networks and the 60 percent growth in broadband use, which now reaches 13 percent of the EU population. It also strongly encourages assisted development in the operators' offer of new services such as triple-play or web TV. The new e-Government action plan, proposed by the Commission in April, is expected to give a new impetus to the sector. **(+info)**

### **ERG – RESPONSE TO THE ROAMING CONSULTATION (2<sup>ND</sup> PHASE)**

The European Regulators Group (ERG) has published its response to the second phase of the public consultation on international roaming tariffs, stating that it

continues to support the European Commission vis-à-vis efforts to substantially lower the retail prices for roaming services. The ERG nevertheless has reservations about the regulation mechanisms proposed by the Commission, holding that regulation at the level of retail prices may have unexpected consequences and is also inconsistent with the general approach to market regulation carried out within the European Union. The ERG suggests that a single European tariff be established for application in the wholesale market by operators using the same network, on the order of 0.30 euros - lower than the current average price of 0.75 euros. It also proposes that an international roaming tariff database be implemented and updated; this would enable verification of whether the lower wholesale prices lead to savings for consumers. **(+info)**

### **GALILEO – SYSTEM'S SIGNAL DETERMINED**

After several years of technical studies and international negotiations, the Galileo Joint Undertaking (GJU), which is responsible for managing the European satellite radionavigation system, has published the technical characteristics of the signal used by Galileo satellites; the respective document is available on the GJU website. The Galileo signal definitions are compatible with the Global Positioning System (GPS). Manufacturers may now go ahead with the design, testing and production of equipment and applications using the Galileo signal. **(+info)**

### **JUSTICE CONFIRMS THE LEGALITY OF ENISA**

The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has confirmed that the establishment of the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) in 2004 is legal under the single market clause of article 95 of the EC Treaty, thus rejecting the challenge filed by the United Kingdom. According to the ECJ, community agencies that contribute to the good functioning of the single market may be created based on the aforesaid clause, even when their powers are not of a regulatory nature. The court stressed the connection between ENISA's and the EU's regulatory framework for electronic communications. **(+info)**

### **ARTEMIS DISCLOSES STRATEGY AGENDA**

The first details of the strategic research agenda of the ARTEMIS (Advanced Research and Technology for Embedded Intelligence and Systems) platform were recently announced. This technological platform combines efforts by industry, universities and national and European public bodies to develop and implement a coherent European strategy in the embedded systems sector. **(+info)**

### **ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE SLOWED IN EUROPE**

The reluctant take-up of electronic signature tools is slowing the growth of electronic commerce, the European Commission asserted in its "Report on the Operation of Directive 1999/93/EC on a Community Framework for Electronic Signatures", published in mid-March. It nevertheless stresses that the use of identification cards and electronic signatures in public administration online services, such as tax payments/returns, will drive future growth. **(+info)**

### **OPEN SOFTWARE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS**

The Information Society and Media Directorate General of the European Commission is conducting a study on how the use of free software, better known as open software, by European public administrations is impacting development of the Information Society. **(+info)**

## □ CEPT (EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATIONS)

### ECC WG SE

The 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Spectrum Engineering working group (WG SE) was held on 8-12 May in Roskilde, Denmark. (+info)

### ECC PT SE 19

The Lithuanian capital Vilnius hosted the 35<sup>th</sup> meeting of project team (PT) SE 19, which covers fixed service (FS) issues. (+info)

### ECC WG FM PT22

In the CEPT context and organised by the Macedonian regulator (AEC), WG FM PT22, concerned with spectrum monitoring, held a meeting on 25-28 April in Skopje. (+info)

### ECC TG3

The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of working group ECC TG3 – UWB (ultra wide band), a group whose mission is to produce regulatory solutions for devices that use UWB technology in bands below 10.6 GHz, was held on 15-18 May in Stuttgart, Germany. (+info)

### ECC PT9

The French city of Maisons-Alfort served as venue for the second meeting of PT 9, whose work mainly focuses on issues concerning maritime mobile service and maritime radionavigation. (+info)

### ECC EFIS-MG

The 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ERO Frequency Information System – Management Group (EFIS-MG) was held on 20 April in Copenhagen. (+info)

### ECC WG RA

The 2-3 May meeting of the Regulatory Affairs group (WG RA) in Copenhagen was attended by 426 participants, including observers from OnAir and Boeing of the United Kingdom. (+info)

### CPG PT1

The 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of PT1 of the CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG07) was held on 3-5 May in Cascais, Portugal. (+info)

### ERO/ETO JOINT COUNCIL

The Councils of Administration of the European Radiocommunications Office (ERO) and the European Telecommunications Office (ETO) met jointly on 4-5 May in Copenhagen. (+info)

### WG ITU – PT PPO6

The CEPT WG ITU project team in charge of preparing the upcoming 2006 Plenary Conference (PP) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) met for the 7<sup>th</sup> time on 9-11 May in Sofia, Bulgaria. (+info)

### CERP – PLENARY MEETING

The 34<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of CERP was held on 11-12 May in Oslo, with 31 member countries participating. Also present as observers were representatives of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), European Commission (EC), European Direct Marketing Federation (FEDMA), Global Express Association (GEA) and PostEurop (PE). (+info)

## □ INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP

### PLENARY MEETING

The plenary meeting of the Independent Regulators Group (IRG) was held on 18 May in Vienna, where information was provided on the Group's response to the call for input from the Competition Directorate General under article 82. Also

debated were the procedure of article 7 of the Framework Directive, revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications (2006 Review) and plans for the next IRG/Regulatel meeting. (+info)

## □ EUROPEAN REGULATORS GROUP

The 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the European Regulators Group was held on 18-19 May in Vienna. The main agenda topics were revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications, the subject of international roaming, revision of the

ERG common position on remedies and the ERG's organisational evolution with a view to European harmonisation. (+info)

## □ SATELLITE ORGANISATIONS

### EUTELSAT

#### Assembly of Parties

The 34<sup>th</sup> (extraordinary) session of the Assembly of Parties of the European Tele-

communications Satellite Organisation (EUTELSAT) was held on 11 May in Paris. (+info)

## □ ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

### WP INFORMATION SOCIETY INDICATORS (WPIIS)

Paris hosted on 3-4 May the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OECD working group on Indicators for the Information Society. The following topics stood out: measurement of security and trust in online environments; reports from work on information

and communications technologies (ICTs); e-business measurement; and ICTs, broadband and impacts on productivity, among others. (+info)

## □ INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

### INTER-REGIONAL CO-ORDINATION MEETING FOR PPO6

The inter-regional co-ordination meeting for the upcoming November Plenipo-

lary Conference of the ITU (PP-06) was held on 6 March in Doha, Qatar. (+info)

## □ EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

### COCOM/RSC 2GHZ GROUP OF EXPERTS

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the ad hoc group to discuss regulatory issues involving the 2 GHz frequency was held on 24 May in Brussels, attended by experts from the Communications Committee (COCOM), the Radio Spectrum Committee (RSC),

CEPT and the European Commission (EC). (+info)

### RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP (RSPG)

Brussels hosted on 11 May the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the RSPG. (+info)



## ■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

### GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- The regulator has posted on its website a section dedicated exclusively to information on international roaming (use of mobile phones abroad). The initiative follows on the decision by the European Regulators Group (ERG) to increase available information for consumers, specifically regarding tariff transparency. **(+info)**
- BNetzA has decided that Deutsche Telekom (DT) cannot continue using its retail sales model for DSL (digital subscriber line) connections, known as DSL NetRental. The regulator considers that, given the subsequent application of controlled prices, DSL Net Rental worked as a discount model that gave the major suppliers margins higher than those the small and middle-sized suppliers were able to obtain, without any reason to justify same. **(+info)**

### BELGIUM – Belgian Institute for Postal Services and Telecommunications (BIPT)

- The regulator has announced its first notifications to the European Commission on market analysis, concerning access to the public telephone network at a fixed site for residential (market 1) and non-residential (market 2) customers. **(+info)**

### SPAIN – Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)

- The regulator has determined the conditions governing the wholesale supply of broadband access (market 12), defining a series of obligations the operator Telefónica (which has a market share of 88.9 percent) must comply with. **(+info)**
- Also determined were the conditions for the wholesale supply of unbundled access (including shared access) to metallic sub-loops and loops to offer broadband and voice services (market 11). **(+info)**
- For the first time, the number of mobile telephones on subscription plans has surpassed the ones using prepaid cards. According to data from the third quarter of 2005, the number of subscription customers was 21 million, 693,941 more than the number of users of prepaid cards (about 20.3 million). **(+info)**
- The CMT has submitted to the European Commission the response requested by Brussels in the wake of the second phase of the public consultation on international roaming services. **(+info)**
- The Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE) and the CMT have signed an agreement to produce Telecommunications Price Index, which will measure the most representative prices for various available services paid for by end users. **(+info)**
- In Spain, electronic commerce generated revenues of 1.547 billion euros in 2005, corresponding to growth of 74 percent over the previous year. **(+info)**

### SPAIN – Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade (MITYC)

- A new ministerial standard is meant to strengthen the protection of telecommunication user rights, specifically in the cases of unsolicited contracting (spamming). **(+info)**
- Some 62 R&D projects for the industrial sector of information and communication technologies (ICTs) were presented during the last phase of the PROFIT initiative. The support involves 9.64 million euros in subsidies and 28 million euros in loans. **(+info)**
- The Spanish government has approved a set of measures to ensure the place of digital convergence in the "Avanza" Plan, specifically to shorten the time needed to implement the programme to extend broadband to rural areas (2005-2008), with some actions ready to go ahead in 2007. **(+info)**

### FRANCE – Autorité de Régulation des Communications Électroniques et des Postes (ARCEP)

- According to data from the Internet Observatory on the first quarter of 2006, there were 10.5 million broadband connections, with ADSL technology prevailing, with 9.9 million connections, followed by cable, with 600,000. **(+info)**
- The annual report for 2005 on the telecommunications market in France has been published. Provisional results indicated that the market moved 40 billion euros, for 2.6 percent growth over 2004. **(+info)**
- Statistical indicators on the mobile telephone service market have been disclosed, which indicate the existence of 48.5 million customers and a service penetration rate of 80.6 percent. **(+info)**
- The regulator has disclosed the price tables and technical specifications for the wholesale offer of access to telephone service. **(+info)**
- ARCEP has authorised the fixed-mobile connection offers known as Business Talk Classic (which replaces VPN Unifié) and Business Talk Premium (which replaces Atout RPV) submitted by France Télécom. **(+info)**

### IRELAND – Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

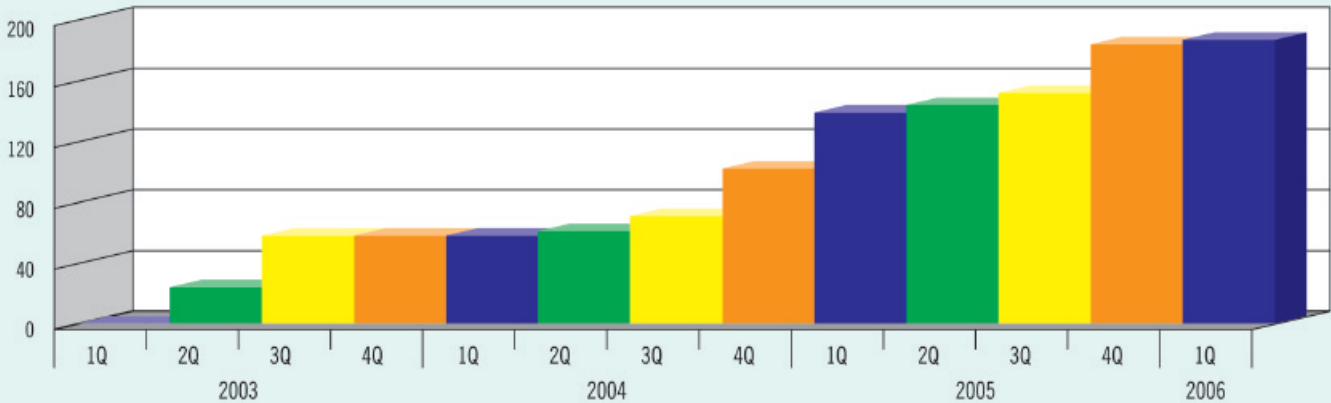
- The regulator's most recent study, conducted between last January and March, indicates that a third of mobile telephone users use mobile service when abroad, though most of those consumers are unaware of the exact costs of the recourse to international roaming. **(+info)**
- ComReg has published a document on progress associated to the supply of local loop, a critical process for broadband provision. **(+info)**
- The regulator is to hold a workshop, in partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), on radio spectrum management and future challenges. **(+info)**

### UNITED KINGDOM – Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- The regulator has gone ahead with a set of proposals to allocate licences for the use of the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz bands, in order to increase the availability of broadband fixed wireless access services. **(+info)**
- The fifth quarterly report on British television station access services (subtitling, signing and audio description) is now available. **(+info)**
- The first phase of community radio licensing has come to a close, with the award of eight new licences, for a total of 107 stations licensed since November 2004. **(+info)**
- The regulator has launched a public consultation on the supply of premium rate service numbers beginning with '09' and on codes that facilitate number portability. **(+info)**
- Ofcom has concluded the revision of the rules governing cross-promotion (the promotion by one television channel of another channel or service) on television channels. **(+info)**
- A consultation has been launched on the obligations to impose on British Telecom (BT) regarding the reporting of its financial information. The aim is for the proposals to be reflected in the report and accounts for 2005/2006. **(+info)**
- The regulator has published a report on the literacy – defined as the ability to access, understand and create communications in a variety of contexts – of children vis-à-vis the media. The study encompasses four platforms: digital television, digital radio, internet and mobile telephony. **(+info)**

## ■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES WITH CO-MINGLED OPERATORS – 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2006

2003				2004				2005				2006
March	June	September	December	March	June	September	December	March	June	September	December	March
54	295	842	1 867	2 759	4 845	6 515	8 780	15 916	27 987	43 127	72 019	108 794



## □ ITU – RESULTS OF THE CYBER-SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has published results of the online survey of citizens' trust of electronic communications and its consequence on cyber-safety measures. Noteworthy is that most (51 percent) respondents consider communications networks to be safe, including the internet. Of the nearly 400 participants in this survey, launched on 25 April and whose results were disclosed as part of the World Telecommunications Day and World Information Society Day commemorations on 17 May, some 60 percent said they

were comfortable with internet browsing and electronic transactions, while 80 percent considered that privacy was an important aspect to safeguard, while indicating that the theft of personal information, viruses and digital espionage were the situations they most feared at that level. Also in this regard, the ITU has launched portal on cyber-security (ITU Cyber-security Gateway), which provides access to diverse information on initiatives related to this topic. (+info)

## □ 2006 REGIONAL RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE (RRC-06)

The 2006 Regional Radiocommunications Conference (RRC-06) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is under way until 16 June in Geneva. ANACOM is representing Portugal at the conference, whose first week of work focused on discussing the future of digital broadcasting services; the ITU had published a press release on this subject on 22 May. One of the Conference's major challenges is to find means that enable the co-existence without interference of analogue and digital systems, for while digital terrestrial television has

already entered service in many countries, there are still many others that protect their analogue broadcasting systems. Another of the RRC-06 goals is to meet the current needs of digital broadcasting, at the same time gaining flexibility for the future use of spectrum that will become available due to the increased efficiency resulting from the use of digital technology. (+info, Portuguese only) Meanwhile the weekly reports of RRC-06 are available on the ANACOM website, which has an online section dedicated exclusively to same. (+info)

## ■ IN JUNE 2006

### MEETINGS

#### CEPT

Assembly (13-14)  
WG ITU (21-22)  
ECC  
- TG3 (12-15)  
- CPG/PT4 (20-22)  
- JPT-BWA (21-22)  
- PT1 (27-29)  
CERP  
- PT Consumer Relations (30)

#### IMSO

Advisory Committee (26-27)

#### IRG

PT 2006 Review (20)

#### EU

Telecommunications Group (2)  
Postal Directive Committee (7)  
CNSA (7)  
Council of Ministers (8)  
COCOM (9 e 21)  
Radio Spectrum Committee - RSC (29-30)

#### ITU

Radiocommunications Sector  
- WP 9B (27-5/07)  
Council  
- WG Strategy and Finance Plans (27-28)  
- NCOG Supporting Team (27-28)  
- NCOG (29)

#### UPU

WG Union Composition and Structure (28-30)

### EVENTS

- 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on ITS Telecommunications (ITST 2006), Chengdu, 21-23
- Galileo Conference, CCB, Lisbon, 22
- "How Can Member States Effectively Influence the European Decision-Making Process? A practical Guide to Preparing a Winning Strategy" Brussels, 20-22
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual European Semantic Web Conference 2006, Budva, 11-14
- Conference "ICT for an Inclusive Society" Riga, 11-13
- Conference "Preliminary Draft of the Consumer Code", Lisbon, 8
- "Economic Regulation and Competition", (3<sup>rd</sup> Workshops on Law and Management) Lisbon, 8

(+info)