



Press Release

Chorus ntl investing €90 million to upgrade customers in Athlone, Carlow, Portlaoise, Sligo and Dublin to cost saving Broadband and Telephone services over next 12 months

Eamon Ryan, Communications Minister, welcomes investment saying widespread availability of broadband is central to Ireland's economic recovery

Ireland January 28, 2009: Chorus ntl, a UPC company, is investing over **€90 million** to accelerate their nationwide network upgrade programme in order to provide Broadband and Telephone services in **Athlone, Carlow, Portlaoise, Sligo, and over three quarters of Dublin** by the end of 2009.

Chorus ntl's continued investment in upgrading its network means that by the end of 2009, over 600,000 Irish homes will be able to avail of Broadband and Telephone services at an affordable price. In Dublin alone, over 80,000 homes will be upgraded this year to receive Broadband and Telephone services.

Commenting on the announcement, **Communications Minister Eamon Ryan** said:

"I welcome this level of investment by Chorus ntl and I'm confident that today's announcement will help stimulate competition in the marketplace and provide consumers with increased options. It will

also provide the necessary funding to continue the widespread availability of broadband which is central to our economic recovery.”

The upgrade by Chorus ntl means significant cost savings for consumers as they will now be able to receive **Broadband and Telephone for only €24 a month.**

The move also means that customers in **Athlone, Carlow, Portlaoise and Sligo** and over three quarters of Dublin will be able to avail of Chorus ntl's **Triple Play** service, which consists of up to 20Mb Broadband, digital telephone and digital television services travelling into your home over a single broadband connection. The next generation upgrade enhances the existing cable network by bringing high bandwidth fibre optic cabling much closer to the home, greatly increasing the capacity, range and reliability of services delivered to the customer.

Areas around the country which have already been completely upgraded to receive Broadband, Telephone and Television services include **Limerick, Galway, Waterford, Cork and two thirds of all existing cabled homes in Dublin.**

Mark Coan, marketing and sales director with Chorus ntl, says

“We are seeing a strong demand from Irish consumers to reduce their monthly household outgoings in the current economic environment. Our package of Cable Broadband and Phone line together for €24 a month allows people to get rid of their expensive Eircom line which costs €25.47 for line rental alone. In essence, it's like we are giving our Broadband service away for free.”

“Our accelerated upgrade is needed to keep up with the demand from Irish consumers for our cost saving bundled services. Over 100,000 Irish consumers have already signed up to our bundled broadband service. Cable is all about delivering great value by bundling our services together. This €90 million investment will give even more people the option to switch from Eircom once and for all and get more for less in the process.”

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About UPC Broadband

UPC Broadband (UPC) is the European division of Liberty Global, Inc., the world's leading international cable operator. UPC brings television, broadband internet and telephone services to

approximately 10 million customers throughout 10 European countries. The company is driven by its vision that 'this amazing but often complex digital world should be for everyone'. UPC's 15,000 employees throughout Europe strive to make this happen by bringing simplicity and a real human touch to everything they do. *By the end of 2009 – a small proportion of homes in Ireland will require additional upgrading for telephony.