

5G

5G gained Momentum in 2020, but will it continue in 2021?

Source: *Telecoms.com*

2020 was destined to be the year of 5G, with both telcos and enterprises alike expecting the journey to standalone 5G to be completed last year. [\[read more\]](#).

UK Operators spend £1.36bn in the 700 MHz and 3.6–3.8 GHz Auction

Source: *Cullen International*

The principal stage of the 700 MHz and 3.6–3.8 GHz spectrum auction ended on 17 March 2021 with the four participating mobile network operators (MNOs) paying £1.36bn (€1.51bn) for the 200 MHz of available spectrum. [\[read more – subscription required\]](#).

BROADBAND

Dutch FTTH Competition Pushes adds 500,000 Homes in 2020

Source: *Broadband TV News*

Intense competition in the Dutch fibre-to-the-home market has pushed the number of new connections to 533,000 in 2020. Telecompaper's annual report on broadband coverage in the Netherlands shows that following a year of record additions 3.68 million households had an FTTH connection, about 46% of all homes in the country. [\[read more\]](#).

REGULATION

Should Zero-Rating be part of the Net Neutrality Debate?

Source: *Telecoms.com*

AT&T recently had a moan about a new California net neutrality law and how it affects its ability to zero rate certain content. [\[read more\]](#).

BEREC adopts Opinion on the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive Review

Source: *Cullen International*

BEREC considers that “caution is necessary” in considering changing the scope of the rights and obligations under the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive from high-speed electronic communications networks to very high capacity networks. [\[read more – subscription required\]](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Liberty Global Signs European Green Digital Declaration

Source: *Broadband TV News*

Deutsche Telekom, Liberty Global, Orange, Telefonica and Vodafone have been named as founder members of the European Green Digital Coalition. The coalition has been established by the European Union to support the use of digital technologies as a key enabler for climate action, environmental sustainability and helping to reach UN Sustainable Development Goals. [\[read more\]](#).

EU countries commit to leading the Green Digital Transformation

Source: *European Commission*

24 Member States and Norway and Iceland have signed a declaration to accelerate the use of green digital technologies for the benefit of the environment. They will deploy and invest more green digital technologies to achieve climate neutrality and accelerate the green and digital transitions in priority sectors in Europe, for example by using the NextGenerationEU and InvestEU funds. [\[read more\]](#).

POST

IPC on the Pandemic: Posts still managed to deliver more than Half of the Mail in Three Days

Source: Post & Parcel

The IPC UNEX™ 2020 CEN module results unveiled today show that, on average, international priority letter mail in Europe was delivered in 4.4 days. Posts managed to deliver more than half of the mail in three days (speed indicator) and almost four fifths in five days (reliability indicator). The IPC UNEX™ CEN measurement is end-to-end: from posting in the

origin country, to delivery to the final addressee in the destination country. [\[read more\]](#).

Royal Mail to be one of the First Postal Authorities to add unique Barcodes to Stamps

Source: Post & Parcel

Royal Mail is adding barcodes to a limited number of 2nd Class stamps from March 23rd, as part of the Company's extensive modernisation drive. The unique barcodes are poised to pave the way for innovative customer services and benefits in future. [\[read more\]](#).