

5G

5G Tender for Czech Republic

Source: Broadband TV News

The Czech Telecommunications Office (CTU) has launched a tender in which it will award radio frequencies in the 700 MHz and 3400–3600 MHz bands. [read more].

Wireless Traffic Forecasts: 5G will make little Difference to Long-Term Trends

Source: Analysys Mason

"MNOs are caught between finding high-yield use cases for 5G to justify the investment, and falling back on high-volume, low-yield ones." Analysys Mason's Wireless network data traffic: worldwide trends and forecasts 2020–2025 is the first traffic forecast that Analysys Mason have published since the launch of 5G. Analysys Mason still expect that 5G will change the general direction of traffic growth. [read more].

Ofcom completes 700MHz Clearance Programme

Source: Broadband TV News

Ofcom has finished its work on the largest transmission project since digital switchover. The clearance of the 700MHz band was needed to create space for mobile broadband services including both 4G and 5G. It officially began in 2017, although planning had been underway since 2012. [read more].

Luxembourg raises €41 Million in its First-Ever Spectrum Auction

Source: Policy Tracker

Four out of the five participants were successful in Luxembourg's first spectrum auction, paying a total of €41.3 million. The country's three mobile operators secured the majority of the 700 MHz and 3600 MHz frequencies up for grabs. The other winner was telecoms operator Luxembourg Online. [read more – subscription required].

FCC concludes 1st 5G Mid-Band Spectrum Auction

Source: Advanced Television

The US's FCC has confirmed what it describes as the successful conclusion of bidding in its auction of Priority Access Licenses in the 3550-3650 MHz band for 5G, raising some \$4.5 billion. The auction made available the greatest number of spectrum licences ever in a single FCC auction. [read more].

BROADBAND

State Aid – EU Commission clears Low-Income Broadband completes 700MHz Voucher Scheme in Italy

Source: Cullen International

The European Commission approved under EU state aid rules an Italian €200m voucher scheme to support the take-up of high-speed broadband access services of at least 30 Mbps (download) by low-income families. [read more – subscription required].

POSTAL SERVICES

Posti plans to combine the Delivery of Newspapers and Letter Mail

Source: Cullen International



Posti, the Finnish postal USP announced plans to combine the early morning distribution of newspapers with the delivery of letters and other items of correspondence. This would reduce the number of daily postal deliveries to addresses in some areas of Finland to only one per day. [read more – subscription required].

UPU encourages Continued **Support for Postal Operators**

Source: Post & Parcel

International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the Universal Postal Union (UPU) have released a joint statement to encourage United Nations member states to continue to support their designated postal operators, air cargo carriers and express mail operators during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and to provide support for future recovery efforts. [read more].

Correos fined for Failing to Meet USO Quality Target

Source: Cullen International

The Spanish postal regulator, CNMC, fined Correos €160,000 for failing to meet the quality target for its Blue Parcel service (Paquete Azul) from 2014 to 2018. The blue parcel service includes domestic parcels up to 20kg and is included in the scope of Correos' universal service obligation (USO). [read more – subscription required].

ARCEP approves Increases in La Poste's USO Tariffs and the Promotion of the Online Letter Service

Source: Cullen International

The French regulator, ARCEP, approved the increase proposed by La Poste for the level of tariffs for universal mail

and parcel services in 2021. [read more – subscription required].

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS REGULATION

Draft Delegated Act setting Single Maximum Union-wide Voice Termination Rates

Source: European Commission

In line with the European Electronic Communications Code, the European Commission will adopt by 31 December 2020, a Delegated Act setting single maximum Union-wide voice termination rates. Termination rates are the rates telecommunications operators charge each other to deliver voice calls between their networks. A single maximum Union-wide voice termination rate (one for fixed and one for mobile termination services) will reduce fragmentation in telecoms markets, thus ensuring a more competitive, cross-border environment, which will ultimately benefit European consumers in the form of lower prices and more varied offers for fixed and mobile calls. [read more].

Recommendation on Relevant Markets

Source: European Commission

In line with the European Electronic Communications Code, the European Commission has to Review the Recommendation on relevant product and service markets within the electronic communication sector by 21 December 2020 and regularly thereafter. On 25th August 2020, in the interest of transparency, the Commission published the draft Recommendation and its accompanying Explanatory Note. [read more].

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS



TIM continues to boost Ultra-Broadband Coverage across Rural Areas of Italy

Source: Total Telecom

In Italy TIM have continued to demonstrate an impressive commitment to close the digital divide by 2021 with the aim of enabling all Italians to be able to work online, browse the internet at high speed and use TV and entertainment services. [read more].