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Eutelsat's Tooway™ satellite Internet service makes Lord Carter's Digital Britain a reality

Tooway™ delivers 2Mbps broadband for the UK's rural homes and slowband areas from £29.99 per month

In 2010, Eutelsat's revolutionary new KA-SAT satellite will enable Tooway™ to offer up to 10Mbps ADSL2 quality Internet access

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Eutelsat Communications, (Euronext Paris: ETL) the European leader for satellite communications, has launched its revolutionary new Tooway™ consumer Internet access service in the UK making Lord Carter's Digital Britain vision of universal Internet access a reality.

Using satellite technology available from just £29.99 per month, Tooway™ can now offer the UK's rural homes, and those in slowband areas, access to 2 megabit per second (2Mbps) broadband services without the need for any existing telephone line. Tooway™ can deliver broadband for all, as called for by Lord Carter in the Digital Britain interim report published in January this year. The service is also triple play-ready, allowing distributors to offer additional TV and IP telephony services using the same equipment.

Tooway™ will be delivered in the UK via a network of certified local distributors, including Bentley Walker Satellite Internet Solutions, Avonline Ltd in Bristol, Satellite Solutions Worldwide Ltd in Oxfordshire and Remote Data Services Ltd in Perthshire, Scotland. The Tooway™ solution consists of a small satellite dish and a modem connected to the PC via Ethernet, giving customers Internet access following a simple installation.

According to Broadband think tank Point Topic large sections of the UK are still without the minimum 2Mbps broadband speed Lord Carter recommends. Around 15 per cent of homes in the East Midlands are currently out of range, as are almost 16 per cent of homes in the North East, nearly 20 per cent in the South West, and around 14 per cent in the South East. The traditional route of extending cable connections capable of running the service to these homes would be expensive and well beyond the 2012 deadline set by Lord Carter.

“Tooway™ will help make Lord Carter’s vision for Digital Britain a reality by revolutionising the consumer market for satellite Internet access,” said Arduino Patacchini, Director of Multimedia and Value Added Services at Eutelsat. “Tooway™ is able to offer true broadband access with total independence from existing infrastructures. It has the technology and capacity to become the definitive, low-cost solution for geographical areas that are affected by the digital divide.”

Tooway™ is the first satellite two-way broadband service offering similar speeds and costs to ADSL. The service is based on Eutelsat’s satellite coverage, the commercial and infrastructure operating experience of Eutelsat’s subsidiary Skylogic and ViaSat’s SurfBeam technology. The technology used by Tooway™ comes to Europe after acquiring extensive experience on the North American market, where ViaSat already provides the equipment and network for over 400,000 homes with satellite broadband access fully independent from the terrestrial network. Today, Tooway™ is already serving customers in 20 European countries including Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland and Ireland with other countries across Europe rolling out over the coming months.

Tooway™ operates in the Ku-band in the UK. It is delivered using Eutelsat’s EURO-BIRD™ 3 satellite at 33° East. The service offers two-way satellite access to users without the need for a telephone line, delivering speeds of 2Mbps on the downlink and 256 Kbps on the uplink

In 2010, Eutelsat will expand the service with additional high speed Internet access up to 10Mbps. These revolutionary broadband speeds will come from the launch of KA-SAT, a dedicated new satellite from Eutelsat, specifically designed for broadband delivery in Europe. The satellite, which has the combined capacity of 40 traditional satellites, will enable Eutelsat to deliver Internet access to up to two million European homes at a similar speed, price and quality to that of terrestrial ADSL2 services.

About Eutelsat Communications

Eutelsat Communications (Euronext Paris: ETL, ISIN code: FR0010221234) is the holding company of Eutelsat S.A.. With capacity on 27 satellites that provide coverage over the entire European continent, as well as the Middle East, Africa, India and significant parts of Asia and the Americas, Eutelsat is one of the world’s three leading satellite operators in terms of revenues. At 31 December 2008, Eutelsat’s satellites were broadcasting more than 3,200 television channels and 1,100 radio stations. Almost 1,100 channels broadcast via its HOT BIRD™ video neighbourhood at 13 degrees East which serves over 120 million cable and satellite homes in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. The Group’s satellites also serve a wide range of fixed and mobile telecommunications services, TV contribution markets, corporate networks, and broadband markets for Internet Service Providers and for transport, maritime and in-flight markets. Eutelsat’s broadband subsidiary, Skylogic, markets and operates services through its teleport in Italy that serves enterprises, local communities, government agencies

and aid organisations in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. Headquartered in Paris, Eutelsat and its subsidiaries employ 591 commercial, technical and operational experts from 27 countries.

www.eutelsat.com

www.tooway.com

About Skylogic

Skylogic provides satellite broadband communications services for Internet access (via IP protocol) and for television transmissions to corporate enterprises and public bodies. The Turin-based company is a subsidiary of Eutelsat. SkyPark, Skylogic's teleport, houses one of the largest platforms in the world for two-way broadband IP transmissions. Skylogic's satellite networks are interconnected by optic fibre to the largest operators in the sector, guaranteeing connectivity in Europe, the Mediterranean Basin, the Middle East, North Africa and America.

For further information visit: www.skylogic.com and www.tooway.com

For further information

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