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Message of the President



Dear readers,

We are currently on the way through the 1st semester of the Year dedicated to the promotion of Broadband Services, which was proclaimed in a special event held by EETT on February 7th, 2007, and significant events and goals we have set, are beginning to realise.

Recently, our country achieved the most rapid growth of broadband services connections, while penetration rate in Greek population by end of March 2007 exceeded 5,6%. The efforts that we all carry out must be intensified to speed up bridging the technology gap. Competition increases its mobility in the market, as we witness the development of new entrepreneurial schemes that include mergers as well as inter - corporate synergies. Investments by domestic telecommunications providers are nowadays increasing by significant rates and they refer to infrastructures capable of providing new, innovative and competitive telecommunications services (mainly focusing in the metropolitan area of Athens so far). Greek citizens-users of mobile as well as fixed telephony increasingly seek information, communication as well as entertainment through internet browsing.

A main driving force for the use of the internet and its applications in telephony, is both implementation of the Information Society program all over Regional Greece, as well as the implementation of providers' investment plans that are now deployed all over the country.

To allow stabilisation and improvement of deployment of the Regulatory Framework for local loop deregulation in Greece, early in April 2007, EETT announced the new Reference Unbundling Offer (RUO) that described in detail the required procedures as well as terms for easier and quicker local loop deregulation in fixed telephony.

Meanwhile, EETT is completing the procedures for electronic communication networks rights-of-way, and at the same time is also promoting the new broadband access interfacing and wholesale offers. Within the above mentioned framework, telecommunications providers will be able by the end of 2007 to provide, in parallel with OTE, broadband services to a Greek population in excess of 4,5 million. Meanwhile, a task force made up of executive officials and partners is reviewing EETT strategy on broadband connectivity in the forthcoming years, while the 2nd international conference on broadband internet is planned in Athens for early June.

In addition to the above initiatives, EETT carefully investigates issues relevant to fraud in telecommunications (e.g. dialers), delayed consumer connection to the fully unbundled local loop as well as fixed telephony portability.

Furthermore, EETT has begun a consumer information campaign through the publication of brochures related to the safe use of mobile phones, the functioning of mobile telephony antennas as well as the internet.

Regarding the postal market, EETT completed with absolute success a seminar cycle in Thessaloniki, Patras and Athens, aiming at providing information and training to postal services and consumers in issues targeting the optimal enforcement of applicable regulations.

As we carry on with the implementation of the schemes we have planned at an undiminished pace, I'd like to wish best results in all efforts made by organisations to provide modern, competitive broadband services to all citizens.

Maroussi, April 2007

Professor Nikitas Alexandridis
President