



MEDIA RELEASE
30 January 2009

TELECOM WHOLESALEREOLLING OUT SUPER-FAST BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY

In its latest move to offer New Zealanders world class broadband services, Telecom Wholesale is installing the newest and most advanced standard of super-fast broadband – known as VDSL2 ('Very High-Speed Digital Subscriber Line 2').

"This super-fast technology takes advantage of our push to get fibre closer to the home. It offers a huge step-up in broadband speed and is the next key phase of Telecom New Zealand's multi-billion dollar capital expenditure programme," said Telecom CEO Paul Reynolds.

To help meet Telecom's commitment to delivering even faster broadband speeds to homes and businesses throughout New Zealand, the new VDSL2 capability will be offered from fibre-fed roadside cabinets and local telephone exchanges within Telecom's local access network.

VDSL2 is expected to offer customers who live one kilometre or less from an exchange or roadside cabinet download speeds of up to 50Mbps and upload speeds of up to 20Mbps.

Already 57 per cent of New Zealand lines can take advantage of Telecom's next generation access network and this grows to 84 per cent on completion of the fibre-to-the-node roll out in 2011.

VDSL2 broadband plans will most benefit those who regularly download large files or use their broadband service for multiple voice, video and other applications.

Telecom Wholesale Chief Executive, Matt Crockett, said: "We have been testing VDSL2 for several months now and we're excited to be getting the VDSL2 roll out underway in key metropolitan centres across New Zealand. With the fibre-to-the-node programme hotting up and shortening copper loop lengths across the country it's the perfect time to deploy VDSL2.

“Getting fibre and the VDSL2 broadband electronics closer to the home means we can offer our wholesale customers one of the fastest broadband services in the world. It’s an important step in our commitment to provide New Zealand service providers, and their end-users, with world class broadband network services,” said Mr Crockett.

For customers living more than a kilometre from their nearest roadside cabinet or exchange, or for those who choose not to upgrade to this premium product, VDSL2 line cards also operate in ADSL2+ mode.

“Our ADSL2+ capability is already helping New Zealanders to enjoy a much better broadband experience. Peak connect speeds have leaped well ahead of where they were even a year ago, and soon VDSL2 will offer peak speeds of up to 50Mbps downstream,” said Dr Reynolds.

From March 2009, VDSL2 line cards will be progressively installed into all roadside cabinets and local telephone exchanges in towns and cities with more than 500 lines. In the second quarter of 2009, Telecom Wholesale will offer service providers a new, dedicated VDSL2 broadband product initially available in key Auckland exchange areas, with roll out to all major cities and towns in the third quarter of the year.

Service providers can then offer VDSL2 broadband plans to their retail customers based on their needs, and their proximity to the nearest telephone exchange or roadside cabinet.

Telecom Wholesale intends to consult with service providers on the more detailed aspects of the VDSL2 roll out. This will include developing further VDSL2 based broadband services and improved online tools to support service providers when deciding whether VDSL2 is suitable for their end customer.

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For more information please contact:

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About Telecom Wholesale

Telecom Wholesale is an operationally separate business unit within Telecom that wholesales network connectivity products to internet and telephone service providers throughout New Zealand. Telecom Wholesale’s broadband, business data, voice and interconnect products give providers the foundation on which to build their own network or telecommunications services for their customers. For more information on Telecom Wholesale visit www.telecomwholesale.co.nz.

VDLS2 capability roll-out areas in 2009

Q2 2009

- § Browns Bay
- § Ponsonby
- § Glenfield
- § Remuera
- § Mt Eden
- § Auckland Central

Q3 2009 onwards

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| § Ashburton | § Paekakariki |
| § Auckland | § Palmerston North |
| § Beachlands | § Paraparaumu |
| § Blenheim | § Prebbleton |
| § Brighton | § Pukekohe |
| § Cambridge | § Pukerua Bay |
| § Christchurch | § Queenstown |
| § Diamond Harbour | § Rangiora |
| § Dunedin | § Raumati |
| § Fielding | § Red Beach |
| § Gisborne | § Richmond |
| § Gore | § Rotorua |
| § Governors Bay | § Runciman |
| § Greymouth | § Taupo |
| § Hamilton | § Tauranga |
| § Hastings | § Te Awamutu |
| § Hawera | § Templeton |
| § Hibiscus Coast | § Timaru |
| § Invercargill | § Titirangi |
| § Kaiapoi | § Tokoroa |
| § Kumeu | § Waiheke |
| § Levin | § Waikanae |
| § Lincoln | § Wanganui |
| § Lyttelton | § Wellington |
| § Masterton | § Whakatane |
| § Napier | § Whangarei |
| § Nelson | |
| § New Plymouth | |
| § Oamaru | |

BOLD denotes multiple exchange areas covered