

Digital Single Market

Commission suspends Austrian plans to regulate high bandwidth of leased lines

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The European Commission has expressed serious doubts over draft measure notified by the Austrian telecoms regulator (RTR) on the wholesale market for terminating segments of leased lines - the final part of the network. Leased lines are dedicated connections (private circuits) for transmission of voice and data used by operators to deliver telecommunications services, usually used by businesses to connect geographically distant offices. Under RTR's proposal, high bandwidths of leased lines, including those provided so far under competitive conditions in municipalities such as Vienna, Linz, Graz, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Wels, Feldkirch, Steyr, Klagenfurt, Dornbirn, Bregenz and Hallein should be regulated from July 2013. This concerns in particular high bandwidth leased lines (above 34 mbit/second) provided by incumbent A1 Austria Telekom.

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