



Swisscom reaches agreement with the Swiss Homeowners' Association and the Zurich Real Estate Association to lay fibre-optic cables all the way to households

Swisscom, the Swiss Homeowners' Association (HEV) and the Zurich Real Estate Association (VZI) have reached an agreement on a new joint approach to fibre-optic expansion. Swisscom will finance cabling inside buildings and therefore right to customers' homes. Swisscom reached this decision in response to fierce competition and strong momentum in the field of fibre-optic expansion in order to allow customers fast access to high-speed fibre-optic services.

Fibre-optic connections for apartments in multiple occupancy residential properties, known as riser shafts, will be financed by Swisscom for the time being. In the past, Swisscom has handled the laying of fibre-optic cables only up to the front door of the house. This new approach has enabled Swisscom, HEV and VZI to reach agreement on a new joint approach for fibre-optic expansion. Customers will benefit from fast access to the new fibre-optic services.

Competition and strong momentum in fibre-optic expansion

By financing expansion in riser shafts, Swisscom is driving fibre-optic expansion in Switzerland forward. Swisscom reached this decision in response to fierce competition and strong momentum in the field of fibre-optic expansion. Alongside Swisscom, electricity companies and cable network operators are also investing in the expansion of broadband networks. "By financing expansion in the riser shafts we want to give our customers simple access to fibre-optic-based offers," says Carsten Schlöter, CEO of Swisscom.

Swisscom, HEV and VZI draft sample contract

Homeowners' associations and Swisscom have reached agreements on all of the main issues regarding remaining questions concerning both fibre-optic expansion as well as the specific procedure to be used when laying the in-house cabling. "This solution is in the interests of the owners and will help fibre-optics to achieve a breakthrough", says Ansgar Gmür, HEV's chairman. A joint sample contract will be drafted



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between Swisscom and the homeowners in the weeks to come. This joint approach should help ensure that homeowners' needs are covered in the contract. The financing of in-house cabling will begin right away. Homeowners who have paid these costs themselves will be reimbursed.

Four-fibre model for increased competition

Inside the buildings, Swisscom will also lay four fibres for each apartment. This is in line with the recommendation of the Federal Communications Commission (ComCom) and the Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM). Customers will benefit from increased competition between the providers and thus attractive, economical offers for the new high-speed network. The four-fibre model also gives non-discriminatory access to alternative telecommunications providers. Swisscom will periodically review its stance in line with market developments in the fibre-optic sector.

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