



Main tower of former nationwide transmitter in Sottens to be demolished

The 188 metre high tower of the former nationwide transmitter in Sottens is scheduled to be demolished at 2 p.m. on 20 August 2014.

Sottens, along with the Beromünster and Monte Ceneri transmitters, belongs to the former group of nationwide transmitters. At midnight on 5 December 2010, Swisscom Broadcast ceased transmission on behalf of RTS (Radio Télévision Suisse) of the radio programme "Option Musique", thus marking the end of medium-wave transmission in Switzerland. Swisscom Broadcast has since been using the site as a regional base while seeking solutions for its future practical use. In autumn 2014 the municipality of Jorat-Menthue, where Sottens is located, will become the new owner of the site. This consists of the original main building and the smaller reserve tower. Both properties were built in 1931 and are covered by a Canton of Valais conservation order.

The 188 metre high main tower, located a few hundred metres from the buildings, is no longer needed and is to be demolished for ecological and economic reasons. Demolition work, using explosives, will begin at 2 p.m. on 20 August 2014. The dismantling operation is scheduled to be completed by autumn 2014.

Berne, 19 August 2014