

Swisscom expands ICT competence with the acquisition of Veltigroup

Swisscom is expanding its ICT portfolio for business customers and its presence in western Switzerland through the acquisition of Veltigroup and its companies LAN expert, insentia and ITS. Veltigroup is domiciled in Lausanne and is a leading ICT service provider in western Switzerland. Veltigroup has around 480 employees in Switzerland and offers companies a comprehensive ICT range, from infrastructure to end-client services and solutions. The parties have agreed not to disclose details of the purchase price.

Swisscom's acquisition of Veltigroup, a strong ICT provider well established in the French-speaking region of Switzerland, will be effective as of January 2015. Through this step, Swisscom is securing know-how in streamlined ICT production with flexible modules and individualised solutions for business customers. Swisscom can thus address the needs of customers, especially those of medium-sized companies (up to 2000 IT employees), respond more quickly and flexibly, while enhancing customer proximity. Christian Petit, Head of Enterprise Customers at Swisscom explains: "Digitalisation is presenting Swiss companies with new opportunities and challenges. We want to be there for our customers during this transition to a digital world in the best way possible. Thanks to the expertise and market presence of the Veltigroup and its individualised production processes, we can address customer needs and implement solutions faster and better than before." The acquisition also strengthens Swisscom's position in western Switzerland. Veltigroup has many well-known companies among its customers and brings with it a broad network of partners and suppliers.

Nicolas Fulpius, CEO of Veltigroup, is confident that customers will benefit from the merger: "In future, customers will have a comprehensive ICT provider offering a combination of local expertise and customer proximity from Veltigroup and the stability, security and innovative power of Swisscom that is unique in Switzerland."

Gradual integration into Swisscom

Swisscom has the approval of the Federal Competition Commission (COMCO) and thus Veltigroup will join Swisscom as of January 2015. Initially, Veltigroup will continue to operate on an independent basis. During this first phase, Swisscom will integrate DL Groupe, which it acquired a year ago, into Veltigroup. In a second phase planned for 2016, Veltigroup will be integrated into the Enterprise Customers division of Swisscom. Nicolas Fulpius, CEO of Veltigroup, will be a member of the Enterprise Customers division management. He and Philippe Béal (CTO), together with Veltigroup's entire current executive management, will move the integration process forward. Marco Simeoni and Pierre-Alain Racine, the founders of Veltigroup, will leave the company at the end of 2014.

After the acquisition, Marco Simeoni plans on completing his "Race for Water Odyssey" project. The Odyssey will sail around the world for one year and examine the five largest plastic islands on the oceans. The findings should contribute to scientific research and raise awareness among the public, businesses and politicians and encourage them to take action.

For more information on Veltigroup: www.veltigroup.com

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