

PRESS RELEASE

PRYSMIAN GROUP WELCOMES THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FRAMEWORK FIT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

THE PROPOSED REFORMS SET OUT NEW BROADBAND TARGETS

SVP VANHILLE: "THE COMMISSION HAS STRUCK THE RIGHT TONE"

Milan, 15 September 2016 - Prysmian Group, world leader in the energy and telecom cable systems industry and owner of the only European technology for the production of optical fibre, welcomes the publication of the European Commission's telecommunications review and its efforts to reform Europe's telecoms rules to make them fit for the digital age. Prysmian is the worldwide leader in the production of optical cables, producing around 30 million km of optical fibre every year in its five centres of excellence in Italy, France, The Netherlands, North America and Brazil. The Group provides Europe and the rest of the world its know-how and technologies for ultra-broadband cabling projects.

Prysmian believes that the vision of a "gigabit society", presented by the Commission in the package, points Europe in the right direction. It is a vision that industry, consumers, politicians and regulators alike can share, and one that will enable Europe to reap the full benefits of new technologies such as the Internet of Things. With this in mind, it is encouraging to see the EC advancing new broadband targets, placing the objective of providing widespread access to and take-up of very high capacity connectivity across the EU at the heart of the framework.

Included within the package is a recognition that optical fibre is the future of connectivity in the EU. Although a combination of technologies can be chosen as part of a progressive approach, it is clear that for the type of high speed connectivity that the Commission and many other stakeholders envisage for Europe, optical fibre sets the standard. It is now time to clearly back and encourage the use of this technology, and Prysmian is very happy to see the Commission promote it in this package.

As the Commission has recognised in previous announcements and as is reflected in this package, it is necessary to have a clear plan now if Europe wants to keep up with its international competitors on the roll-out of 5G technology and capacity. In this regard, Prysmian Group strongly agrees with the Commission's assessment of the necessity of fibred backhaul networks in order to achieve 5G speeds and functionality.

Philippe Vanhille, Senior Vice President Telecom Business at Prysmian Group, commented: "Prysmian has been a leading company facilitating the progression of the EU debate on connectivity and lending its expertise to the conversation. We believe the Commission has struck the right tone in this proposal which clearly incentivizes the provision of the next generation networks that Europe needs. We will continue in our efforts to facilitate the discussions and decision making as these proposals progress through the EU institutions."

Prysmian Group

Prysmian Group is world leader in the energy and telecom cable systems industry. With almost 140 years of experience, sales of about €7.5 billion in 2015, over 19,000 employees across 50 countries and 88 plants, the Group is strongly positioned in high-tech markets and offers the widest possible range of products, services, technologies and know-how. It operates in the businesses of underground and submarine cables and systems for power transmission and distribution, of special cables for applications in many different industries and of medium and low voltage cables for the construction and infrastructure sectors. For the telecommunications industry, the Group manufactures cables and accessories for voice, video and data transmission, offering a comprehensive range of optical fibres, optical and copper cables and connectivity systems. Prysmian is a public company, listed on the Italian Stock Exchange in the FTSE MIB index.

Media Relations

Lorenzo Caruso
Corporate and Business Communications Director
Ph. 0039 02 6449.1
lorenzo.caruso@prysmiangroup.com

Investor Relations

Cristina Bifulco
Investor Relations Director
Ph. 0039 02 6449.1
mariacristina.bifulco@prysmiangroup.com