



Net offer from Irish Broadband

WIRELESS broadband provider Irish Broadband has moved into the fixed line fast internet access market, and will compete against the likes of Eircom and BT Ireland.

The services will be provided in addition to its wireless services.

It will broaden the company's reach to a number of areas where its current services are unavailable, like parts of Mayo, Cavan and Galway. Irish Broadband will resell Eircom lines to provide the services.

"This will give us the same fixed network reach as any other operator in the State, which, together with our own wireless network, gives us the most comprehensive high-quality offering in the country," said Neil Parkinson, chief executive of Irish Broadband.

The basic package costs €21.95 per month, including VAT, with download speeds of 1Mbps, while the top-of-the-range business service costs €169.95 with download speeds of 5Mbps. The offer includes a free ADSL modem and a free connection fee.

Mr Parkinson added that 85pc of all telephone lines in Ireland are connected to ADSL-enabled exchanges, with 75pc of the lines capable of being provided with an ADSL service.

Irish Broadband, which is owned by NTR and Kilsaran Concrete, recently confirmed it is in discussions with a number of parties that could lead to a takeover of the broadband firm.

It has had discussions with Clearwire, a Washington-based telecoms group, that may lead to an offer for the firm.

More than €40m has been invested to date in the company, which has about 30,000 customers.

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