



Boulogne, 26 May 2005

Press release

**Bouygues Telecom completes roll-out of nationwide broadband,
reaching 85% of French population**

Bouygues Telecom today launched broadband across France on its EDGE network and, in accordance with the announced timetable, introduced high-speed data services for the corporate market.

Why EDGE? A universal standard and proven technology

With EDGE, Bouygues Telecom has opted for the high-speed network technology chosen and tested by 141 operators throughout the world. As early as January 2001, the company was convinced by the standard's benefits.

By deciding to roll out EDGE in September 2003, Bouygues Telecom showed continuity in its strategic choices. Starting in May 2004, roll-out mobilised the whole company and within a year, Bouygues Telecom achieved nationwide broadband coverage.

Bouygues Telecom's broadband strategy is based on complementary technologies: EDGE and HSDPA (2nd generation UMTS).

Bouygues Telecom's nationwide broadband: 6 to 10 times faster than GPRS

Bouygues Telecom's broadband network offers several advantages:

- **speeds 6 to 10 times faster** than GPRS and similar capabilities as UMTS,
- **coverage across France** as from launch,
- **optimum quality of service** for customers, with:
 - a significant improvement in the performance of data services and the same standard of voice services,
 - service continuity inside buildings and outside, right across the country.

Roll-out of nationwide broadband network: 85% of French population covered

Bouygues Telecom's national broadband network currently **reaches 85% of the French population**, thanks to:

- 9,000 EDGE-enabled base stations: 80% of Bouygues Telecom base stations upgraded,
- an investment of €230 million euros in 2004 and 2005,
- high-quality partnerships: Nortel, Nokia, Ericsson, Alcatel, Sierra Wireless.

Bouygues Telecom is therefore in a position to provide its customers with a tried and tested, optimised and operational network across France and to guarantee the highest standards in terms of quality of service.

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