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Press release

Agreement between Bouygues Telecom and SFR on deploying optical fibre in high-density areas

Bouygues Telecom and SFR have announced a joint-investment agreement on the deployment of optical fibre in a number of municipalities in high-density areas¹.

The joint decision to use GPON technology will enable the two companies to share investments and pool the horizontal portion of an optical fibre network deployed between their points of presence and each building in the municipalities selected.

The agreement will enable the two operators to expand and step up the pace of deployment of their FTTH infrastructures for their respective customers² in these municipalities.

SFR is already marketing FTTH services in a number of municipalities and plans to launch others in 2011.

Bouygues Telecom plans to launch its own FTTH services in second-half 2011.

This agreement is a milestone in the deployment of optical fibre in France's main cities, a process encouraged by the government and authorities.

"With this agreement to share the horizontal portion of an optical fibre network, Bouygues Telecom, a newcomer to the fixed-line sector, will become a fully-fledged player in optical fibre technology," said Olivier Roussat, CEO of Bouygues Telecom.

"SFR was already a major player in the deployment of optical fibre in France. This agreement increases our investment and deployment capacity and enables us to continue delivering the best technology to our customers," said Frank Esser, Chairman and CEO of SFR.

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¹ The list of municipalities in high-density areas was established in decision No. 2009-1106 by France's Electronic Communications and Postal Regulatory Authority (ARCEP) on 22 December 2009

² This agreement concerns only passive network elements. Each company is free to market the services it chooses to its customers.