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Press release

The Paris Commercial Court has found Free guilty of disparaging Bouygues Telecom

Today, the Paris Commercial Court has ordered Free and Iliad to compensate Bouygues Telecom for the losses incurred as a result of the unfair competition it has suffered.

Bouygues Telecom is satisfied with the ruling of the court, which found against Free's methods of communication and prohibits it from using disparaging remarks about Bouygues Telecom, under penalty of a fine of €100,000.

The court recognised the size of the losses suffered for more than one year by Bouygues Telecom, as a result of the systematic campaign of disparaging comments orchestrated by Free, by ordering the latter to pay damages of €25 million.

Bouygues Telecom was ordered by the court to pay damages of €5 million for making a few isolated comments in reply to Free's massive and aggressive communication campaign.

This court ruling re-establishes the rules for healthy and fair competition which henceforth must be exercised via the quality of the plans and services offered by each operator.

About Bouygues Telecom

As a full-service electronic communications operator (Mobile, Fixed, TV and Internet), Bouygues Telecom stands out for its innovative products and services and award-winning customer relations serving its 11 million mobile (including Simyo and Darty Telecom) and 1.8 million fixed broadband customers, which include more than 1.5 million professional and corporate clients.

After inventing the mobile talk-plan concept in France in 1996, Bouygues Telecom has always been a pioneer in innovation: it introduced the first unlimited call plans with Millennium (1999) and Neo (2006); in 2007, it launched the first fixed-mobile convergence offer for corporate customers; in 2009, it invented the "all-in-one" solution with ideo, the first quadruple play offer in the market; and, as early as July 2011, it invented mobile telephony 2.0 with B&YOU, the first SIM-only offer available exclusively on the web. In June 2012, Bouygues Telecom launched Bbox Sensation, its new range of router/modems packed with the most innovative technologies on the market that will transform the digital home experience.

Bouygues Telecom's mobile network covers 99% of the population with 2G, 96% with 3G+ (up to 7.2 Mbit/s) and 58% with H+ (up to 42 Mbit/s). Each day, the company's 9,600 employees develop solutions aligned with changing customer needs. 2,000 customer relations advisers, a distribution network of 650 Clubs Bouygues Telecom stores - with their 2,500 sales advisers - and its websites combine to ensure optimum customer service on a daily basis.

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