

PRESS RELEASE: 23 AUGUST 2007

**EURESPOND PRAISES EUROPEAN COMMISSION PROPOSAL TO LICENSE
MSS/CGC AT EUROPEAN LEVEL:
URGES PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL TO ADOPT**

EURespond Head of Secretariat Richard Nash praised the European Commission approval of a proposal to authorise Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) with Complimentary Ground Components (CGC) at the European level. “This is a great step forward to closing the digital divide in Europe and promoting resilient public safety communications and emergency response, said Richard Nash. “We urge the Parliament and Council to act quickly and make possible a rapid deployment of MSS/CGC in Europe.”

“EURespond strongly supports the Commission’s proposal and we extend our congratulations to Commissioner Reding, who led this important effort through the Commission” Nash said. “If Parliament and the Council act on this proposal quickly, Europe can look forward to making rapid progress on bridging the digital divide and providing first responders with effective emergency communications.”

MSS/CGC systems can provide a ubiquitous solution to provide broadband services to many remote areas of Europe that remain un-served. Extending broadband coverage throughout all of Europe as well as providing a resilient communications network for emergency response is some of the most promising benefits of MSS/CGC systems.

About EURespond

EURespond is an alliance of individuals, NGOs, regions and corporations who are working together to provide Europe with **easy-to-use, resilient, and ubiquitous communications systems** that are beyond the reach of natural or man-made disasters by providing robust **Emergency Response** solutions, reach currently underserved areas of Europe with state-of-the-art connectivity, and hence bridge the **Digital Divide**, and support European efforts to protect **Critical Infrastructure**. Further information about EURespond is available from www.eurespond.org.

Notes

The European Commission’s press release is available [here](#). The European Commission also published an FAQ document, which is available [here](#). The full Commission draft Decision is available [here](#).

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