

Adopted decision on bitstream

The Council of the Communications Regulatory Authority, chaired by Corrado Calabrò, has adopted the decision to introduce bitstream in Italy. Bitstream is an access service that allows alternative operators to supply higher performance broadband services to final customers.

The measure, rapporteurs Commissioners Roberto Napoli and Enzo Savarese, defines in detail the characteristics of the bitstream offer, the use of different available technologies, the service quality, and the process for defining Telecom Italia's tariffs.

The offer, which has to be published by Telecom Italia within 15 days, will be subject to an assessment by AGCOM, which will verify if the conditions set by the decision are met.

The measure decided today by AGCOM, which was already under consideration by the European Commission, contributes to further enhance competition in the market for broadband services. Adding bitstream to the already existing access modalities (*full unbundling e shared access*) allows alternative operators to propose highly innovative services, including the transmission of television content over the telecommunications network, as already emphasized in many occasions by the Commission.

Rome, 23 May 2007