



SATELLITE BROADBAND PROVIDED BY EUTELSAT SERVES ITALY'S OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY

Eutelsat and Skylogic Italia provide broadband connectivity on the road to the XX Olympic Winter Games Torino 2006

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Ahead of the XX Olympic Winter Games in Turin in February 2006, Eutelsat Communications (Euronext Paris: ETL) and the Group's broadband affiliate Skylogic Italia are providing the TOROC (Turin Olympics organising committee) with a D-STAR satellite broadband system that will follow the 11,000 km of the Olympic Torch Relay throughout Italy and into the French Alps. Eutelsat is an Official Sponsor of the Winter Olympic Games.

The 64-day Torch Relay, presented by Coca-Cola and Samsung and mobilising 10,001 torchbearers, will set off from Rome on December 8 and arrive in Turin on February 10 for the opening ceremony of the Games in the city's new Stadio Olimpico. The satellite broadband system following the Torch Relay will enable the press at the end of each day to manage quick uploads of photo material, video files and reports of events organised in each handover city to welcome the arrival of the Olympic Flame.

"The Olympic Torch Relay marks the beginning of our active association with the Torino 2006 Olympic Winter Games", said Giuliano Berretta, CEO of Eutelsat. "At the heart of our collaboration with the TOROC we are providing a turnkey package of 50 video channels that will be broadcast to television screens located at competition sites, Olympic Villages and Media Villages for the duration of the Games. This will enable the Olympic community assembled in Turin and the Piedmont region to benefit from real-time coverage of events and to see television coverage from their own country."

How it works:

The D-STAR equipment used at each stop comprises a sub-one metre antenna and an indoor unit (the size of DVD player). The self-tracking antenna installed on the van following the Torch Relay is a plug-and-play system that can automatically locate the satellite using parameters loaded into a motor drive unit attached to the antenna. The indoor unit is connected to a LAN network to serve multiple users simultaneously. The terminal will uplink files via Eutelsat's EURO-BIRD™ 3 satellite to Skylogic Italia's teleport in Turin, which is connected by fibre direct to the Internet backbone.