

Statement from the Irish Cellular Industry Association: Mobile Phones and Health

Health and safety issues are of prime importance to the mobile telecommunications industry in Ireland which is conscious of its responsibility to its customers and to the general public.

Mobile phones, and the base stations that connect them to the network, utilise electromagnetic fields (EMF), also known as radio frequency (RF) signals, to transfer information and make mobile communications possible.

There has been extensive research into the effects of EMF on human health and the consensus of scientific opinion is that there is no proven adverse health effect. Last year, based on its review of the totality of research in this area, the World Health Organisation stated: *“Considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF signals from base stations and wireless networks cause adverse health effects.”*

All base stations in Ireland must adhere to the strictest of standards set by the International Commission for Non-ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) and supported by the World Health Organisation.

In addition, the communications regulator, ComReg, audits base stations throughout the country on a regular basis to ensure full compliance with international standards and guidelines. Independent analysis from ComReg has shown that all sites in Ireland are operating thousands of times below safety standards set by the ICNIRP.

Editors Notes:

The Irish Cellular Industry Association's objective is to positively profile mobile technology while addressing industry issues including: Media Relations, Planning, Community Relations, Legislation, WHO, Public Affairs & Research
Membership of the ICIA is made up of the four mobile operators in Ireland: 3, Meteor, O2 and Vodafone.