Paris, December 12, 2007

Free deploys IPv6

Free is one of the first operator in the world to deploy IPv6. This new generation of IP protocol, set to spread in all devices in the coming years, optimises services development provided to customers. IPv6 is by essence supported without requiring specific update in the last version of operating systems: Windows Vista, Mac OS X, Linux.

This connection system is backward compatible with the current fixed IPv4. Indeed, with IPv6, all devices connected to the Internet (computers, PDA, telephones, printers, etc.), have their own IP address. Furthermore, IPv6 simplifies the configuration of devices when connected to the Internet. It improves data security and supports quality of services.

By offering IPv6 connectivity, Free is once again proving its capacity for innovation and making the latest technology available to its subscribers.
This deployment is the first to use the 6to4rd innovative technology. This technology was designed by Rémi Després, especially known as one of the technical founders of the Transpac network in the 70s.

IPv6 is compatible with Freeboxes v4 and v5 in unbundled areas. Service accessible after activation of the option in the management interface www.free.fr .

With IPv6, a near infinite number of addresses can be assigned (2^{128} compared with 2^{32} with IPv4), making it possible to connect an unlimited number of devices to the Internet. Thanks to IPv6, anyone can have one or several addresses for every connected device. Starting today, Free will give each subscriber 2^{64} or 18 446 744 073 709 551 616 IP addresses.

Windows Vista, Mac OS and Transpac are registered trademark.

Free is a subsidiary of Iliad. The Iliad Group is a major operator on the French Internet access and Telecommunications market with Free (2,767,000 ADSL subscribers at 30/09/2007), Onetel and Iliad Télécom (fixed telephony operators) and IFW (Wimax). The Iliad Group is listed on the Eurolist of Euronext Paris under the abbreviation ILD.