

Press Release

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Telia to build New Generation Internet - first in Europe with IPv6 in commercial network

Telia will be the first in Europe to build a commercial network based on the latest Internet protocol, IPv6.

The next generation of the Internet offers a next to unlimited number of IP addresses and paves the way for enhanced services in the broadband and mobility spheres.

- The work with building Telia's new IPv6 network is in full swing, with the first stage completed already in June 2001, says Ove Alm, Technical Director at Skanova, a wholesale network provider within the Telia group.

Connection points will be installed in Stockholm, London, Oslo, Köpenhamn, Malmö, Göteborg and Vasa in Finland, which makes it the most extensive IPv6 network in commercial operation in Europe.

To begin with, it is a pure transport service with fixed access, available to a limited number of users.

- Apart from operators and Internet Service Providers, we believe the service will be attractive to R&D companies specialising in products using the v6 protocol, says Ove Wik, Market Director at Skanova, hoping to have the first customer connected already in the third quarter of 2001.

Besides solving the problem with the universal shortage of IP addresses, IPv6 has more advantages. It paves the way for new services, but most of all, the new addressing system will make the existing broadband and mobility services work even better.

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Fact & Figures

The creators of the Internet in the early 1960s never saw the prospective hundreds of millions of users in their crystal balls, no hooked-up mobile terminals or intelligent household appliances. They believed that the IP addresses existing then would be sufficient forever, but they were wrong. Today IP addresses is a commodity in short supply.

The solution to the problem is IP (Internet Protocol) version 6. Version 6 allows a far greater number of IP addresses. The old protocol IPv4 uses a 32-bit addressing space, which in theory gives a total of 4.3 billion IP addresses. IPv6 uses a 128-bit addressing space, which offers a huge potential.

- In practice, it could give every household in the world access to more IP addresses than those available today on the entire Internet, says Mattias Lignell at Skanova's Research laboratory S-Lab, who has made studies in the field for several years.

Telia is the leading Nordic communications company challenging technology to liberate you in life and business. In 2000, Telia's sales totalled SEK 54,064 million and the number of employees was 29,868. Telia is quoted on the A-list of the Stockholm Stock Exchange.