

Press Release

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Skanova network in Municipality of Markaryd to be finished

The majority of the residents in the Municipality of Markaryd will have access to a new broadband network just in time for the New Year. They can order broadband already today.

In August this year, the Municipality of Markaryd signed an agreement with Skanova for building out a broadband network. Since then, the communities of Markaryd, Timsfors, Strömsnäsbruk, Traryd, Södra Århult, Råstorp and Hannabad have been connected by a fibre-optic network with a very high transmission capacity. Telecom exchanges in these areas have been upgraded for ADSL capacity, allowing use of the existing telephone network and enabling a very high penetration rate for broadband service in the municipality.

Approximately 80 percent of the households will gain access to the network, which will be placed in service on December 31.

"This is positive for the municipality's residents and a welcomed Christmas present. The build-out has proceeded quickly and, and with the new network, broadband is now accessible for many residents who could not have it earlier, which is naturally very pleasing," says Bengt Germundsson, chairman of the municipal executive board.

All households located within a distance of 5.5 km from an upgraded exchange can have access to broadband.

In 2003, Skanova networks have been delivered to a large number of municipalities and counties in Sweden that have long distances between large central towns and sparsely populated rural communities. These include Överkalix and Kalix in Norrbotten in the north of Sweden; Stenungsund, Tjörn and Orust in Bohus County on the west coast, and Örebro and Kalmar counties in the southeast.

TeliaSonera is the leading telecommunications company in the Nordic and Baltic regions. At the end of September 2003 TeliaSonera had 11,558.000 mobile customers and 8,025,000 fixed customers and 1,555,000 internet customers in its home markets. Outside the home markets TeliaSonera has extensive interests in the growth markets in Russia, Turkey and Eurasia. TeliaSonera is listed on the Stockholm Exchange, the Helsinki Exchanges and the Nasdaq Stock Market in the USA. Pro forma net sales January-September 2003 amounted to SEK 60,7 billion (EUR 6.8 billion). The number of employees was 26,216

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