



Media Release

14 September 2012

Enable launches fibre broadband services in Halswell

Halswell families and businesses can now connect to fibre broadband, with the launch of Enable's new services to the first Christchurch suburb.

For 5,000 potential Halswell fibre broadband users, the launch means they can contact a retail service provider now and move to a fibre broadband package for as little as \$75 per month. They can enjoy much faster fibre-based broadband, telephone services and calling packages today – and be ready for a raft of new services that will only be available over fibre.

"This announcement marks a major milestone for Enable," said Enable CEO Steve Fuller. "More importantly, it marks an enormous advancement in the telecommunications services available to Christchurch residents and business owners."

Retail service providers Snap, Orcon and Slingshot will be the first to provide residential services over Enable's fibre network and many others will follow soon after.

"Success for Enable will ultimately be measured by how many people connect and enjoy the benefits of fibre broadband, and what they do over it to improve their lives or grow their businesses," said Mr Fuller.

"We've been getting very positive feedback from the 50 trial participants connected to our service in Halswell. We're also hearing through retail service providers and directly from Halswell residents that there is very strong interest in moving to fibre broadband."

Following the Halswell launch, Enable will be making services available to more parts of the city – beginning with Bishopdale and Papanui over the next three months.

"We will make sure all customers in the areas we are building the network know as soon as they can connect to fibre broadband," said Mr Fuller.

To coincide with the launch announcement, Mr Fuller introduced Minister for Communications and Information Technology, Amy Adams and Deputy Christchurch Mayor, Ngaire Button to a Halswell home owner who has been trialling Enable's residential fibre broadband.

IT system support specialist, Bryan Adams has been using Enable's 30Mbps download and 10Mbps upload fibre broadband service for over a month as part of Snap's trial programme.

"I've been very impressed with the performance of my trial service and I am definitely moving to fibre broadband permanently," said Mr Adams.

“The speed improvements and consistent performance I’m enjoying from fibre broadband are the two things I’ve noticed the most. It’s much better than my previous broadband.”

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Note for Editors

Enable has recently launched a new website (enable.net.nz) that provides end users with information coverage information, a full list of retail service providers offering services and instructions on how to connect.

About Enable

Enable is a partnership between Crown Fibre Holdings Limited and Christchurch City owned Enable Services Limited to build and operate the ultra-fast broadband (UFB) network for Christchurch and surrounding centres.

It will deliver fibre broadband services to 180,000 homes, schools and businesses in Christchurch, Rangiora, Kaiapoi, Woodend, Lincoln, Prebbleton and Rolleston.

The Enable UFB network will play a vital role as Christchurch rebuilds – it will sit at the heart of our vision for a 21st century city. It will generate new industry, provide unprecedented access to global markets and services for local businesses, and enable the people of Christchurch to connect with each other in exciting new ways.

More information about Enable is available from enable.net.nz.