



PRESS RELEASE

EuroISPA welcomes Commission Vice-President and European Digital Agenda Commissioner Neelie Kroes' firm commitment to the establishment of a European market for online content



Vice-President Kroes was speaking to an invited audience of over 130 industry representatives and policy specialists organised by EuroISPA, the pan-European trade association for the Internet industry.

"The Internet sector is crucial to the whole economy", Vice-President Kroes said as she outlined key points in the Commission's Communication on the Digital Agenda. She described her new portfolio as "broad" and "cross-cutting", and believed the opportunity was "inspiring".

Welcoming Vice-President Kroes, EuroISPA President Malcolm Hutty said the Digital Agenda was "an exciting opportunity" and called for political leadership to remove barriers to establishing new business models for online content. "Only when we are able to deliver online content with the added value consumers demand, will people turn away from copyright infringing downloads", he argued.

Hutty further applauded the Commission's commitment to simplify cross-border licensing of digital content stressing that "innovative online services which are successful in some countries are prevented from serving consumers across Europe due to licensing difficulties. This is a discredit to the European Single Digital Market and we welcome action to address it".

Notes to Editors: EuroISPA is the world's largest association of Internet Service Providers (ISPs), representing the interests of over 1700 ISPs across Europe. With a Secretariat in Brussels, EuroISPA is a major voice of the Internet industry on information society subjects such as cybercrime, data protection, e-commerce regulation, EU telecommunications law and safe use of the Internet. Further information about the organisation (including its composition, aims and position papers) are available from its website: <http://www.euroispa.org>.

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