



## PRESS RELEASE

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### EU INSTITUTIONS ADOPT DIRECTIVE ON CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

**The European Internet Services Providers Association (EuroISPA) welcomes the adoption of the Directive and the removal of child sexual abuse material at source as the most effective technical measure to fight child abuse material online.**

BRUSSELS - EuroISPA and the ISPs welcome the adoption of the Directive by the Council of the EU. We have always called for the most effective action possible to be applied, so that such illegal material could be removed permanently at source, and are actively committed in this regard.

Malcolm Huty, President of EuroISPA, stated that “by requiring the mandatory removal of child sexual abuse material at source as the single most effective technical measure to combat its distribution online and, by fostering international cooperation against illegal content hosted in third countries, we believe adoption of the Directive will achieve a positive step forward in the fight against this illegal content in the EU and globally.”

In addition, EuroISPA welcomes, and fully supports, the reference to professional, industry-backed hotlines. Hotlines provide an anonymous reporting service to Internet users who accidentally uncover child sexual abuse material on the Internet. Trained professionals evaluate it and immediately notify law enforcement authorities and ISPs for immediate and effective removal of the Internet.

#### BACKGROUND

The Directive on sexual abuse, sexual exploitation of children and child pornography repealing Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA was submitted by the Commission in March 2010. The European Parliament and the Council of the EU adopted a compromise text that favored a first reading adoption of the legislative proposal.

*Notes to Editors: EuroISPA is the world's largest association of Internet Service Providers (ISPs), representing the interests of over 1800 ISPs across Europe. With a Secretariat in Brussels, EuroISPA is the 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> or +32 2 503 22 65.*