

Norway sets switch off date for FM

In a report released today, the Norwegian Government announces that FM radio broadcast will be switched off in 2017.

Norway is among the first countries in the world to set a specific time for FM switch-off. Many other countries across the world are, however, also committed to digital broadcast on the DAB platform, like Germany and Australia.

The need for a planned migration to digital broadcast

In Norway the public and commercial broadcasters are working together to switch to digital broadcast. The very challenging topography of the country makes radio broadcast comparatively much more expensive than in countries like Denmark and the UK. Running analogue and digital networks in parallel over time is not a viable option. As a consequence, a purely market driven migration to DAB could not have taken place in Norway. The announcement of a switchover date is therefore long awaited by the radio industry.

- We are pleased with the fact that our Minister of Culture, Ms Anniken Huitfeldt, understands the need for a clear strategy from the authorities. It will provide all radio listeners with a much bigger selection of channels, says Ole Jorgen Torvmark, General Manager of Digitalradio Norway.

For more information, please contact:

Ole Jørgen Torvmark
General Manager of Digitalradio Norway
+47 924 30 600

Jarle Ruud
Marketing manager of Digitalradio Norway
+47 403 10 467