

## **La Poste and EurActiv team up to highlight EU postal reform debate**

EurActiv.com, the independent web portal devoted to European policies, has renamed its "Transport" section "Transport & Services" with a view to highlighting important European policy developments and debates in the field of transport-related services such as logistics and postal services.

This section can be accessed free of charge at the following address:  
<http://www.euractiv.com/en/transport>.

In particular, EurActiv will be providing more focused coverage on the liberalisation of Europe's postal markets. Indeed, the EU is currently in the final stages of a 15-year process to make European postal services more efficient by opening them up to competition.

Internal Market Commissioner Charlie McCreevy told EurActiv: *"Completing the Single Market for Postal Services is one of the major political debates for 2007. The Commission's proposal marks the final step of a process started 15 years ago. It confirms the target of fully opening postal markets to competition - a target that had been envisaged by the EU postal reform all along. Full competition in postal services will contribute to quality, innovation and efficiency and the overall sustainability of the sector. This is in the interest of operators, users and postal workers. EurActiv's balanced reporting of all stakeholder positions will contribute to an informed debate."*

The more in-depth coverage of the postal-reform debate has been made possible with the support of France's La Poste.

Contrasting philosophies and market situations in European countries mean that postal operators in member states have different views on how to implement the final steps towards full market opening.

Thanks to its new co-operation with EurActiv, La Poste aims to contribute constructively to the debate and highlight the issues at stake when liberalising Europe's postal markets.

La Poste President Mr. Jean-Paul Bailly said: *"EurActiv is an essential tool for understanding key issues in a European Union that expanded to 27 members at the beginning of 2007. This will be a decisive year for defining the outline of a 'postal Europe' that cares about its economic and social role in future decades. The debate over the European Commission's new directive proposal will be lively; it is with conviction and enthusiasm that La Poste offers its support to EurActiv's information goal."*

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**Note to the editor:**

EurActiv.com is the independent portal on EU Affairs. With more than **212,000** unique monthly visitors (CIM certified figures – October 2006) and **385,000** unique visitors to the cross-lingual network (CIM certified figures – October 2006), the portal is an important working instrument for the majority of EU Actors (institutions, industry federations, NGO's, think tanks, the press and others) involved in defining or influencing EU policies.

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