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connect network test 2011: Orange has the best data network for smartphones

Europe's biggest telecommunications magazine connect has once again set out to test Switzerland's three mobile networks for quality and coverage. The Orange network is a convincing leader in the field of the best data network for smartphones, where it left Swisscom trailing. Overall, the Orange network scored "good", thus outdistancing Sunrise by a considerable margin in comparison to previous years. Orange is continuing its programme of comprehensive network modernisation and expansion, meaning that in the future customers will benefit not only from the best data network for smartphones, but also from the new HD Voice quality.



"We are very pleased by the outcome of the connect network test, though it is not unexpected. A 700 million-franc investment over five years, spent largely on modernising and expanding our network is paying off for our customers. This has also been shown in the comparison tests carried out by Kassensturz and the Swiss IT magazine. Orange is positioning itself as a leading provider for smartphone data services and

as a strong second-place competitor. We are also setting the new benchmark in Switzerland in terms of voice quality with HD Voice," states Tom Sieber, CEO of Orange.

Data rates measured on smartphones: winner in the city and city-country mix

"In terms of average data rates, Swiss operators are looking particularly good in cities, where Orange's leading edge over Swisscom is undeniable – and Swisscom can markedly outdistance Sunrise." So says connect in its current edition as regards the dominance of the Orange data network in the smartphone city test. According to connect, Orange also offers the fastest data network measured on smartphones on transfer routes: "On average, Orange offered higher data rates and as a rule also the highest top speed in well-served areas."

Network modernisation continues

In June 2010, Orange began its investment programme with over CHF 700 million earmarked predominantly for expanding the mobile network and for new technologies (see [Press Release dated 22.6.2010](#)). Modernising the entire GSM network and preparing for the 3G network for LTE with flexi multi-radio base stations also forms part of this project. The upgrade works started in spring 2011 with more than 3,000 GSM base stations and a total of over 2,100 3 G base stations (called "Nodes B") being equipped with the latest state of the art technology.





The ongoing capacity expansion along SBB main lines is also part of the network modernisation, as is the step-by-step introduction of EDGE.

In the regions of Valais and Lausanne, EDGE has already been activated in some areas. Since last week, Orange has offered HSPA+ with possible connection speeds of up to 42 Mbit/s in some parts of Lausanne and Geneva. Orange will supply most Swiss cities with HSPA+ and EDGE by mid 2012.

Leader in innovative voice quality with HD Voice

Orange is the first and only mobile communications provider in Switzerland to offer HD Voice nationwide (www.orange.ch/hdvoice). With HD Voice, callers will feel as though they are standing in the same room despite noisy backgrounds. Loud ambient noises common to train stations, roads or construction sites will be filtered out almost completely. Unlike previous mobile conversations, by using HD Voice, the entire spectrum of the human voice will be transmitted. Orange has been offering HD Voice quality since the end of August 2011 (see [Press Release dated 14.10.2011](#)).

The network test can also be found online at www.connect.de.

Note: In the heading "Tariff used for the measurements", Orange mistakenly communicated an erroneous tariff used for the tests. The correct offer which was used for the test costs CHF 35.– (Orange Me base package + 3 Preferred Numbers + 1GB of surfing) as opposed to CHF 105.– as was indicated in the article.

More information on the outstanding Orange network can be found at www.orange.ch/coverage as well as at www.orange.ch/hdvoice

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