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Telecommunications Newsletter Switzerland

Disagreement between Swiss National Council and Swiss Council of States on Unbundling Remains Unresolved

In its session of December 8, 2005, the Swiss National Council attempted to iron out the differences between the proposal of the Swiss Council of States and the Swiss National Council.

However, no progress was made and the Swiss National Council insisted to limit bit-stream access to a period of two years. The matter will have to be discussed again in the Swiss Council of States.

The present unbundling debate in the Swiss National Council and the Swiss Council of States demonstrates that in such a technical debate, the members of the parliament lack the requisite technical know-how to take an informed decision.

Also, one must assume that the recent turmoil about the future of Swisscom prompted the members of parliament to take a more protective approach towards Swisscom, in which the Swiss Confederation still holds a majority interest.

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