

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SPECIAL

SLOVAKIA



Slovaks, both residential and non-residential customers, transferred through mobile broadband access via their mobile phones or other devices 6,679 terabytes (TB) of data in the second half of 2014. Of this amount, users of interconnections transferred 42 percent of data otherwise than via mobile, according to data that mobile operators O2 Slovakia, Orange Slovakia, Slovak Telekom and SWAN have provided to the Office for the Regulation of Electronic Communications and Postal Services (RU). As spokesman for the authority Roman Vavro said, in the monitored period one citizen (residential client) who actively uses mobile broadband access transferred an average of 158 megabytes of data on a monthly basis. • [SITA \(22.5.\)](#)

The weekend discussion on the public-service Radio Slovensko titled *Sobotne Dialogy (Saturday Dialogues)* was about the privatization of the minority stake in Slovak Telekom. "We want to lower the debt and do it in the most transparent way," Finance Minister Peter Kazimir (SMER-SD) said in the discussion responding to the question of whether the direct sale of the 49 percent stake in Slovak Telekom (ST) is better than the sale through the stock exchange. MP Ivan Svejna (MOST-HID) opines that ST should have been sold completely in the past, there should have been a strategic investor a long time ago and part should have been sold through the stock exchange. Allegations that if there had been a competition we would have had a higher price cannot be proved because there was no competition, Svejna emphasized. The head of the finance department is sure that competition would not create a higher amount. Svejna would use the major part, or even the entire amount, of the money for a pension structural reform. • [Radio Slovensko \(23.5.\)](#) • [SITA \(23.5.\)](#)

- The entire amount of 900 million euros, which the state will acquire from the sale of its stake in Slovak Telekom, should be used to reduce the public debt of Slovakia. However, Prime Minister Robert Fico is considering that he would rather buy from the money a stake in another strategic company, in the power producer Slovenske Elektrarne. The opposition thinks it is a mistake. Finance Minister Peter Kazimir confirms that the money from the sale will be used to recover public finance. • [TV TA3 \(24.5.\)](#)

- The first man of the ruling SMER-SD party emphasized at the party congress that the privatization of Slovak Telekom during Dzurinda's government was carried out poorly. • [HN \(25.5.\), str. 4](#)

The new CEO of O2 Slovakia will be Peter Gazik. He takes up on June 1 this year. The telecommunications operator informed about the change. Current CEO Martin Vlcek returns to the Czech Republic to join the board of directors of the company CETIN Ceska Telekomunikacni Infrastruktura. Vlcek also ends as an authorized representative of O2 Slovakia. • [SITA \(22.5.\)](#)

TA3 TV's *Svet Technologii (World of Technologies)* was also dedicated to the following topics:

- It presented how voice can be used to verify identity when calling to the call center of the telecommunications operator Slovak Telekom. "The voice print is made based on approval of the user and subsequently it is compared with the voice of the current caller in every call," says Martin Vidan of Slovak Telekom. • [TV TA3 \(24.5.\)](#)

- After the first presentation of a new model in London, LG showed its new mobile phone titled G4 in Slovakia at the end of April. • [TV TA3 \(24.5.\)](#)

Research workers at the Slovak security company Eset detected more than 30 fake applications in the official Google Play store. "Harmful applications, which said about themselves they contain cheats for the popular game Minecraft, could have been installed more than 600,000 times," Eset said. According to the researchers, the apps claimed to users that their mobile operating system is infected with a dangerous virus they can get rid of only by registering into a paid SMS service which would cost them 4.80 euros a week. After this warning from Eset, Google withdrew these applications from its store. • [SITA \(22.5.\)](#) • [Novy Cas \(23.5.\), str. 6](#)

The Internet changed the world and it is now going to change the livelihood of many Slovaks. The US government published an official list of disappearing jobs which perfectly fits to the conditions of every developed country, including Slovakia. For example, text messages and emails bury the profession of postmen. The Internet on computers or, for example, on mobile phones is used today by 6 in 10 Slovaks. The natural exchange of generations will cause that some professions will be logically even more useless in the future. • [TV Markiza \(22.5.\)](#)

FOREIGN MARKET



No news