



Media Release

Zug / Nussbaumen, November 30, 2021

Swiss4net starts construction of the fibre network in the municipalities of Unter- and Obersiggenthal

Within the next two years, the two municipalities of Unter- and Obersiggenthal will have a comprehensive point-to-point fibre optic network (FTTH). This has been made possible through the long-term partnership between the Siggenthal electric utility cooperative (Elektrizitäts-Genossenschaft Siggenthal) and Swiss4net.

Following the successful completion of detailed feasibility studies, Swiss4net will begin the FTTH network's construction on December 1, 2021.

After the partnership between the Siggenthal electric utility cooperative and Swiss4net was announced in June 2021, another milestone has now been reached on the way towards a comprehensive point-to-point FTTH fibre optic network in Unter- and Obersiggenthal. The planning phase involving detailed analyses has been successfully completed. The construction of the network is about to start.

Roger Frey, CTO of Swiss4net, is pleased: "Detailed analyses have been able to clarify the situation on site, for both municipalities. As the planning phase has been completed, we can now start building the approximately 9,000 units required. Our goal is to connect all residential and business units to the new fibre optic network within the next two years. All homeowners will now be contacted and can secure their fibre connection without obligation and free of charge."

Also, the second partner in the project, Siggenthal electric utility cooperative, is delighted about the developments. Ueli Bettler, Managing Director of EGS, explains: "A high-performance fibre optic network is a major attraction factor in our supply area. It provides our electricity customers with access to the most modern telecommunication infrastructure."

Siggenthal4net will build and operate the FTTH network

Construction of the network will begin on December 1, 2021 and is expected to be completed within the next two years. Swiss4net is setting up a local operating company for the construction and operation of the FTTH network, Siggenthal4net AG. The subsidiary company will be fully owned by Swiss4net.

In order to obtain a fibre optic connection, homeowners will be asked to sign a contract with Swiss4net. Each residential and business unit will then be connected to the fibre optic network and receive an OTO socket, i.e. the optical telecommunications outlet, which allows residents and businesses to receive their telecommunication services in the future.

Siggenthal4net's new FTTH network is open to all interested telecommunications service providers on a non-discriminatory basis. As a result, the population of Unter- and Obersiggenthal will soon be able to benefit from ultra-fast internet and state-of-the-art TV and telecommunications services offered by both national and regional telecommunications internet providers.

Swiss4net uses a pure point-to-point model for all of its comprehensive FTTH networks, which ensures that all end-users benefit from individual fibres. Two additional fibres will be available in each building for potential future use.

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About Swiss4net

Swiss4net is a partner to municipalities, cities and power supply companies, offering long-term, comprehensive and straightforward packages for the construction of point-to-point FTTH fibre optic networks. Unlike other companies, Swiss4net takes care of everything, from planning and construction to operation. Municipalities and energy-provider partners do not bear any costs or take on any financial risk. Fibre optic networks enhance the attractiveness of towns and cities and widen the choice of telecommunications providers for their customers on the basis of non-discriminatory access. Swiss4net currently operates the point-to-point FTTH fibre optic networks in Baden and Ennetbaden as well as in Chiasso, Vacallo, Morbio Inferiore and Balerna. In Ascona, Pully and Morges, the point-to-point FTTH fibre optic networks are currently under construction and partly in service.

For more information about Swiss4net, visit <http://www.swiss4net.ch/en/>

About Elektrizitäts-Genossenschaft Siggenthal EGS

The Siggenthal electric utility cooperative (EGS) has been supplying energy to the region for over 100 years and is thus well aware of Siggenthal's needs. EGS is responsible for the planning and maintenance of the entire electric power distribution infrastructure in Siggenthal. It also works on contractual basis for smaller companies. It is organised as a cooperative, designed to be democratic and enabling faster decision-making. This organisational form enables long-term planning as well as flexibility with regards to future technological developments and social frameworks. The cooperative's roots allow the organisation to remain independent and self-sufficient.

For more information about EGS, visit www.egs-strom.ch