



Alliance of Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Manufacturers (VTKE)  
Alt-Moabit 90a • 10559 Berlin • Germany  
+49 173 628 62 44 • info@vtke.eu

PRESS RELEASE

## Free modem choice possible in the Netherlands from Friday 28 January Dutch end-users no longer bound to the modem offered by their provider

*Amsterdam, 26 January 2022* - The VTKE, an alliance of European telecommunications terminal equipment manufacturers, is pleased to announce that end-users in the Netherlands will be able to freely choose their modem as of Friday 28 January. The Dutch Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) has drawn up a [new policy rule](#) stipulating that providers can no longer force end-users to use the modem supplied by the internet provider. The VTKE has been campaigning for free modem choice for years.

The European Union has been in favour of free modem choice since 2015 with Regulation (EU) 2015/2120. After Finland, Germany and Italy, from 28 January 2022 Dutch end-users will also be able to decide whether they want to choose their own terminal device or use the one supplied by their provider.

Providers had long argued that there were technical and security reasons for not allowing free modem choice, although these had been extensively discussed and repeatedly refuted. Moreover, the countries where free modem choice has already for a number of years show that none of these objections have ultimately been realized.

The ACM has now therefore drawn up a new policy rule making it possible for end-users to choose their own modem. The quality of an internet modem is essential for an intelligent and secure home network.

A spokesperson for the VTKE: "In a one-size-fits-all business model, not all innovations reach the end-user. A free market stimulates innovation and gives end-users the opportunity to make a choice that fits their needs and budget. End-users themselves know best what they want when it comes to their home network. We are pleased that all efforts have led to this result and we hope that this decision will encourage other countries to follow suit."

---

### ***About the VTKE***

*The Verbund der Telekommunikations-Endgerätehersteller/Alliance of Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Manufacturers (VTKE) is made up of primarily medium-sized companies operating in Europe. Together they are committed to securing the long-term success of a liberalized telecommunications market. In addition, the companies want to raise awareness of the importance of telecommunications terminal equipment in politics and society. Furthermore, they are working together to create a stable, future-oriented regulatory and economic framework, as this forms the basis for the high level of innovation in the telecommunications terminal equipment industry. For more information, please visit [www.vtke.eu](http://www.vtke.eu).*