

News release

First subsidised mobile phone mast in Rhineland-Palatinate comes to Lind

- Vantage Towers awarded first mobile phone mast under MIG funding programme in Rhineland-Palatinate
- Mobile mast will supply a region affected by the Ahr floods in 2021
- Christian Sommer, Board Member at Vantage Towers: "The rebuilding of the region is far from complete and remains a challenge. I am all the more pleased that we have come a step closer to this important goal with the MIG's funding programme and the planned radio mast in Lind."

Naumburg (Saale) / Lind, 30 January 2023 – Germany's Federal Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, Dr Volker Wissing MP, today handed over a funding approval for the construction of a mobile communications tower to Alexander Schweitzer and Ernst Ferdinand Wilmsmann, both managing directors of Mobilfunkinfrastrukturgesellschaft mbH (MIG) in Lind, a town in the German administrative district of Ahrweiler. The mast will bring mobile coverage to a region affected by the Ahr flood in 2021 and will be erected by the tower operator Vantage Towers.

Dr Volker Wissing, Federal Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure: "To safeguard its economic and technological competitive advantages, Germany has to 'go digital'. And to establish a nationwide digital infrastructure it needs high-performance networks. We want to extend 24/7 mobile coverage, as well as mobile access to data, applications and services, to everywhere in Germany. Our targeted mobile communications funding programme is bringing passive infrastructure to all the underserved regions where there will be no commercial roll-out. People who live in the Ahr Valley discovered in a very dramatic way how important an effective digital infrastructure is during the terrible floods of summer 2021. So I'm delighted that the coverage gap in Lind's Obliers district, which was also hit by the flood, is now being eliminated and that the three big MNOs have signed up as tenants for the Lind tower. Let's hope we can achieve similarly positive outcomes in all of Germany's underserved areas."

"MIG performs a local 'caretaker' function to improve mobile coverage in rural regions. The handover of the first funding commitment for the construction of a subsidised tower in Ahrweiler sends out an important signal. I'd like to thank the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, the administrative district of Ahrweiler, the municipality of Altenahr and the town of Lind for their hard work and support during the site preparation process. Now we have to get the tower built and operational as quickly as possible. We have tenancy commitments from three mobile network operators, Deutsche Telekom, Telefónica Deutschland and Vodafone, for the subsidised tower," said **Ernst Ferdinand Wilmsmann, MIG's managing director**.

"Extending mobile coverage to underserved areas is very important in a flatland state like Rhineland-Palatinate. That's why I'm so pleased that the first funded tower in Rhineland-Palatinate is coming to Lind in the administrative district of Ahrweiler. The Rhineland-Palatinate mobile communications clearing centre is in regular close contact with the German government's mobile infrastructure company (MIG) to ensure that state-specific infrastructure

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and topographic requirements are taken into account," said [Digital Infrastructure Minister Alexander Schweitzer](#).

Christian Sommer: "In order to help the people in the Ahr valley after the terrible flood disaster and to restore the mobile phone infrastructure, which had collapsed in many parts, as quickly as possible, Vantage Towers, together with the THW and the mobile phone network operators, had put numerous mobile transmission stations into operation at that time. At the same time, the rebuilding of the region is far from complete and remains a challenge. I am all the more pleased that we have come a step closer to this important goal with the MIG's funding programme and the planned radio mast in Lind."

Government funds will be used to build a tower in Lind, providing an around 190 hectare region which currently has no mobile coverage with a 4G/LTE service. The tower will also improve mobile coverage in Lind's Obliers district, another of the localities affected by the flooding. Around 50 households and the road used for main access to the area by the flood relief teams will get mobile coverage.

Background information:

The German government's mobile communications funding programme subsidises the construction of the towers and their operation for a period of seven years. It is also an incentive to future users because, once the subsidised passive infrastructure is in place, mobile network operators can lease it at very attractive conditions to install their antennas and eliminate the 'white spot'.

The MIG takes a step-by-step approach to the preparation and implementation of mobile infrastructure funding, providing a valuable contribution to both private industry and subsidised mobile network expansion. At regular intervals it publishes underserved regions that are eligible for funding on its website. The objective of this market consultation process is to establish whether any MNOs are planning to build or upgrade the infrastructure in these regions. MIG has already initiated 1273 market consultation processes and 972 of them have now concluded. 704 sites have been identified as eligible for subsidy and site preparations soon will be or already are underway. MNOs have stated their intention to commercially develop 268 of the sites in the market consultation process.

You can find further information about mobile communications subsidisation at www.netzdamig.de.

[About Vantage Towers](#)

Vantage Towers is a leading tower company in Europe with around 83,000 sites in ten countries, connecting people, businesses and devices in cities and rural areas.

The company was founded in 2020 and is headquartered in Düsseldorf. Vantage Towers has been listed on the Deutsche Börse's Prime Standard in Frankfurt since 18 March 2021. The shares are included in the MDAX, TecDAX, STOXX Europe 600 and FTSE Global Midcap Indices.

Vantage Towers' portfolio includes towers, masts, rooftop sites, distributed antenna systems (DAS) and small cells. By building, operating and leasing this infrastructure to MNOs or other network providers such as IoT companies or utilities, Vantage Towers is making a significant contribution to a better connected Europe.

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While already 100% of the electricity that Vantage Towers uses to operate its infrastructure is obtained from renewable energy sources, green energy is increasingly being generated directly on site with the help of solar panels, micro wind turbines and in future also hydrogen solutions. This fits well into the overall strategy of the company to drive a sustainable digitalisation in Europe and to support partners through technological innovation in decarbonisation and achieving their climate goals. For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.vantagetowers.com/en>, follow us on Twitter at @VantageTowers or connect with us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/vantagetowers.

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