

EU site lists wireless roaming charges

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Europeans now have a concise Web site they can use to avoid the pitfalls of roaming charges while using their cell phones on the road.

The European Commission Tuesday launched a site listing roaming rates charged by mobile operators throughout Europe with the goal of helping consumers avoid sticker shock on their monthly bills.

EU officials have been complaining about roaming charges they see as simply too high for business travelers who must cross several borders while keeping in touch with clients and home offices. Officials hope the site, europa.eu.int, will make life easier for individual consumers and foster greater competition among mobile operators.

"At a time when we have seen in Europe so much progress in other telecommunications services, the cost of using your mobile phone abroad is hard to believe," EU Information Technology Chief Viviane Reding told reporters in Brussels.

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