

T-Mobile taking over Dutch arm of Tele2 mobile provider

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The Dutch arm of T-Mobile says it is taking over telecom and internet provider Tele2's operations in the Netherlands, in a move T-Mobile says is aimed at competing with local heavyweights KPN and VodafoneZiggo.

T-Mobile will pay 190 million euros (\$224 million) and give Tele2 a 25-percent stake in the new combined company. T-Mobile parent company Deutsche Telekom will own 75 percent. The deal announced Friday is subject to approval by competition authorities.

Deutsche Telekom says the combined company will have revenues of more than 2 billion euros and about 4.3 million <u>mobile subscribers</u>.

Soren Abildgaard, CEO of the Dutch T-Mobile, says the new company "will be able to compete against the duopoly much more efficiently and give all Dutch customers a fair choice."

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