

1.C. 12/31/01

0-28970

FORM 6-K



02011890

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of December 2001

COLT TELECOM GROUP plc
(Translation of Registrant's Name into English)

15 Marylebone Road
London
NW1 5JD
England

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of
Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

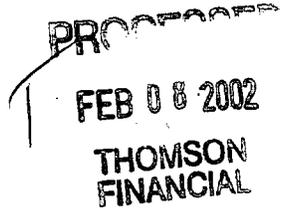
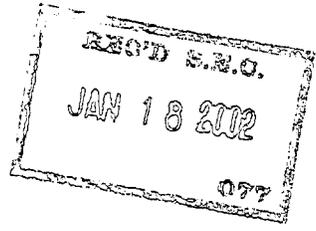
Form 20-F Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant by furnishing the information contained in this
Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b)
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934)

Yes No

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the Registrant in connection with
Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- _____)

This Form 6-K shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registrant's Registration
Statement on Form F-3 (Reg. No.333-05972), in the Registrant's



Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Reg. No.333-8362), in the Registrant's
Registration Statement Form F-3 (Reg. No. 333-09116), in the Registrant's
Registration Statement Form F-3 (Reg. No. 333-09118), in the Registrant's
Registration Statement Form F-3 (Reg. No. 333-09120), and in the Registrant's
Registration Statement Form F-4 (Reg. No. 333-11866), and in the Registrant's
Registration Statement Form F-3 (Reg. No. 333-13990)

Enclosure: Press Release dated 17th December 2001

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this Current Report on Form-6K to be signed on its behalf by undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: 17th December 2001

COLT Telecom Group plc

By: 

Mark A. Jenkins
Legal Services Director

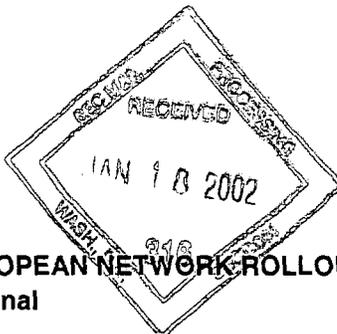


press information

we make business **straight.forward**

17 December 2001

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COLT COMPLETES 32 CITY PAN-EUROPEAN NETWORK ROLLOUT Manchester city-network now operational

COLT Telecom Group plc (COLT), a leading supplier of business network and application solutions, said today that its Manchester fibre-optic city-network was now operational, completing its plan to have 32 city-networks in place by the end of 2001.

Peter Manning, COLT's President and Chief Executive said:

"Launch of service in Manchester is a major milestone in COLT's development. With 32 city-networks now in place we have completed the city build-out element of our business plan. This means that the major part of our infrastructure build is now complete enabling even greater emphasis to be given to providing our customers with a significantly expanded range of high value products and services."

About COLT

COLT Telecom Group plc is a leading supplier of business network and application solutions to business and governmental customers in Europe. It has operations in 32 European cities in thirteen countries. The EuroLAN is a 15,000 route kilometre network that provides international high capacity fibre-optic links between COLT city networks. Currently over 12,000 route kilometres have been lit. In addition COLT provides Internet connectivity, Internet hosting and enables application services in 11 European countries, with a backbone reaching into the US and more than 450 peering agreements. COLT Internet Solution Centres (ISCs) have been built in 16 cities totaling more than 1 million square feet (86,000 square metres) of hosting space.

During the year ended December 2000 turnover was £640.8 million and it carried 15.8 billion switched minutes of traffic. During the quarter ended September 2001 turnover rose 39% to £231.4 million

COLT Telecom Group plc is listed on the London Stock Exchange (CTM.L) and Nasdaq (COLT). Information about COLT and its products and services can be found on the web at www.colt.net

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