



Media Release- 23 June 2006

ComReg finds eircom in breach of regulatory obligation

ComReg has today notified eircom that it has made a finding that eircom is in breach of Regulation 7(1)(a) of the Interconnection Regulations, by discriminating against other operators in relation to the provision of customer information.

Eircom has one month from the date of this notification either to make representations in relation to the notification or remedy any non-compliance. ComReg will make a final decision at that point as to how to proceed. If at that stage ComReg is of the opinion that eircom is not in compliance it may then apply to the High Court for an appropriate order, including a financial penalty.

In early May 2006, it was alleged to ComReg that sales agents for eircom's retail division were able to obtain other operators' customers' account numbers directly from eircom's wholesale systems. The information is not meant to be made available to any retail operator, including eircom retail, unless provided by customers themselves.

A subsequent ComReg investigation has yielded evidence which confirms the allegation. Were Eircom's own retail arm to have direct access to this information it would mean that eircom would have an unfair advantage over its competitors, in winning customers.

ENDS

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