



Media Release - 29 January, 2009

## **ComReg reduces the wholesale number porting charges for fixed and mobile operators by up to 90%**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today published a decision in relation to the maximum charges for wholesale fixed and mobile number porting. Following a detailed consultation process with industry, the revised porting charges will result in reductions of up to 90% in relation to the wholesale mobile number porting (MNP) charges and reductions of up to 70% to wholesale fixed number porting charges.

Number Porting (NP) is a facility which allows the consumer (or customer) to retain their existing fixed or mobile number when moving between network operators. There is an obligation on all network operators, both fixed and mobile, to provide NP services.

The decision sets out that a mobile operator cannot charge in excess of €2.05 to another mobile operator when a customer moves. Similarly, a fixed operator cannot charge in excess of €4.02 to another fixed operator when a customer moves. ComReg has also set out a number of other wholesale fixed NP charges, including a maximum charge of €3.50 for Geographic Number Portability (GNP) in the context of Unbundled Local Metallic Path (ULMP) and a maximum charge of €5.74 for Non-Geographic Number Portability (NGNP).

ComReg issued a decision on 30 November, 2007 (in ComReg Document 07/98) setting out that there was to be no direct charges to consumers for number portability. This decision encourages competition in the fixed and mobile market as consumers are not subject to one-off porting charges for porting their number to another operator.

ComReg Chairperson, John Doherty, said that 'the review conducted by ComReg, and the subsequent reduction in the prices of wholesale NP charges, is part of ComReg's overall commitment to encourage further competition in the mobile and fixed market'.

For further details of the revised charges please see ComReg Document 09/04 on ComReg's website [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie).

**ENDS**

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