



Commission for
Communications Regulation

MVCT Market Review and Mobile/Fixed Voice Call Termination Rates in Ireland

ComReg publishes its Final Decisions

Information Notice

Reference: ComReg 12/126

Date: 21/11/2012

**An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for Communications Regulation**

Abbey Court Irish Life Centre Lower Abbey Street Dublin 1 Ireland
Telephone +353 1 804 9600 Fax +353 1 804 9680 Email info@comreg.ie Web www.comreg.ie

ComReg has today published two separate Decisions in relation to voice call termination. Voice call termination (“termination”) is the wholesale service whereby operators, fixed and mobile, complete calls which have been initiated on another operator’s network. Operators charge each other a fee for providing the service.

The first Decision concerns mobile voice call termination (“mobile termination”), which is the termination service provided by mobile operators to each other and to fixed line operators. In this Decision ComReg has reviewed the market for mobile termination and found that each mobile operator’s mobile termination constitutes a separate market for regulatory purposes and that each mobile operator that offers a termination service has significant market power in its respective market. One implication of this is that the wholesale fees charged for mobile termination by these operators to other operators will be subject to regulation. The mobile operators in question are Hutchison 3G Ireland (“H3GI”), Lycamobile Ireland (“Lycamobile”), Meteor Mobile Communications (Meteor), Telefonica Ireland (“O2”), Tesco Mobile Ireland (“TMI”) and Vodafone Ireland (“Vodafone”).

The second Decision concerns all providers of termination services, fixed and mobile. In this decision ComReg has determined the precise means of calculating the appropriate level of cost to be recovered when determining the fee to be charged by these operators to each other. In practice this will mean that allowable mobile wholesale termination prices will fall from a current Irish industry average of about 4.15cent per minute to 1.04cent per minute, while allowable wholesale fixed termination prices for specified operators¹ will fall to a level which is equivalent to 0.098cent per minute.

ComReg believes that the Decisions in relation to Mobile and Fixed Termination rates, as well as being in line with best practice within the EU, will bring further regulatory certainty to service providers providing electronic communications services, promote the development of effective competition amongst them, and should give rise to enhanced benefits for consumers.

¹ Namely those operators currently already found by ComReg to have significant market power in their respective fixed termination markets: Eircom Limited, BT Communications Ireland Limited, Verizon Ireland Limited, NTL Communications (Ireland) Limited/Chorus Communications Limited (now UPC Communications Ireland Limited), Colt Telecom Ireland Limited, Smart Telecom Holdings Limited and Magnet Networks Limited,

Note to Editors:

Other related Publications:

Market Review, Voice Call Termination on Individual Mobile Networks, Consultation and Draft Decision, [ComReg Document 12/46](#)

Market Review, Voice Call Termination on Individual Mobile Networks, Response to Consultation and Decision, [ComReg Document 12/124](#), Decision Number D11/12, November 2012 (the 'MVCT Decision').

Mobile and Fixed Voice Call Termination Rates in Ireland, Consultation and Draft Decision [ComReg Document 12/67](#)

Mobile and Fixed Voice Call Termination Rates in Ireland, Response to Consultation and Decision [ComReg Document 12/125](#), Decision Number D12/12 November 2012 (the 'Termination Rates Pricing Decision').

Commission Recommendation of 7 May 2009 on the Regulatory Treatment of Fixed and Mobile Termination Rates in the EU, see link below:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:124:0067:0074:EN:PDF>