



Commission for
Communications Regulation

Information Notice

Local Loop Unbundling ('LLU') and Bitstream: Eircom's proposal to reduce ancillary charges

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Local Loop Unbundling ('LLU') is the process which enables Other Authorised Operators ('OAOs') to make use of the physical copper connections between a customer and the local exchange, known as 'local loop'. The charges relating to LLU and its ancillary services are contained in Eircom's Access Reference Offer ('ARO') price list. Bitstream has been identified as a key requirement for operators to offer fixed broadband and be in a position to replicate the fixed retail broadband offers of the significant market power ('SMP') operator across Ireland. The charges relating to Bitstream are contained in Eircom's Bitstream Access Reference Offer ('BARO') price list.

Eircom currently has SMP in the Wholesale (Physical) Network Infrastructure Access Market ('WPNIA') market¹ (commonly referred to as the LLU market) and in the Wholesale Broadband Access ('WBA') market² (commonly referred to as the Bitstream market). As a result of the designation of SMP on Eircom in these markets a number of obligations have been imposed on it, including a cost orientation obligation and a non-discrimination obligation.

Prompted by ComReg, Eircom has now reviewed the processes and related costs of ancillary charges for LLU and Bitstream. These charges relate to connections, disconnections and migrations. This review included a review of the migration process between the various services, i.e. from Bitstream to Line Share (or LLU) and from Line Share to LLU, and the related cost reductions. Eircom now proposes to reduce these charges; which will represent reductions ranging from 18% to 75%.

ComReg welcomes this development and believes it will improve the prospects of the LLU product in particular. Details of the main reduced charges are included in the appendix. These reduced charges will be effective from 1 April 2011.

¹ ComReg Document No 10/39 (Decision No. D05/10) Response to Consultations and Decision on "Market Review: Wholesale (Physical) Network Infrastructure Access (Market 4)", 20 May 2010.

² ComReg Document No 05/11r (Decision No. D03/05) "Decision Notice - Designation of SMP and Related Remedies: Market Analysis – Wholesale Broadband Access" , 24 February. 2005.

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Appendix:

Eircom's proposed reductions to LLU and Bitstream ancillary charges:

Reference Offer Price List	Description of service*	Current Charge	Eircom Revised Charge	% Change
BARO	Bitstream Connection Charge (per port)	€30.00	€15.00	-50%
BARO	Bitstream 24 Mb Upgrade Charge	€30.00	€15.00	-50%
BARO	Bitstream Port Transfer Charge (per port)	€30.00	€15.00	-50%
BARO	Bitstream Cessation Charge (per port)	€60.00	€15.00	-75%
ARO	ULMP Connection Charge with Successful Completion	€42.75	€29.30	-31%
ARO	Line Share Connection Charge with Successful Completion	€42.75	€29.30	-31%
ARO	ULMP Connection Charge with Successful Completion - survey option	€61.75	€50.60	-18%
ARO	Line Share Connection Charge with Successful Completion - survey option	€61.75	€50.60	-18%
ARO	Upgrade from Line Share to ULMP on the same pair	€39.29	€15.00	-62%
ARO	GLUMP Connection Charge with Successful Completion	€46.08	€32.63	-29%
ARO	GLUMP Connection Charge with Successful Completion - survey option	€65.08	€53.93	-18%
ARO	ULMP: Intra Operator Bulk Migrations and Inter Operator Bulk Migrations Charge	€32.06	€15.00	-53%
ARO	Line Share: Intra Operator Bulk Migrations and Inter Operator Bulk Migrations Charge	€29.47	€15.00	-49%
ARO	ULMP Disconnection Charge	€24.09	€15.00	-38%
ARO	Line Share Disconnection Charge	€41.15	€15.00	-64%

*** For full description and terms of the service please refer to Eircom's Wholesale website at www.eircomwholesale.ie**