



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Regulator Up-dates CPS Regime

The Telecoms Regulator has introduced important developments to the current Irish Carrier Pre-Selection (CPS) regime. CPS is a service whereby other operators can offer telephony services to customers using *eircom*'s network and has been available in Ireland since January 2000.

One of the principal changes introduced is the option of single billing for customers rather than the dual billing method that is currently in place (one bill from *eircom* for line rental, one from the operator for calls). Single billing, which will be provided by the CPS operator, will be very convenient for CPS customers. As part of this 'Single Billing' framework, the CPS operator will be able to avail of a wholesale line rental offering from *eircom*.

CPS Operators will also be facilitated to provide additional services such as Call Barring directly to CPS customers. The Regulator is also proposing changes to the process whereby customers are contacted after they have elected to move to another provider. In future this will be limited to an industry agreed letter, as is the case in other markets such as the UK.

The planned changes will be introduced in the period to January 2003 with an intensive stage of implementation, design and planning with the industry taking place in the interim.

According to the Telecoms Regulator, Etain Doyle, "these new changes will bring an added impetus to CPS and consequently to competition in the Irish telecoms market".

Additional work is also underway in the ODTR that will further help to drive competition forward. A review of *eircom*'s conveyance charges is already underway and a separate consultation on inter-operator order handling charges will commence shortly.

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