



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

# Information Notice

## Withdrawal of Access of Legacy TDM Interconnection Services

### Information Notice

**Reference:** ComReg 22/98

**Version:** Final

**Date:** 28/11/2022

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

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## Additional Information

Document No:	22/98
Date:	28/11/2022

1. The Commission for Communications Regulation (**'ComReg'**) is the statutory body responsible for the regulation of the electronic communications sector (telecommunications, radio-communications and broadcasting transmission) in Ireland.
2. On 12 August 2022, Eircom sought ComReg's approval for the End of Sale and End of Support of TDM interconnect paths (**'TDM Interconnection Service'**), delivered over Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (**'SDH'**), in accordance with Section 7.5(ii) of D05/15<sup>1</sup> and Section 8.4(ii)/Section 8.3(ii) of D10/19<sup>2</sup> Annex 16/Annex 17 respectively. The request seeks the removal of all variants of interconnect paths from Annex C of the Reference Interconnect Offer which is outlined in Service Schedule 002<sup>3</sup>.
3. Section 7.5(ii) of ComReg Decision Instrument D05/15<sup>4</sup> (the 2015 FACO Decision Instrument) requires Eircom *"not to withdraw Access to facilities already granted without the prior approval of ComReg and in accordance with terms and conditions as may be determined by ComReg"*. Regulation of the FACO Market has been repealed by the 2022 FACO Decision<sup>5</sup>, subject to certain sunset periods and therefore, for the purposes of this request, the 2015 FACO Decision Instrument remains extant.
4. Section 8.3(ii) Annex 16 of ComReg Decision Instrument D10/19 (the 2019 FVCT Decision Instrument) requires Eircom *"not withdraw Access (including Access to FVCT and Associated Facilities) to facilities already granted, without prior approval of ComReg and in accordance with terms and conditions as may be determined by ComReg"*.
5. Section 8.4(ii) Annex 17 of ComReg Decision Instrument D10/19 (the 2019 MVCT Decision Instrument) requires Eircom *"not withdraw Access (including Access to MVCT and Associated Facilities) to facilities already granted, without prior approval of ComReg and in accordance with terms and conditions as may be determined by ComReg"*.

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<sup>1</sup> "Market Review Wholesale Fixed Voice Call Origination and Transit Markets", ComReg Document 15/82, Decision D05/15, 24 July 2015, Appendix H Decision Instrument.

<sup>2</sup> "Market Review Fixed Voice Call Termination and Mobile Voice Call Termination", ComReg Document 19/47, Decision D10/19, 23 May 2019, Annex 16 Fixed Voice Call Termination (**'FVCT'**) Decision Instrument (**'DI'**) and Annex 17 Mobile Voice Call Termination (**'MVCT'**) DI.

<sup>3</sup> Reference Interconnect Offering (**'RIO'**), version 7.0, dated 1 October 2020, <https://www.openeir.ie/reference-offers/>

<sup>4</sup> Wholesale Fixed Voice Call Origination and Transit Market Review, ComReg Document No 15/82, Decision D05/15, dated 24 July 2015.

<sup>5</sup> Retail Access to the Public Telephone Network at a Fixed Location for Residential and Non-Residential Customers: Wholesale Fixed Access and Call Origination, Response to Consultation and Final Decision, ComReg Document 22/50, Decision D05/22, 29 June 2022, Annex 1

6. Based on the information provided, ComReg has decided to grant Eircom permission for the withdrawal of its access obligation to provide TDM Interconnection Services subject to the terms and conditions set out in paragraph 7 below.
7. The following terms and conditions shall apply to this withdrawal of access:
  - (a) Eircom shall notify ComReg and Industry of its plan for the End of Sale, End of Life and End of Support of TDM Interconnection Services at least one month in advance of the planned End of Sale date.
  - (b) The End of Life date shall be at least 4 months from the End of Sale date.
  - (c) The End of Support date shall be at least 4 months from the End of Life date.
  - (d) The re-arrangements of TDM Interconnection Services, to facilitate fault repair or interconnection path consolidation, should continue to be permitted after the End of Sale date until the End of Support date.
  - (e) Eircom will provide a status report to ComReg at the intervals specified below, which shall contain the following information:
    - (i) The number of TDM Interconnection Services per operator;
    - (ii) The Migration status of each operator, i.e. outline where an operator has:
      - a. Fully migrated to VIX via WEIL with no TDM Interconnection Services;
      - b. Completed interoperability testing ('IOT') but has not migrated traffic to VIX via WEIL;
      - c. IOT is complete and migration of traffic is in progress;
      - d. IOT has not commenced for VIX via WEIL;
      - e. List of operators who have confirmed that they are ceasing their TDM Interconnection Service and will, therefore, not be migrating to Eircom's VIX via WEIL interconnect service; and
      - f. The list of operators who have yet to engage and advise that they intend to migrate or cease the service.
    - (iii) The report will be issued to ComReg on the following dates:
      - a. End of Sale date; and
      - b. 3 months prior to the End of Support date.

- (f) In the event of a technical issue with the VIX via WEIL interconnect service which prevents an operator migrating in a timely manner in advance of the End of Support date, Eircom shall inform ComReg of the issue and provide regular updates to ComReg until the issue has been resolved. ComReg may invoke the right to extend the End of Support date where it is deemed appropriate following a technical issue that prevents an operator migrating in advance of the End of Support date.
- (g) TDM Interconnection Services will not operate after the End of Support date, unless otherwise agreed with ComReg. Eircom will issue confirmation to ComReg that all TDM Interconnection Services are ceased on the End of Support date, unless otherwise agreed with ComReg.