

Changes to Geographic Number Portability Average Porting Conveyance Charges

Briefing Audience:

Public Electronic Communication Network Providers

Interconnect Notification (Ref: 112/08)

Geographic Number Portability (GNP) allows the end-user to change Communications Provider (CP) without changing telephone number. Average Porting Conveyance (APC) charges compensate a donor operator for acting as a “transit” operator for ported calls when calls both originate and terminate off-net.

The current rates for GNP no longer reflects the costs of the work done by BT for “transiting” calls. Consequently, BT has reviewed the network usage of routing a call to a ported geographic number in order to more accurately reflect the costs.

As part of the review, BT has liaised with CPs and received feedback regarding the proposed methodology to derive the rates. After giving careful consideration to the feedback received, BT will be amending the rates in two stages:

1. Effective 1 May 2008 – an amended industry average rate will be introduced to reflect the costs incurred by BT in receiving calls either at the DLE or tandem layer, for handover to the Recipient provider at the parent tandem.
2. Effective from 1 October 2008 – updated CP specific rates will be notified in early September 2008, which additionally reflect on a CP by CP basis the actual network usage of both taking calls to the parent tandem, and where a CP requires us to do so, for the onward routing of calls beyond the parent tandem.

During April, May and June 2008, CPs will have the opportunity to potentially minimise their routing costs by working with BT to attempt to identify and aim to remove any inefficiencies under the control of the CP, thereby potentially minimising the rate that will come into effect on 1 October 2008.

As a consequence NCCN 885 is being issued 2 April 2008, giving notification of the revised rates which will become effective on 1 May 2008.

A second NCCN will be issued early September 2008, giving notification of the revised CP specific rates which will come into effect on 1 October 2008.

1. Methodology and rates

The present APC calculations are derived from traffic records of ported calls that crossed the BT network and terminated on a Terminating CP's network in December 2007. Regulated network components have been used to derive the rates. A pricing model is available via your CM.

2. New Entrants

For the period between 1 May and 30 September 2008, new entrants will incur the same industry average APC charge that all operators incur.

With effect from 1 October 2008, new entrants to geographic number portability should be aware that their initial rates will be derived from the industry average. Rates will be reviewed with new entrants after three months data is available, or at such time as volumes become material if volumes are not sufficiently material after three months.

3. Future updates

Operators should note that higher APC rates are to a large extent determined by the extent to which ported traffic is multi switched. Hence, CPs are urged to use the three month window between April to June 2008 to review their routing plans should they wish to try to reduce the level of BT network usage before the CP specific pricing comes into effect from 1 October 2008.

For further information regarding the information contained within this briefing please contact your Commercial Manager.

LEGAL NOTICE

The information contained in this briefing is confidential information as per your terms and conditions with BT. Please do not forward, republish or permit unauthorised access. The content is accurate at the time of writing and is subject to change.

