

SERVICE DESCRIPTION 1-3: PSTN TERMINATING ACCESS SERVICE

1 THE SERVICE

The **PSTN Terminating Access Service** is a service for the carriage of a Telephone Call from an agreed Point of Interconnection to a PSTN Number within the Access Provider's Network.

Available To: Public telecommunications operators with an individual NFL or MNO licence and one or more interconnection links with Batelco.

Traffic: Traffic which both originates and terminates in Bahrain only.

Reciprocal Service: A traffic delivery service must be offered by any operator capable of delivering traffic to that operator's directly connected customers.

2 DEFINITIONS

Capitalised terms not defined in this Service Description are defined in the Dictionary. Terms defined in this Service Description are specific to it.

Access Provider means a party operating a PSTN in Bahrain to which the Called PSTN Number is directly connected.

Access Seeker means the Licensed operator of the PSTN or Mobile Network directly connecting the Mobile Number or PSTN Number from which the Telephone Call using the PSTN Terminating Access Service is made.

Calling Party means the Access Seeker Customer who initiates the Telephone Call to the Called PSTN Number.

Called PSTN Number means:

- (a) an End User telephone number associated with a line directly connected to the Access Provider's PSTN; or
- (b) an Access Provider Customer Service Number; or
- (c) the number of a Premium Rate Service which is directly connected to the Access Provider's Network,

that is used in accordance with the Bahrain Numbering Plan.

Customer Service Number means a number publicised by the Access Seeker or the Access Provider as a number at which an End User can contact the Access Provider for the purpose of making enquiries or providing fault reports about services which the Access Provider supplies to that End User.

MNO means a mobile telecommunications License granted by the Regulator to a Mobile Network operator.

NFL means a national fixed telecommunications License granted by the Regulator to operators of Networks which are not Mobile Networks.

Premium Rate Service means an information or content service which a Calling Party can access by dialling a number in the range 900XXX or such other numbering range set out in the Bahrain Numbering Plan as may replace this range.

3 TERMS

3.1 Prerequisites

A party (**the first party**) shall not be obliged to supply the PSTN Terminating Access Service unless and until:

- (a) either the In-Span Interconnect Link Service or the CSI Link Service is provisioned; and
- (b) the parties have established one or more Points of Interconnection at which the parties agree the Access Seeker will handover Telephone Calls for termination by the Access Provider;
- (c) the parties have successfully completed any pre-commissioning testing requirements set out in the Joint Working Manual; and
- (d) the other party can provide to the first party:
 - (i) if the other party operates a PSTN, the PSTN Terminating Access Service on a reciprocal basis; and/or
 - (ii) if the other party operates a Mobile Network, the Mobile Terminating Access Service on the basis provided in that Service Description.

3.2 Handover

The Access Seeker must handover Telephone Calls for termination by the Access Provider to a Called PSTN Number:

- (a) at the Point of Interconnection which is closest to the Called PSTN Number or other Point of Interconnection agreed in writing by the parties; and
- (b) in accordance with all applicable terms of this Service Description, the Supply Terms and relevant specifications notified by the Access Provider to the Access Seeker from time to time.

3.3 Conveyance

Subject to the Forecasting Procedures, the Access Provider shall convey Telephone Calls that are handed over by the Access Seeker to the Access Provider in accordance with paragraph 3.2 of this Service Description from the relevant Point of Interconnection to the Called PSTN Number by means of the Access Provider's PSTN.

3.4 Echo Control

Echo control will be provided in accordance with the Joint Working Manual.

3.5 Provision of tones and Network announcements

- (a) in a manner and timetable agreed between the parties, each party as Access Provider will support signalling (the delivery of which is free of charge) to terminate the relevant call at the signalling level. The content of the release signal should wherever possible indicate the accurate reason for the termination.
- (b) if, notwithstanding the availability of signalling to terminate the relevant call, the Access Seeker may still request the Access Provider to divert the call to tones or announcements and the Access Provider may agree if it chooses and is able to do so;
- (c) An Access Provider:
 - (i) may not charge at all for tones and announcements until it has implemented the timetable in paragraph (a);

- (ii) may charge the Access Seeker for the delivery to tones and announcements under paragraph (b);
 - (iii) may charge the Access Seeker for the delivery to tones and announcements if the signalling is not supported by a third party network; and
 - (iv) may not charge the Access Seeker for the delivery to tones and announcements if the signalling is available to the Access Provider, but the Access Provider does not terminate the call through signalling (other than at the request of the Access Seeker under paragraph (b)).
- (d) Details of the requirements for information tones and network announcements may be set out in the Joint Working Manual

3.6 Signalling interconnection

The transfer of signals to support the establishment, maintenance and clear down of Telephone Calls will be via the signalling interconnection specified in the Joint Working Manual.

3.7 Associated information signals

- (a) The Telephone Calls will be handed over to the Access Provider at the relevant Point of Interconnection with information signals provided in the associated signalling system.
- (b) The format of information in the signals referred to in paragraph (a) will be in accordance with ISUP specification set out in the Joint Working Manual.

3.8 Provision of CLI

- (a) The SS7 signalling provided by the Access Seeker must include the provision of CLI information in a format which allows the Access Provider to derive unambiguously the full Mobile Number or PSTN Number of the Calling Party to the full extent that the provision of such CLI information is capable of being supported by SS7 Signalling.

- (b) The Access Seeker must obtain from the Regulator any approvals or licences necessary for exchange of CLI information (none is required as at the date of first publication).
- (c) An Access Seeker may, in exceptional circumstances where its network is not capable of generating CLI, seek specific dispensation from the Access Provider and the Regulator not to provide CLI.

3.9 Nature of Switchports

- (a) Telephone Calls will be delivered to the Access Provider at 2.048 Mbit/s Switchports via a Point of Interconnection.
- (b) The Switchports will operate at 2.048 Mbit/s in accordance with the Joint Working Manual.

3.10 Send and receive speech levels

The send and receive levels for speech will be in accordance with the Joint Working Manual.

3.11 Calling number display

The parties will comply with the provisions relating to calling number display where set out in the Joint Working Manual.

3.12 Customer billing

The Access Seeker is responsible for billing the Calling Party for the end-to-end Telephone Call provided by the Access Seeker utilising the PSTN Terminating Access Service, including, in the case of a call to a PSTN Called Number which is a Premium Rate Service number, the premium call charges agreed between the Access Seeker and the Premium Rate Service Provider, provided that the Access Seeker shall not discriminate in its retail charges between calls to premium rate services offered by different Access Providers and/or its own Premium Rate services except for charging differences which are apparent to the Calling Party by the digits being dialled to establish the Telephone Call.

3.13 Charges

The Access seeker shall pay to the Access Provider the relevant Charges determined in accordance with Schedule 3 of this Reference Offer.