

## SERVICE DESCRIPTION 2-3: INTER-OPERATOR TRANSIT ACCESS SERVICE

### 1 THE SERVICE

The **Inter-Operator Transit Access Service** (ITAS) is a service provided by Batelco to Licensed Operators for the carriage (in transit) of Transit Calls between one Licensed Operator's Network and another Licensed Operator's Network.

**Available to:** Licensed Operator with the right to interconnect its network to the Batelco Network.

**Traffic:** Only calls which (i) originate outside Bahrain and are for termination in Bahrain; (ii) originate inside Bahrain and are for termination outside Bahrain; or (iii) both originate and terminate in Bahrain and do not cross a network which lies outside Bahrain and for the avoidance of doubt, may not both originate and terminate on the network of the Access Seeker (see the PSTN Transit Service Description).

**Reciprocal Service:** Reciprocal Transit is not required.

### 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 Seeker** means the Licensed Operator responsible for the Transit Calls passed using the ITAS.

**Destination OLO** means the Licensed Operator terminating the Transit Call to a directly connected customer of that Licensed Operator.

**Source OLO** means the Licensed Operator on whose Network the Transit Call originates.

**Transit Call** means a telephone call which the Access Seeker wishes Batelco to convey between the Access Seeker Network and another Licensed Operator's Network (in either direction).

### 3 TERMS

#### 3.1 Prerequisites

Batelco shall not be obliged to supply the ITAS unless and until:

- (a) an agreed interconnection facility as set out in the Joint Working Manual exists in relation to the Source OLO Network and the Destination OLO Network, regardless of which Licensed Operator is the Access Seeker;
- (b) Batelco and the Access Seeker have established at least one Point of Interconnection for Transit Calls to be exchanged between them in a manner which is agreed, and in the case of no agreement, as a separate traffic stream for Transit Calls;
- (c) Batelco and the other Licensed Operator have (i) established at least one Point of Interconnection for Transit Calls to be exchanged between them and (ii) defined separate traffic streams for Transit Calls, unless agreed otherwise by Batelco in writing;
- (d) pre-commissioning testing requirements set out in the Joint Working Manual have been successfully completed; and
- (e) the relevant Service Request has been signed between Batelco and the Access Seeker. An Access Seeker requesting any form of transit (including either this ITAS or the PSTN Transit Service) from Batelco automatically and irrevocably for the period of interconnection between that Licensed Operator and Batelco agrees to allow, at Batelco's request, the origination and/or termination of all the types of transit traffic which Batelco offers from time to time to carry as Access Provider for any Licensed Operator. The origination and/or termination will be on the same terms and conditions as for the origination or termination (as the relevant case may be) of Batelco's own traffic of the equivalent type (subject to any better offer made by that Access Seeker).

### **3.2 Transit Call Conveyance**

Subject to the Forecasting Procedures, Batelco shall endeavour to convey a Transit Call handed over at a Point of Interconnection serving the Source OLO's Network to a Point of Interconnection serving the Destination OLO's Network.

### **3.3 Echo Control**

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

### **3.4 Signalling interconnection**

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

### **3.5 Associated information signals**

- (a) The Transit Calls will be handed over to Batelco 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.

### **3.6 Nature of Switchports**

- (a) Transit Calls will be delivered to the Access Provider at 2.048 Mbit/s Switchports via a Point of Interconnection and delivered by the Access Provider to the other Licensed Operator 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.

### **3.7 Send and receive speech levels**

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

### **3.8 Charges**

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

### 3.9 Special Provisions for Transit Calls

- (a) Each Access Seeker acknowledges that transit arrangements can only be effective if the Destination OLO and Source OLO cooperate with Batelco in respect of forecasting, supply of information and participation in any billing dispute and also act so that Batelco is protected against bad debt risk and inequitable cash flow.
- (b) Despite any provision to the contrary in a Supply Agreement for so long as Batelco is an Access Provider in respect of Transit Calls for a Licensed Operator:
  - (i) an Access Seeker must pay Batelco for Transit Calls for which is the Source OLO within 14 days of receipt of Batelco's invoice without deduction, set-off or withholding, whether or not on the basis of a dispute;
  - (ii) if the Access Seeker has not paid the invoice for Transit Calls when due, Batelco may suspend originating and terminating Transit Calls immediately on written notice;
  - (iii) Batelco is deemed in each Billing Period to have the right:
    - (A) under clause 20.2 of the Supply Terms to review the need for and amount of Security from each Licensed Operator with regards to Transit Calls for which that Licensed Operator is or may be responsible; and
    - (B) under Schedule 4 to the Supply Terms to be able to bill Transit Calls for the Billing Period plus three immediately preceding Billing Periods or, in the case of international Transit Calls, for the International Billing Period plus two immediately proceeding Billing Periods.