Commonwealth of Australia

Telecommunications Act 1991

Licence to operate as a general telecommunications carrier

I, KIM CHRISTIAN BEAZLEY, Minister of State for Transport and Communications, under section 57 of the Telecommunications Act 1991:

(a) grant AOTC within the meaning of the Australian and Overseas Telecommunications Corporation Act 1991 a general telecommunications licence to do all or any of the acts the holder of a general telecommunications licence is permitted to do under the Telecommunications Act 1991; and

(b) declare, under section 65 of that Act, that the licence is subject to the conditions specified in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

Commencement

1.1 This licence comes into force on the day fixed under subsection 2 (1) of the Australian and Overseas Telecommunications Corporation Act 1991.

Term of licence

2.1 If not sooner revoked, this licence ceases to have effect on 31 December 2016.

[NOTE: This clause may, with the written consent of the licensee, be varied by a further declaration under section 65 of the Act.]

[NOTE: a general carrier licence is transferable, in accordance with the provisions of section 59 of the Act.]
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Operator services
[NOTE: The provisions of this clause are supplementary access conditions under section 138 of the Act.]

3.1 If requested by a nominated carrier who acquires telecommunications services from the licensee, the licensee must make available to each customer of the nominated carrier services including, but not limited to:

(a) operator services including fault and service difficulties; and

(b) services by way of operator-connected call facilities:
   (i) for calls originating and paid for in Australia; and
   (ii) for calls being made to Australia from overseas.

3.2 The services referred to in subclause 3.1 are to be provided by the licensee at the prescribed charge.

3.3 For the purposes of this clause, operator services do not include directory assistance services.

Provision of directory services
[NOTE: The provisions of this clause are supplementary access conditions under section 138 of the Act.]

4.1 The licensee:

(a) annually, until the expiration of 30 June 1997; and

(b) through a separate entity established for the purpose (whether or not the entity is established for other purposes as well);

must:

(c) produce in volumes by geographical area; and

(d) arrange to publish and distribute;

a telephone directory (on the same basis as Telecom produced and distributed a telephone directory in the calendar year in which this licence commences) that integrates alphabetically the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all customers and, if requested by a customer, the customer’s facsimile number.

[NOTE: It is intended to ensure that the licensee maintains an updated version of the current white pages directory and makes it available to
its own and nominated carriers’ customers on the same basis as the white pages were produced and distributed before the licence came into force. In producing this directory, the licensee must take into account any relevant directions by AUSTEL, in particular any directions AUSTEL may give about equal prominence to carriers in advertising in the published directory.]

4.2 In spite of subclause 4.1:
(a) unless the customer requests that his or her mobile number be included in the telephone directory prepared under that clause, the licensee must not include in the directory details of a customer of a mobile carrier; and
(b) the licensee must not include in that telephone directory details of a customer whose telephone number is regarded as an unlisted telephone number.

4.3 The licensee must provide, until the expiration of 30 June 1997, integrated directory assistance services based on listings in that directory.

[NOTE: These arrangements for provision of directory services are to be reviewed before 30 June 1997.]

4.4 A standard initial entry, other than an initial entry of a facsimile number or a mobile number, in the directory referred to in subclause 4.1 is to be free of charge to the customer.

Licensee to offer separate parts of standard telephone service

5.1 When providing a standard telephone service to a customer, the licensee must differentiate between its charge for providing the telephone handset and its charge for providing and connecting the exchange access facility to which that handset is connected.

5.2 If the licensee provides a customer with a line link without a telephone handset, the licensee must not charge the customer:
(a) an annual rental for providing that line link that is more than $30 less than the usual annual rental charged for
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providing a line link of that kind together with a telephone handset; and

(b) a new connection charge that is more than $43 less than the charge for connecting line links of that kind together with a handset.


[Signature]

Minister of State for Transport and Communications