

Telecommunications Carriers' Forum Incorporated

Extension to Project Scope for LMNP to form the Number Portability User Group

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A. Background

Long-term number portability for local and cellular numbers provides customers with the ability to change a service provider without changing their telephone number, while maintaining service equivalence. Long-term number portability is limited to service provider portability and excludes all other number portability types.

Porting of local numbers in New Zealand previously made use of bilateral arrangements. Carriers were able to define and implement their own local and cellular number portability solutions within their own networks and the handover of calls between networks was managed by the two carriers concerned.

In 2003/2004 the TCF set up two working parties to develop the technical and operational requirements for local and mobile number portability (LMNP). These working parties were known as the:

- PSWP Working Party
- Network Code Working Party

The TCF Portability Specification Working Party (PSWP) developed a code which specified the functional requirements of the Industry Portability Management System (IPMS) for local and cellular number portability within New Zealand. This code became the LMNP Terms under the Number Portability Determination.

The TCF Network Code Working Party (NCWP) was setup to define the network aspects of a Local Telephone Number Portability service and Cellular Telephone Number Portability service. This working party developed network code which became the Network Terms under the Number Portability Determination.

During the implementation of LMNP and as the project evolved, other work streams were established under the umbrella of the PSWP, including a business process work stream, technical work stream, and test work stream.

B. Issue

The IPMS went live on 1 April 2007 and a working party is now required to be setup to monitor the IPMS and identify any changes required to the IPMS of the LMNP or Network Terms. The working party would also review and agree any suggested changes to the IPMS, Operation and Support manuals and any other documentation associated with LMNP. The working party would act as the forum to discuss ideas or concerns regarding LMNP and decide the best way these issues or ideas could be addressed.

C. Working Party Project Brief

The proposal is to combine the PSWP working party and the Network Code working party to form the Number Portability User Group working party. The focus of the working party is to:

- a) Monitor the IPMS
- b) Co-ordinate the testing for any new entrants
- c) Agree the timing of any planned outages to IPMS
- d) Agree any changes required to the IPMS in a timely manner and in accordance with the procedures set out in the Operations and Support Manual and the TCF Rules.
- e) Co-ordinate the testing of any changes to IPMS and co-ordinate the roll-out of these changes into Production.
- f) Addressing any issues arising out of special projects where required.
- g) Suggest or review requests for changes to the Operation and Support manuals and oversee implementation of changes as required
- h) Suggest or review requests to the LMNP Terms and Network Terms and any other documentation relating to LMNP and oversee the implementation of changes as required
- i) Discuss ideas or concerns regarding LMNP and address the issues or ideas raised.

The project leader for this working party will be the Number Portability Co-ordinator.

D. Legislative Obligations

To ensure any changes made are consistent with the Number Portability Determination.

E. Deliverables

To provide an on-going forum to manage changes required to the IPMS and LMNP related documentation. The working party will also act as a forum to address ideas or concerns around LMNP and suggest ways in which processes could be improved.

F. Working Party Membership

Each party to the Number Portability Determination will be entitled to participate in this working party. The working party will be co-ordinated by the Number Portability Co-ordinator.

The name and contact details of the people on this working party will be available on the TCF website at www.TCF.org.nz.

G. Resource Requirements

In accordance with the approved budget for LMNP.