

## NUMBERING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Draft minutes of Meeting 2 of 2004

Wednesday 12 May 2004

Held at the offices of ACIF, Level 9, 12 Walker Street, North Sydney

#### Attendees

Bruce Matthews	ACA
Robert Johnston	ACA
Susan Horne	ACA
Phil Sandercock	ACA
Sam Mangar	Optus
Lawrie Clarke	Telstra
Paul Reptis	Telstra
Brian Curran	Telstra
Megan McEwen	INMS
Martin Vella	Primus
Paul Teng	PowerTel
Ian Wilson	Vodafone
Bronwyn Asquith	DCITA
Alexander Osborne	Hutchison

#### Apologies

David Havyatt	AAPT
Teresa Corbin	CTN
Emily Cripps	DCITA

#### Videoconference (Telstra, Exhibition Street, Melbourne)

Michael Elsegood	Optus
Grant Young	ACCC
Mark Dossetor	ACA
Bridget Nagle	ACA

#### Teleconference

Mary-Jane Salier	World Com
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### 1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed members and thanked ACIF for hosting the meeting. The Chair also tabled the apologies for the meeting.

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING

#### 2.1 Minutes of previous meeting

**Action 1/2/04**      **ACA staff to liaise with ACCC with a view to updating the minutes of the NAC meeting 1 of 2004 to reflect that CSPs**

**aren't in breach of the Plan when customers choose to port to another carriage service provider, regardless of any minor differences in services between the donor and recipient carriage service provider.**

## **2.2 Status of Actions and Recommendations of Meeting 1-2004**

ACA staff tabled a paper that outlined the status of the actions and recommendations arising from NAC Meeting 1/2004.

NAC members discussed Action 4/1/04 regarding the numbering arrangements for the ENUM trial. NAC members noted that ACA staff were still considering what changes might need to be made to the Plan to allow digital mobile and geographic numbers to be used as part of the ENUM trial. NAC members asked the ACA to provide an update on this issue at the next NAC meeting.

**Action 2/2/04 ACA staff to provide update to next NAC meeting on issues associated with the ENUM trial.**

## **3. NUMBERING PLAN**

### **3.1 Report on status of variations to the Numbering Plan**

ACA staff tabled a paper that outlined the status of four variations currently under consideration by the Numbering Team. NAC members noted that the variation discussed at the last NAC meeting (Agenda item 3.4 Variation: setting the date for portability) had been completed. A copy of that variation was emailed to NAC members on 20 April 2004.

### **3.2 Review of the *Telecommunications Numbering Plan 1997***

ACA staff verbally updated NAC members on the status of the Numbering Plan review. ACA staff indicated that the review of the Plan would not be conducted during the upcoming 2004-2005 financial year as funding for this project had been diverted to higher priority issues. Instead, the Numbering Team would address issues as they are identified by industry, consumers or the ACA.

Optus indicated that the current approach to addressing changes to the Plan may be inflexible, and raised concerns regarding the delay. The ACA indicated that it would continue to ensure that sufficient resources were available to address issues as they were raised.

### **3.3 Variation: Managing geographic numbers more efficiently**

ACA staff tabled a paper that:

- provided a précis of the comments received on the draft variation; and
- sought comment on the proposals set out in the paper.

The new approach was developed in response to concerns raised by Telstra and Optus. ACA staff outlined the new approach which:

- greatly reduced the reporting arrangements by enabling data to be aggregated; and
- clarified the circumstances under which numbers would be withdrawn; and
- clarified that the unit size reduction would have no impact on exiting arrangements for the working supply of numbers.

Telstra and Optus supported the proposed approach and acknowledged the work by ACA staff to develop this new approach. Telstra also indicated that in its view, that where a block of 10k numbers was allocated in blocks of 1k numbers, the remainder of the 10k block should only be allocated for use in the same SZU as the original allocation.

#### **4. NUMBER PORTABILITY**

Nil papers considered.

#### **5. OTHER ISSUES**

##### **5.1 Update on the ACA's new numbering database**

ACA staff tabled a paper and provided additional details in a verbal update on the timing for completion of the new numbering database.

ACA staff advised that they were still finalising several software problems, and were in the process of updating the old and new database with recent transactions. ACA staff also advised that CSPs would be notified of training times and venues as soon as they are available.

##### **5.2 Update on the introduction of premium rate and proprietary network services**

ACA staff tabled a paper, and provided additional detail in a verbal update on issues associated with short code premium rate services. ACA staff advised that:

- the Minister had made the determination to allow the ACA to prepare a three service provider rules;
- a project team is to be set up for a period of four to six months to develop the rules; and
- the next Authority meeting will consider making the variation to the Plan to specify the new short digit numbers.

The three service provider rules will cover the establishment of arrangements for:

1. the provision of information to customers about the risks associated with making calls to 190x premium rate numbers and premium rate services provided on international numbers and the ways in which customers can lessen their risk;
2. the provision of information to customers about the risks associated with using premium rate services provided on 191, 193, 194, 195 , 196 , 197 and 199 numbers, and premium content provided on proprietary networks and the ways in which customers can lessen their risk ; and
3. the establishment of appropriate arrangements to restrict access to adult services on premium rate numbers and proprietary networks.

ACA staff noted that proprietary networks (generally referred to as 'walled gardens') fell outside existing arrangements with respect to issues such as consumer protection. NAC members were advised that it is the Minister's intention that these should be covered via the new service provider rules and would be included in the discussion paper the ACA will shortly be preparing.

ACA staff also advised that DCITA intends to conduct a review of mobile content regulation over the next 12 months. Part of the review will be a joint consultancy between the ACA, ABA and DCITA to look at mobile content developments around the world.

### **5.3 Market-based number allocation project**

ACA staff tabled a paper providing an update on the progress towards implementing a web-based auction system for the allocation of freephone and local rate numbers. ACA staff also provided additional detail on the status of the project at the meeting.

NAC members asked when information would be available on the ACA's website that would enable network providers to commence provisioning. ACA staff indicated that it intended to conduct a rehearsal on 30 June 2004, with a view to allowing external access after that.

ACA staff also encouraged NAC members to comment on its discussion paper which addresses issues such as the methodology that could be used, the reserve price range and level of registration fees. The closing date for comment is 26 May 2004.

**Action 3/2/04      NAC members to provide comment on the ACA's discussion paper by 26 May 2004.**

### **5.4 Update on annual numbering charges—2004**

ACA staff tabled a paper briefing NAC members on key issues associated with the 2004 ANC process. NAC members noted that the ANC process was almost complete and that invoices had been sent.

### **5.5 ACA process for Numbering Plan Variation 2003 No 4**

Telstra tabled a paper which addressed the need for a process to be developed for notifying CSPs of a variation to an existing allocation of numbers.

NAC members discussed the need to develop an arrangement that will enable CSPs to co-ordinate the processing of numbers for which the SZU has been varied, and agreed that a working group should be set up to progress this issue.

**Action 4/2/04      NAC members and ACA staff to form a working group to report to the next NAC on an arrangement associated with processing numbers for which the SZU has been varied.**

### **5.6 Numbering arrangements for VOIP services**

ACA staff tabled a paper seeking comment on a variety of options for the numbering of VOIP services prior to the development of a discussion paper on this issue.

ACA staff indicated that the Plan provides numbering arrangements for some VOIP services which provide local services. However, other VOIP services, particularly those that provide for location mobility, are not catered for in the current Plan. As a result, ACA staff are addressing how VOIP services generally should be managed in the Plan. Two options suggested are:

1. whether a particular number range (for example, 05) should be specified as available for VOIP services; or
2. whether a range should be available for nomadic telephone services or other services which identify a point of presence of a service provider rather than the location of the service, and allow other VOIP services to be provided on geographic numbers.

**Action 5/2/04      NAC members are requested to provide comment on the options outlined in the paper by 21 May 2004.**

## **6.      ALLOCATIONS AND SURRENDERS**

### **6.1    Quarterly report of allocations, surrenders and permanent transfers of numbers**

ACA staff tabled the quarterly report of allocations, surrenders and permanent transfers of numbers between 28 January 2004 and 23 April 2004.

## **7.      NEW ISSUES FOR NEXT MEETING**

7.1    NAC members raised the issue of whether the NAC continued to be a useful forum to consider issues, given the increasing use of new committees and forums to progress issues as they arise. NAC members asked whether it might be appropriate to consider the existing terms of reference, with a view to examining the longer term relevance of the NAC.

**Action 6/2/04      ACA staff to report to the next NAC on the relevance of the NAC terms of reference.**

## **8.      OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1    NAC members noted that Lawrie Clarke and Paul Reptis of Telstra would be retiring mid June 2004. ACA staff, on behalf of NAC members, thanked Lawrie and Paul for their long and valuable contribution to numbering issues in both AUSTEL and the ACA, and wished them all the best in the future.

8.2    Hutchison provided feedback on the work of an ACIF subgroup which has been addressing the routing of services to numbers ported outside the donor CSP's exchange service area. Late in 2003, the ACA asked ACIF to remove this requirement from the Local Number Portability Code. The ACIF subgroup felt that it was unable to arrive at a solution as a result of being unable to estimate the costs that

would be experienced by larger CSPs to deliver a solution. The Network Reference Panel at ACIF will further consider this issue at its 12 May 2004 meeting.

8.3 NAC members discussed a recent speech by the ACA's Chairman on VOIP issues and asked that a copy of that paper be provided to NAC members.

**Action 7/2/04 ACA staff to provide a copy to NAC members of the ACA's Chairman's address to SPAN on VOIP issues.**

## 9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in Melbourne at the offices of the ACA on Wednesday 14 July 2004. The meeting will commence at 10am and videoconferencing facilities should be available at the ACA's offices in Sydney.

**Comment [SH1]:** Date to be changed once agreed.