

NUMBERING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Draft minutes of Meeting 3 of 2005

Wednesday, 30 November 2005
ACMA, 360 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne

Attendees: Melbourne

1.	Grant Symons	ACMA
2.	Robert Johnston	ACMA
3.	Suzanne Cumming	ACMA
4.	Susan Horne	ACMA
5.	Andy Byrne	ACMA
6.	Grant Young	ACCC
7.	Michael Elsegood	Optus
8.	Guy Di Paola	Telstra
9.	Martin Vella	Primus
10.	Uyen Nguyen	Telstra

Specific agenda items only

1.	Arunas Silinis	ACMA	Agenda Item 5.4
2.	Dan Madaru	SENSIS	Agenda Item 5.2
3.	Kevin Payne	SENSIS	Agenda Item 5.2
4.	Trevor Connor	ACMA	Agenda Item 5.6

Attendees: Sydney

1.	Megan McEwen	INMS
2.	Alexander Osborne	Hutchison
3.	Joe Gorup	Engin
4.	Geoff Brann	PowerTel
5.	John Pack	ATUG
6.	Van Le	Vodafone
7.	Mary-Jane Salier	MCI Worldcom
8.	David Havyatt	AAPT

Teleconference

1.	Lucy Battersby	DCITA
2.	Emily Cripps	DCITA

Apologies

1.	Sam Mangar	Optus
2.	Sarah Wilson	CTN

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed members and tabled the apologies for the meeting.

2. BUSINESS ARISING

2.1 Minutes of previous meeting

ACMA staff tabled the minutes of the previous meeting of NAC 2 of 2005. The minutes were accepted without discussion.

2.2 Status of actions outstanding since NAC Meeting 2 of 2005

ACMA staff tabled the paper that outlined the status of the actions and recommendations arising from NAC meeting 2 of 2005. All outstanding actions were noted as complete.

NAC members asked when the LNP code was expected to be completed. ACMA responded that the code would be considered by the Authority on 22 December 2005.

3. NUMBER PORTABILITY

No papers were scheduled for this item.

4. NUMBERING PLAN

4.1 Report on status of variations to the Numbering Plan

ACMA staff tabled the paper reporting on the status of variations to the *Telecommunications Numbering Plan 1997* (the Plan).

NAC members were informed that:

- the variation creating additional numbers for 11 areas was complete, with the new ranges now available for allocation;
- the variation addressing Numbering Arrangements for VoIP services would be discussed in detail at Item 5.1; and
- ACMA staff are preparing drafting instructions to, or waiting for draft instruments from, OLD for the remaining variations 2, 4, 5 and 6. Copies of these instruments will be provided to NAC members once they are available.

5. OTHER ISSUES

5.1 Numbering arrangements for VoIP services

ACMA staff reported on the progress of numbering arrangements for VoIP services. This included providing NAC members with the discussion paper which will be released for public consultation together with the draft variation to the Plan. ACMA staff identified that the proposed numbering arrangements for VoIP services would allow for:

- the continued use of geographic numbers for VoIP services, where a CSP was providing a similar service to existing local services. The draft variation includes guidelines to assist CSPs interested in using IP technology to deliver a local service using geographic numbers; and

- the use of numbers commencing with 055 for a new service to be known as an emerging communications service (ECS). This range is intended for new and emerging services, including VoIP services with nomadic capability, and would provide a 'light touch' regulatory option to geographic numbers. The definition for an ECS has been made as broad as possible so as to provide the greatest amount of flexibility for new services.

ACMA staff also:

- asked for feedback on whether the draft discussion paper identified all relevant numbering issues; and
- noted that the draft variation and draft discussion paper would be presented to ACMA's Authority on 8 December 2005 for consideration, before release for public consultation under the *Telecommunications Act 1997*. Copies of the drafts will be provided to NAC members.

NAC members noted that the introduction of a new number range was a small part of the process, and identified that various other arrangements would determine the success of the new service. These include:

- the development and introduction of interconnect arrangements;
- end-user issues such as call charges and public awareness of the new service;
- number portability; and
- pre-selection.

NAC members also asked for clarification regarding paragraph 4.2 in the draft discussion paper.

Action 1/3/05 ACCC to consider whether portability could be implemented with the introduction of the new number range.

Action 2/3/05 ACMA to redraft paragraph 4.2 of the draft VoIP discussion paper re: 'limited nomadicity.'

5.2 Proposal to specify through-connect services on 1223

ACMA staff introduced the proposal to allow through-connect services on 1223. The paper explored:

- providing the public with the additional option of through-connect services on 1223. The proposal is not intended to affect the provision of directory assistance services (DAS) set out in the *Telecommunications Act 1997* which can be provided on 1223; and
- limiting the marketing of a through-connect service to recorded voice announcements when 1223 is called.

NAC members identified several issues that arise from a through-connect service provided on 1223, including:

- whether existing end-user long distance call arrangements could be accommodated for through-connected calls. This includes where a call originates on Telstra's network and whole of service is provided through resale, calls originate on Telstra's network with long distance preselected to another CSP, and calls originating on another CSP's network ;

- whether existing end-user call barring can be accommodated when a call is through-connected from 1223. This includes each of the scenarios outlined above; and
- the telephone number that might be displayed to the called party (B-party) where a call is delivered using the proposed through-connect service.

Other issues raised include:

- the impact on other DAS as a result of the wider marketing of through-connect on 1223; and
- possible customer complaints where non-Telstra customers receive a bill for a through-connect service provided on 1223.

Action 3/3/2005 **Telstra/SENSIS to provide information on whether customer barring can be accommodated in the following scenarios:**
1. Calls to 1223 originating on another CSP's network;
2. Calls to 1223 originating on Telstra's network where the service is provided by a reseller; and
3. Calls to 1223 originating on Telstra's network where the customer has pre-selected another long-distance CSP.

Action 4/3/2005 **Telstra/SENSIS to provide information on whether through-connected calls can be directed to a customer's choice of long distance provider in the 3 scenarios listed in Action Item 3/3/2005.**

Action 5/3/2005 **Telstra to provide information on whether the B party is able to see CND for the A party for through-connected calls.**

5.3 Annual numbering charges (ANC) 2006

ACMA staff outlined the process for ANC in 2006. The following key points were made:

- the process does not differ to 2005 and previous years;
- subject to Authority agreement, the census date will be 2 April 2006; and
- the projected cost for a ten-digit number is approximately \$0.95. The exact figure will be established once all allocations and surrenders have been accounted for between now and the census date.

NAC members raised the point that the recent allocation of approximately six million digital mobile numbers do not appear to have altered the base charge amount of approximately \$0.95. ACMA staff noted that these allocations represent only a 1.17% rise in the mobile component of ANC, so any change in ANC is minimal.

5.4 Update on progress of Australian ENUM trial

ACMA staff summarised the progress of the ENUM trial. The difference between 'Infrastructure ENUM' and 'User ENUM' was explained. The privacy problems that arise from public access to DNS were also raised. Developments arising from the Australian ENUM Discussion Group (AEDG) were outlined, including the proposal to undertake an independent privacy impact assessment and to include geographic and mobile numbers in the trial.

NAC members raised the following issues:

- the applicability of ENUM to Australian CSPs; and
- the inclusion of new number ranges, in particular 055, in the ENUM trial.

ACMA staff noted both types of ENUM can be employed by Australian CSPs, with CSPs able to select the preferred option. ACMA staff also noted that the trial was intended to identify a range of issues which may need to be addressed. AAPT noted that it would consider providing comment on a possible regulatory approach to addressing these issues.

5.5 Update on smartnumbers® auctions

ACMA staff provided an update on the operation of ACMA **smartnumbers®** auction system. It was noted that two numbers had recently been activated by a non-ROU holder, but evidence suggested that this was an isolated problem rather than a systemic issue.

NAC members were curious about this development, but satisfied with ACMA's analysis of why it happened. NAC members also raised the following issues:

- the impact on INMS if hoarded **smartnumbers®** are activated simultaneously to maintain ROU at the end of the three year period after the auction;
- amount of revenue raised by ACMA through the **smartnumbers®** auction process.

ACMA staff noted that the question of **smartnumber®** activation may require further consideration. At this stage, it is difficult to predict whether temporary activation on a large scale would occur. INMS indicated that it could monitor **smartnumber®** activation to assist ACMA in this regard. ACMA also stated that it would circulate the amount of revenue raised by **smartnumber®** auctions to NAC members.

Action 6/3/05 ACMA to circulate the amount of revenue raised by the smartnumbers® auction process to NAC members.

Action 7/3/05 INMS to write to ACMA regarding hoarding and activation issues associated with smartnumbers®

6. ALLOCATIONS AND SURRENDERS

6.1 Report on number transactions

ACMA staff tabled the report on number transactions for the period 10 March 2005 to 11 November 2005. The report was accepted without discussion.

7. NEW ISSUES FOR NEXT MEETING

No issues were raised for the next meeting.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next NAC meeting is scheduled for Sydney on Wednesday 22 February 2006.