

**Telecommunications**

Cap. 282B.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS (NUMBERING)  
REGULATIONS, 2003**

2003/96.  
2004/72.  
2004/101.  
2005/56.  
2007/24.  
2008/41.

**Authority:** These Regulations were made on 18th July, 2003 by the Minister under section 110(1) of the *Telecommunications Act*.

**Commencement:** 28th July, 2003.

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the *Telecommunications (Numbering) Regulations, 2003*.

**2.** In these Regulations,

Interpretation.

"Barbados Numbering Administrator" means the public officer to whom the Minister has delegated his powers in respect of numbering pursuant to sections 4(2)(k) and 5 of the Act; 2004/72.

"Home Network Identity Code" means the digits used by providers of mobile telecommunications services to identify the Mobile Country Code of the domiciliary country (MCC) and the Mobile Network Code (MNC) for roaming purposes; 2004/72.

"indirect access" means the method whereby customers are able to select, on a call-by-call basis, the services of any licensee who uses a public telecommunications network to provide telecommunications services through any form that allows customers to direct their calls to be routed to a licensee with the use of an access code or other alternative dialling arrangement and without an unreasonable post-dialling delay; 2008/41.

"Mobile Country Code" (MCC) means a mobile code of 3 digits assigned by the International Telecommunications Union; 2004/72.

2004/72. "Mobile Network Code" (MNC) means a mobile network code of 3 digits, the last digit of which is always 0, as assigned by the Barbados Numbering Administrator;

"number portability" means the ability to allow customers to change their service provider with respect to a particular telecommunications service without being required to change their telephone number;

"Plan" means the National Numbering Plan developed by the Minister under section 50 of the Act;

2007/24. "Subscriber Identity Module (SIM)" means a device in the form of a card that is:

- (a) inserted into a mobile telephone containing all the subscriber related data; and
- (b) usually fitted into the Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) and in many Personal Communications Systems' (PCS) handsets.

Plan. **3.** (1) The Plan shall provide for

- (a) the numbering of telecommunications services; and
- (b) the use of numbers in connection with the supply of telecommunications services, including network facilities and network nodes.

(2) The Plan shall be developed in consultation with licensees in accordance with the North American Numbering Plan Administration Rules, and shall be made available to the public for inspection on request.

(3) There shall be guidelines developed and made by the Minister administratively for the carrying out of the Plan, and the guidelines shall be made available to the public for inspection on request.

- (4) The Plan shall specify
  - (a) the numbers that are for use in connection with the supply of various specified services to the public;
  - (b) that numbers be allocated to licensees so as to distinguish between
    - (i) each licensee; and
    - (ii) each particular telecommunications service, so far as is reasonably practicable, unless the Minister determines pursuant to regulation 6 that number portability is to be provided among different services;
  - (c) rules in respect of
    - (i) the allocation of numbers to a licensee;
    - (ii) the transfer of allocated numbers between licensees;
    - (iii) the surrender or withdrawal of allocated numbers and their subsequent re-allocation or re-use;
    - (iv) the portability of allocated numbers, including rules about the maintenance of, and access to, databases that facilitate portability, subject to these Regulations; and
    - (v) the use of allocated numbers in connection with the supply of telecommunications services to the public.

**4.** (1) The Minister shall assign telephone numbers to licensees on a non-discriminatory basis as provided for in the Plan.

Allocation of telephone numbers.

(2) A licensee that is desirous of having an allocation of telephone numbers must apply to the Minister for the allocation of those numbers in the relevant form.

- (3) An application submitted pursuant to paragraph (2) must specify
  - (a) the proposed use for the telephone numbers;

- (b) the need for the telephone numbers requested; and
- (c) the quantity of telephone numbers sought.

(4) Within 60 days of receiving an application made under paragraph (2), the Minister shall grant or refuse the application in whole or in part.

(5) Any partial or complete refusal of an application shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons for the action.

(6) Where the Minister determines that it is in the public interest to do so, the Minister may, by notice published in the *Official Gazette* and in at least one daily newspaper, inform of the assignment of new numbers to an applicant.

(7) The Minister may require all carriers and service providers to contribute, on a competitively neutral basis, to the costs of the administering of numbering in Barbados.

Change in  
the Plan.

**5.** (1) A licensee may submit a request to the Minister for a change in the Plan.

(2) A request made pursuant to paragraph (1) shall describe how the requested change

- (a) takes into account the relevant international regulations;
- (b) ensures that sufficient numbers are available for the current and reasonably anticipated future needs of licensees;
- (c) has regard to the role that numbers can play in conveying useful information to customers, including information about the type of service being used;
- (d) promotes efficient use of numbers;
- (e) promotes fair and open competition; and
- (f) as far as possible, avoids the imposition of costs on customers as a result of changes in the numbering system.

**6.** (1) The rules with regard to number portability referred to in paragraph (4)(c)(iv) of regulation 3 may be made after the Minister has conducted a cost-benefit analysis and has concluded that the benefits to consumers arising from the making of rules outweigh the costs to all parties of complying with the rules.

Rules regarding number portability.

(2) Where the Minister determines that number portability is required, he shall specify competitively neutral mechanisms for the recovery of the costs imposed on the relevant carriers by the requirement for number portability in Barbados.

**7.** *Revoked by 2008/41.*

**8.** With effect from 15th January, 2006, all mobile telecommunications service providers shall use the Home Network Identity Code comprising

Home Network Identity Code. 2005/56.

(a) the Mobile Country Code (MCC) designated as "342" or any other code designated and assigned by the Barbados Numbering Administrator; and

(b) the Mobile Network Code (MNC) assigned by that Administrator.

**9.** Notwithstanding regulation 8, Digicel (Barbados) Limited is permitted to use the Home Networking Identity Code of Jamaica designated as 338 050 until the permission is revoked by notice given by the Minister and published in the *Official Gazette*.

Permission re Digicel (Barbados) Limited. 2007/24.

**10.** No Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) cards used in mobile phones that are sold or otherwise distributed in Barbados from the 1st day of November, 2006 shall be programmed with a Home Network Identity Code that is assigned to the United States of America.

Prohibited Home Network Identity Code. 2007/24.

Re-  
program-  
ming of  
phones that  
use United  
States of  
America  
Home  
Network  
Identity  
Codes.  
2007/24.

**11.** With effect from 1st July, 2009, all mobile phones in Barbados that are programmed with a Home Network Identity Code (HNI) assigned to the United States of America shall be re-programmed with a Home Network Identity Code (HNI) assigned to Barbados or to Jamaica.