

**Competition in ICT:
Does it come with enforcement and
implementation?
-- *A View from Singapore* --**

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Telecom Liberalisation in Singapore

- Gradual liberalisation from 1 April 1992 with separation of operations and industry regulation
- Full liberalisation on 1 April 2000

Benefits of Telecom Liberalisation

- More players, more investments, more jobs
 - From 280 licensees in 2000 to 700 licensees in 2004
 - S\$3 billion in new investments
 - At least 2,500 new jobs
- New services
 - High Speed Internet Services
 - VoIP Services
 - Free incoming mobile calls

Benefits of Telecom Liberalisation

- Lower prices
 - Drop in IDD rates by as much as 60%
 - Fall in IPLC rates by as high as 75%
 - Residential broadband rates cheaper by up to 54%
- SingTel's share of the domestic market has shrunk but its overall revenue grew as it expanded regionally

Observation 1: More Work, More Varied Work

- From “in-house” to separate regulator
- From one player to multiple players
- From technical conformance to competition promotion and industry development
- New types of staff, external experts, public consultation

Observation 2: Details Do Matter

- Details make or break policy framework
- Reference Interconnection Offer (RIO)
 - Eases entry by new players
 - Allows for seamless interconnection among multiple players

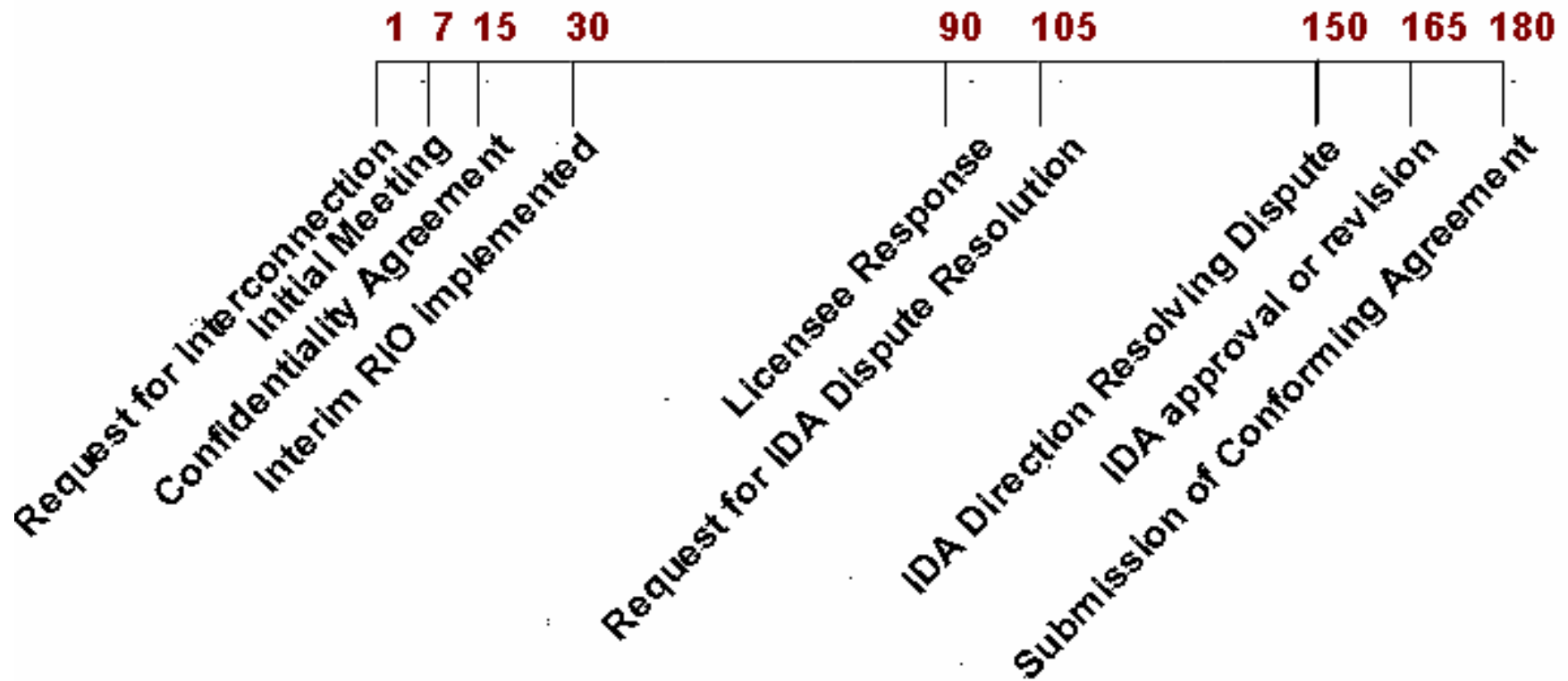
Example of RIO Detail – Local Loop Unbundling

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SingTel will only use Jumper Wires conforming to CW6000 series with a nominal gauge of 0.5mm and use the proper tools for installing Jumper Wires at the Requesting Licensee's Termination Block. The Jumper Wires shall be installed horizontally from either left or right out from its starting Termination Block and then across the jumper field and vertically up or down to the destination Termination Block. Jumper Wires shall not be installed with any slack nor will they be left dangling to cause obstruction to the jumper field.”

< SingTel's RIO, Schedule 3A, Clauses 5.4 and 5.5 >

Example of Interconnection Dispute Process & Timelines



Observation 3: Constant Review

- No framework suitable for all times
- 3-year review cycle
- Impose no more measures than necessary, remove when competition develops
- Add new ones should conditions warrant them
- Focus on policy objectives

Conclusion

- Effective competition is nothing but implementation, implementation and implementation
- Implementation to be backed by timely and effective enforcement when need arises

Thank You

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