IMDA BRIEFING ON THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE CHANGES TO THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR INFO-

On 5 August 2016, MCI conducted a public consultation and review of the Telecoms Act. MCI had proposed legislative amendments to the Telecoms Act to provide IMDA with the powers to establish a framework to regulate and facilitate the access to and use of rooftop space for mobile deployments. The regulatory framework is intended to cover the following key aspects:

i) Building developers and owners must provide rooftop space as MDS, upon request by MNOs who

are required to provide nationwide mobile coverage.

ii) In line with current requirements, building developers and owners are to provide such IMDAprescribed rooftop space as MDS on a rent-free basis.

MNOs may pay building owners for costs in providing access to rooftops and other associated costs (e.g. electricity charges of running mobile equipment) that are reasonably and efficiently incurred.

Building owner management has to constantly liaise and manage MNO and contractor. Due to usage by these operator on the roof top space, it has resulted in inconvenience with extra work load and burden to the building management and the roof top coverage mainly benefit external user, it does not benefit the building development; hence we do not agree that it should be on a rent free basis, building owner should be compensated for all these inconvenience.

IMDA is of the view that it is reasonable to continue to determine the provision of such space based on the size of the property development, because the deployment and installation of mobile network equipment (especially those for in-building coverage) will still benefit the development as a whole. IMDA's view is that Mobile Coverage Area should be based on Gross Floor Area ("GFA"), being an objective and consistent basis used in standard building plans, plus site/land area. IMDA therefore seeks feedback on whether this basis (i.e. GFA + site/land area) is clear; or, if not, how this could be better clarified under the revised COPIF.

Under Clause 33, provision are based on GFA, currently most of these location of station are on non GFA area such as carpark and open roof top. We are concerned whether the building owner need to pay DC for these GFA? We feel that these mobile deployment spaces should not constitute GFA as there is no commercial value.

Under COPIF 2013, where the Space and Facilities are located at a height of more than 4 metres above floor level ("Height Limit"), the building developer or owner shall provide the necessary means for Licensees to access such Space and Facilities in accordance with prevailing legislation or regulatory requirements on workplace safety and health, at no cost to the Licensees.

Clause 39 states that the access to space above the 4 metre owner has provide necessary means of access, these are unnecessary cost and burden to the building owner, the cost should be borne by the licensee MNO and their contractor.

IMDA invites views and comments on:

3b) The recommendation for managed buildings to have pre-agreed emergency access to be provided with two (2) hours' notice and for unmanned buildings to have pre-agreed emergency access provided soonest possible upon notification;

There should be clearer definition and clarity on what constitute to pre-agreed emergency access.

Provided by: Lim Chin Seang Designation: Chief Engineer

Property: Sheraton Towers Singapore

Contact: 6737 6888