



NOTICE

Request for Proposals: Number Portability Administration Service for The Bahamas

On May 30, 2012, The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) issued a *Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Number Portability Administration Service*, thereby commencing the selection process.

As part of the process to implement number portability, URCA also on the same day issued a preliminary determination [URCA document reference, ECS 15/2012, <http://www.urbahamas.bs/publications.php?cmd=view&id=134>] in which URCA indicates that service provider number portability will be implemented for fixed (land line) services in The Bahamas as soon as economically and technically feasible, and will be implemented using the All Call Query routing method, with a centralized database and administration service to be maintained and operated by a third party service provider licensed by URCA. The implementation of number portability for mobile (cellular) services in The Bahamas will be addressed in time for the introduction of competition in that market.

Number Portability is a facility whereby subscribers to telephone services who switch from one service provider to another can, on request, keep their existing telephone number. Section 80 of the Communications Act provides for URCA to issue a consultation and make a determination on number portability, and requires licensees to provide number portability to their subscribers when required to do so by URCA.

The requirements for participation in this selection process are contained in the RFP, which may be downloaded from the link below.

Interested persons are advised that the closing date for receipt of proposals is **29 June 2012**, and that proposals (and any requests for information in relation to the RFP) must be submitted strictly in accordance with the guidelines set out in the RFP.

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