



هيئة تنظيم الاتصالات
Telecommunications Regulatory Authority

**An Order issued by the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (“TRA”) on the
Reference Interconnection Offer and Reference Access Offer of the Bahrain
Telecommunications Company B.S.C (“Batelco”)**

Reference Offer Order

25 January 2011

Ref: MCD/01/11/006

Public Version without Annex

Purpose: To set the fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory charges of Batelco’s Reference Offer.

Reference Offer Order
Annex – Order Legal Basis and Reasoning

REFERENCE OFFER ORDER

1. Pursuant to:
 - a. The exercise of its powers under article 3(c)(1), 57(b) and 57(e) of the Legislative Decree No. 48 for the year 2002 promulgating the Telecommunications Law, and articles 2,3,4,5 and 6 of the Access Regulation issued on 30 April 2005 (the “Access Regulation”).
 - b. The Dominance in Interconnection Markets issued 9 August 2003; the Dominance Determination in Wholesale Markets by Batelco issued 22 January 2006; the Dominance Determination in Wholesale Broadband Markets issued 14 September 2009; and the Dominance designation for termination services on individual mobile networks issued 1 February 2010.
 - c. The legal basis and reasoning set out in Annex A to this Order. Annex A forms an integral part of the Order.

2. The Authority hereby orders the charges as detailed in the following table to be implemented by Bahrain Telecommunications Company B.S.C (“Batelco”). The Authority’s decisions must be reflected in Batelco’s Reference Offer (“RO”) within 10 working days following the date of issuance of this Order. Batelco shall inform all its wholesale customers and the Authority by email of the new charges and their associated implementation date within 2 working days following the date of issuance of this Order.

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Table 1: The Authority's 2010 ordered charges

Chargeable activity	Approved in 2009	Batelco proposed charge in 2010	TRA fair and reasonable charge in 2010	Evolution as compared to 2009
ISI and CSI Link Services				
ISI Link services (1-1)	in BD			
1-1.5A - ISI Link - Port and E1 line rental for unilateral traffic routes - 1-21 links	67	98	60	- 10%
1-1.5B - ISI Link -Port and E1 line rental for unilateral traffic routes - 22-42 links	56	72	42	- 24%
1-1.5C - ISI Link -Port and E1 line rental for unilateral traffic routes - 43-63 links	44	49	39	-12%
1-1.12 - ISI Link -Signalling Link rental	73.6	119	50	- 32%
CSI Link services (1-2)	in BD			
1-2.2A - CSI Link Rent (Basic) - 1-21 Links	150	184	154	3%
1-2.2B - CSI Link Rent (Basic)- 22-42 Links	105	124	75	- 29%
1-2.2C - CSI Link Rent (Basic) - 43-63 Links	64	69	58	-9%
1-2.11 - CSI Link -Signalling Link rental	73.6	119	50	- 32%
Interconnection services	in fils			
1-3.1 - GMSC PTSN terminating calls	3.040	3.040	3.040	0%
1-3.2 - PSTN terminating access using either double or single tandem	2.382	2.382	2.382	0%
1-3.3 - Delivery to tone or announcement	2.000	2.000	2.000	0%
1-4.1 - Mobile call conveyance GMSC	6.124	6.725	6.203	1.3%
1-4.2 - Mobile call conveyance Transit switch	6.556	7.144	6.553	- 0.04%
1-4.3 - Delivery to tone or announcement	2.000	2.000	2.000	0%
1-5.1 - Paging call delivery	REMOVED			
1-5.2 - Delivery to tone or announcement	2.000	2.000	2.000	0%
1-6.1 - SMS Terminating access	0.437	1.856	0.443	1.5%
1-7.1 - Conveyance of emergency call to 999	1.591	1.462	1.045	- 34.3%
1-7.2 - Conveyance of emergency call to 990	2.711	2.382	2.382	-12.1%
1-7.3 - Conveyance of emergency call to 992	2.711	2.382	2.382	-12.1%
1-7.4 - Conveyance of emergency call to 994	2.711	2.382	2.382	-12.1%
1-7.5 - Conveyance of emergency call to 998		2.382	2.382	
1-8.1 - Freephone from Mobile	8.060	9.030	8.060	0%
1-8.2 - Freephone from PSTN	2.710	2.710	2.710	0%
1-11.1 - MMS delivery service	84.109	136.363	124.495	48.0%
2-2.1 - Directory assistance service for call to 181	115.750	170.891	121.402	4.9%
2-2.2 - Directory assistance service for call to 188	118.820	172.940	123.884	4.3%
2-4 - Dial-up Internet Access Service	REMOVED			
2-9.1 - Inter-Operator Transit Access Service Fixed	1.724	1.724	1.724	0%
2-9.2 - Inter-Operator Transit Access Service Mobile	1.988	1.910	1.490	- 25.1%
Duct access (2-3.9)				
2-3.9 – Duct Rental charge	0.178	0.259	0.189	5.8%

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Chargeable activity	Approved in 2009	Batelco proposed charge in 2010	TRA fair and reasonable charge in 2010	Evolution as compared to 2009
CAT/LLCO (2-5, 2-6)				
CAT/LLCO Narrowband	in BD			
		Charges apply for open period		
64Kbps	58.00	88.25	58.00	0%
128Kbps	61.00	92.21	61.00	0%
256Kbps	68.00	100.14	68.00	0%
384Kbps		108.07		
512Kbps	81.00	115.99	81.00	0%
768Kbps		131.84		
1024Kbps	119.00	158.76	119.00	0%
1536Kbps	145.00	190.24	145.00	0%
2048Kbps	171.00	222.22	171.00	0%
CAT/LLCO Broadband	maximum price in BD * (price ceiling)			
DS3		5,207.67	4,686.31 *	
STM1		8,777.50	6,630.69 *	
STM4		17,342.95	15,211.84 *	
IPLC (2-10)				
IPLC - Zone 1 – Low speed IPLC	in BD			
64Kbps		192	168	
128Kbps (2x64Kbps)		226	198	
256Kbps (4x64Kbps)	380	294	258	-32%
512Kbps (8x64Kbps)	576	432	379	-34%
768Kbps (12x64Kbps)		569	499	
1Mbps (16x64Kbps)	961	706	626	-35%
1,5Mbps (24x64Kbps)		981	866	
2Mbps (32x64Kbps)	1,441	1,262	1,107	-23%
IPLC - Zone 1 – High speed IPLC	maximum price in BD ** (price ceiling)			
DS3		7,287	7,186 **	
STM-1		15,532	15,296 **	
STM-4		31,396	30,565 **	
* The price ceiling applies when the IPLC uses the following international cable and landing partner:				
Destination	International Cable	Landing Partner		
UAE	FOG	Etisalat		
Kuwait	FOG	Ministry of Communications (MOC)		
Oman	FALCON	OmanTel		
Qatar	FOG	Qtel		
Saudi Arabia	SFO	STC Saudi		
Prices may differ from the above prices ceilings if another international cable and landing partner are requested by the ordering party.				
IPLC - Zone 2	in BD			
64Kbps		223	196	
128Kbps (2x64Kbps)		289	254	
256Kbps (4x64Kbps)	606	422	370	-39%
512Kbps (8x64Kbps)	940	686	602	-36%
768Kbps (12x64Kbps)		951	834	

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1Mbps (16x64Kbps)	1,510	1,215	1,072	-29%
1,5Mbps (24x64Kbps)		1,744	1,536	
2Mbps (32x64Kbps)	2,565	2,280	2,000	-22%
IPLC - Zone 3	in BD			
64Kbps		231	203	
128Kbps (2x64Kbps)		305	267	
256Kbps (4x64Kbps)	913	452	397	-57%
512Kbps (8x64Kbps)	1,331	747	655	-51%
768Kbps (12x64Kbps)		1,042	914	
1Mbps (16x64Kbps)	2,050	1,337	1,179	-42%
1,5Mbps (24x64Kbps)		1,927	1,696	
2Mbps (32x64Kbps)	3,383	2,524	2,214	-35%
Wholesale DSL (2-11)	in BD			
Wholesale DSL- Residential Contention Ratio of 15:1	in BD			
256Kbps: (GB 2)	7	5.7	6.21	-11%
512 Kbps: (GB 8)	14.084	9.8	10.31	-27%
640Kbps: (GB 2)		5.95	6.45	
640Kbps: (GB 5)	11.634	7.92	8.42	-28%
1Mbps: (GB 8)		10.13	10.63	
1Mbps: (GB 15)	20.405	14.72	15.23	-25%
2Mbps: (GB 15)		15.38	15.88	
2Mbps: (GB 20)	25.41	18.66	19.16	-25%
4Mbps: (GB 25)	31.18	23.26	23.74	-24%
8Mbps: (GB 40)	46.96	35.73	36.20	-23%
10Mbps: (GB 50)	56.971	43.61	44.06	-23%
16Mbps (80 GB)	86.97	67.24	67.66	-22%
Wholesale DSL- Business Threshold - Cost with CPE Contention Ratio of 8:1 except 256 Kbps with a contention ratio of 15:1	in BD			
256Kbps: (GB 2.5) – without CPE	9.23	6.15	6.54	-29%
256Kbps: (GB 5)	19.24	18.23	12.32	-36%
512Kbps: (GB 10)	23.84	21.88	15.90	-33%
1Mbps: (GB 15)	28.8	25.78	19.80	-31%
2Mbps: (GB 20)	34.48	30.3	24.30	-30%
4Mbps: (GB 130)	130.66	104.92	98.90	-24%
6Mbps: (GB 160)	158.98	127.07	121.03	-24%
8Mbps: (GB 200)	195.78	155.77	149.71	-24%
10Mbps: (GB 250)	241.06	191.04	184.96	-23%
16Mbps: (350 GB)	334.46	264.04	257.90	-23%
Wholesale DSL- Business Flat rate - Cost with CPE Contention Ratio of 8:1 except 256 Kbps with a contention ratio of 15:1	in BD			
256 Kbps Flat	14.23	18.54	12.56	-12%
512 Kbps Flat	29.27	25.59	19.62	-33%
1Mbps Flat	41.1	35.54	29.56	-28%

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2Mbps Flat	74.77	55.97	49.79	-33%
Over the threshold charge per incremental GB (Usage tariffs DSL.8)	0.848	0.656	0.656	-23%
Bitstream (2-12)				
Bitstream- Residential				
New Contention Ratio of 15:1 (no longer at 10:1)	in BD			
256Kbps	3.789	3.29	3.64	-4%
512Kbps	4.076	3.46	3.80	-7%
640Kbps	4.219	3.54	3.88	-8%
1Mbps	4.648	3.79	4.13	-11%
2Mbps	5.793	4.44	4.78	-17%
4Mbps	8.084	5.67	6.09	-25%
8Mbps	12.665	8.4	8.70	-31%
10Mbps	14.956	9.72	10.01	-33%
16Mbps	15.72	13.67	13.92	-11%
Bitstream- Business				
New Contention Ratio of 15:1 (no longer at 10:1)	in BD			
256Kbps	3.861	3.44	3.78	-2%
512Kbps	4.219	3.74	4.09	-3%
640Kbps	4.398	3.9	4.24	-4%
1Mbps	4.934	4.36	4.70	-5%
2Mbps	6.366	5.6	5.92	-7%
4Mbps	9.229	8.07	8.37	-9%
6Mbps	12.09	10.54	10.82	-10%
8Mbps	14.956	13.01	13.27	-11%
10Mbps	17.819	15.48	15.72	-12%
16Mbps	26.39	22.9	23.07	-13%
One-off charges applicable to Bitstream and WDSL				
Bitstream				
in BD				
BS.4 - Port Connection	10.00	10.50	0.00	-100%
BS.5 - Charges for rejects, reversals, and withdrawals associated with Bitstream Order	5.00	5.25	5.00	0%
BS.6 - Charges for a Change of Speed	5.00	5.25	5.00	0%
BS.7 - External Removal charge	5.00	5.00	5.00	0%
Wholesale DSL				
in BD				
DSL.3 - Fee for processing DSL Transfer Request and completion	8.00	8.40	0.00	-100%
DSL.4 - Charges for rejects, reversals, and withdrawals associated with DSL Transfer, Invalid Transfer	5.00	5.25	5.00	0%
DSL.5 - Fee for a change of speed associated with DSL Transfer if applicable	5.00	5.25	5.00	0%
DSL.6 - External Removal or Change Number	Equivalent to retail tariff	Equivalent to retail tariff	Equivalent to retail tariff	

Source: The Authority

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3. The Authority hereby orders Batelco to reflect the following changes in its RO:
- ISI CSI Link services (1-1 and 1-2): cancellation charges shall only apply during the first 3 years of service, measured from the Ready For Test (“RFT”) date of the service. Any cancellation, irrespective of whether it occurs before or after the 3-year cut off for cancellation charges, is subject to a 6-month notice period.

Batelco shall amend the cancellation charge formula in its RO schedule 4 clause 8 as follows:

$$P = \frac{(1 - RF) \times RC \times (3 - Y)}{(1 + CC)^{(3-Y)}}$$

The above formula shall apply to both existing and new services.

- Mobile call conveyance MTC (1-4.1); the Authority orders that the service be renamed “Mobile call conveyance GMSC”. The name change shall be reflected in the product list used by Batelco.
 - Mobile call conveyance OLO (1-4.2); the Authority orders that the service be renamed “Mobile call conveyance Transit switch”. The name change shall be reflected in the product list used by Batelco.
 - Paging terminating access (1-5): the Authority approves Batelco’s request to remove item 1-5 Paging Terminating Access from its RO.
 - Conveyance of emergency call to 998 (1-7.5), the Authority orders Batelco to introduce service 1-7.5 in its RO under the name “Conveyance of emergency call to 998”.
 - PSTN Transit Service (2-1): the service shall be maintained in its RO.
 - Dial-up Internet Access Service (2-4); the Authority approves Batelco request to remove the Dial-Up Internet Access Service from its RO.
4. The Authority also orders Batelco to report on a quarterly basis:
- new high speed CAT/LLCO (i.e. speed above 2 Mbps); and
 - new high speed IPLC (i.e. speed above 2 Mbps) to Zone 1 destinations (i.e. GCC countries).

The quarterly reports shall be submitted no later than 5 working days from the end of the relevant calendar quarter. The first two quarterly reports shall also include all existing circuits. The reports must follow the template provided by Batelco to the Authority on 12 December 2010. This template may be amended as required by the Authority.

Compliance

5. Batelco shall comply with the terms of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order may constitute a material breach of the Telecommunications Law and may consequently be subject to enforcement action pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Telecommunications Law.

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Entry into force

6. This Order is effective on the date of its issuance. The charges shall apply from 1 February 2011 with the exception of Wholesale DSL charges which shall apply from the start of the next billing cycle following the date of issuance of this Order. Batelco shall inform all its wholesale customers and the Authority by email of the new charges and their associated effective dates within 2 working days following the date of issuance of this Order.
7. This Order is without prejudice to any further orders, regulations and determinations that the Authority may consider necessary pursuant to its powers and duties under the Telecommunications Law.

Signed on 25 January 2011



Dr. Mohammed Al Amer
Chairman of the Board of Directors and Acting General Director
Telecommunication Regulatory Authority
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain