

Interconnection

24 - 28 August 2009
Sandton, South Africa



COMMONWEALTH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ORGANISATION

www.cto.int

Register by
24th July 2009
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Overview

A one-week course that will prepare accountants, economists as well as non-financially inclined managers with backgrounds in legal, markets and competition to address interconnection issues from a regulatory perspective.

The course will establish the context for interconnection, examine the key principles of interconnection, provide insights into interconnection pricing models, provide an understanding of interconnection implementation and examine the most important implementation issues faced by operators and regulators.

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Tel: +44 (0) 208 600 3800 **Fax:** +44 (0) 870 0345 626 **Email:** programmes@cto.int

Course programme may change due to unforeseen circumstances

Learning outcomes

The successful participant will be able to:

- Determine the principles of interconnection
- Explain the rationale for regulating interconnection
- Describe the key elements of interconnection pricing
- Identify commercial and technical aspects of interconnection
- Examine interconnection implementation issues

Key objectives

- Describe the importance of interconnection in promoting a competitive telecommunications environment
- Examine key aspects of interconnection across different types of telecommunications networks
- Identify the most important components of effective interconnection pricing
- Determine the most important issues in implementing interconnection
- Develop practical approaches to implementing interconnection

Who should attend

- New employees from legal, markets & competition and other interested parties with little or no background on interconnection issues. Open to external participants

Learning environment

Traditional classroom including collaborative learning. Use of presentations, group learning and case studies. Extensive practical exercises, group work and problem solving

Pre-requisites

There are no pre-requisites for this course

Course content

Module 1: The Principles of Interconnection

- Interconnection in context
- Concepts - access, interconnection, peering and transit
- Technical aspects of interconnection
- Different types and levels of interconnection
- Interconnection across different types of networks (fixed-mobile, voice-IP)
- Interconnection in fixed line networks
- Fixed-mobile and mobile-mobile interconnection
- Interconnection with IP networks
- International case studies

Module 2: Regulating Interconnection

- The importance of interconnection - market power and network effects
- The rationale for interconnection regulation
- Different approaches to regulating interconnection - international practices
- What aspects of interconnection should be regulated?
- Approaches to interconnection agreements - commercial agreements between parties or a mandated Reference Interconnect Offer (RIO)
- Key aspects of interconnection agreements - technical, legal and operational
- Characteristics of Reference Interconnection Offers (RIO)
- Interconnection in an international context - the WTO and beyond
- International case studies and best practices

Course content

Module 3: Interconnection Pricing

- Should interconnection prices be regulated?
- Cost structures in different types of telecommunications networks
- Rate rebalancing – requirements and implementation considerations
- Approaches to determining regulated interconnection prices: price models and benchmarks
- FL-LRIC models and variants
- Alternative interconnection pricing models
- Practical aspects of interconnection pricing in fixed, mobile and IP networks
- Key issues in interconnection pricing
- International case studies in interconnection pricing

Module 4: Interconnection Implementation Considerations

- Interconnection services to be provided
- Preparing for interconnection of networks - exchange of information
- Points of interconnection
- Facilities access and collocation
- Network planning and modifications
- Quality of service - inter-operator and network
- Measurement of traffic, billing and settlement
- Other obligations (e.g. universal service, access deficit recovery, etc.)
- Key issues for operators and regulators
- International case studies

Course leader



Christie Christelis

Christie Christelis is a senior associate Alliances Consulting Group Inc. with 20 years of international experience in ICT: convergence technologies, wireless and mobile technologies, internet, broadcast interactive TV, IPTV, VoIP, satellite communications, fixed line and fixed wireless technologies.

He has extensive experience in regulatory capacity building to address newly liberalised telecommunications and broadcasting environments.

Hosted by:

Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)

In partnership with:

Alliances Consulting Inc.

About the CTO

The Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) is an international development partnership between Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth governments, business and civil society organisations.

It provides the international community with effective means to help bridge the digital divide and achieve social and economic development through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in the specific areas of Telecommunications, IT, Broadcasting and the Internet.

About the programme for development and training (PDT)

Managed by the CTO, the PDT is a unique low-cost membership programme providing needs-based professional training and capacity building courses on telecommunications policy, regulation, technologies and telecoms business management.

The PDT has delivered over 3600 bilateral training and consultancy projects, covering every aspect of the telecommunications industry, training over 35,000 professionals in 33 countries of the Commonwealth.

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