



Telecommunication Newsletter Switzerland

ComCom Reduces Unbundling Charges, Interconnection Charges Remain largely Unchanged

Decision by ComCom

In the decision rendered on December, 18, 2013¹, the ComCom has reduced the access charges of the incumbent operator Swisscom whilst the interconnection charges remained largely unchanged. The ComCom decision is subject to appeal.

At the request of sunrise, the second largest operator in Switzerland, the ComCom had to determine the unbundling charges as well as the interconnection charges for compliance with the cost orientation principles set out in the Telecommunication Act ("TCA") and the Telecommunication Ordinance ("TCO").

Reduction of Unbundling Price

Swisscom had determined a price of CHF 15.80 for the unbundling for the years 2012 and 2013. In its decision, the ComCom reduced the price with retroactive effect for 2012 by CHF 0.30 to CHF 15.50 and for 2013 by CHF 0.60 to CHF 15.20.

Apparently, the total of unbundled lines has peaked in May 2012 with 317'689 lines and has since then decreased to 268'449 in September 2013.

Co-location charges and charges for access to cable ducts reduced

In the same decision, the ComCom reduced the co-location charges, i.e. the charges levied by Swisscom for the use of space in the exchanges necessary to connect the alternative providers' equipment to Swisscom's. The ComCom reduced these rental charges by 16 - 20 %, whereas the other co-location charges remained unchanged. Furthermore, the ComCom reduced the prices for the shared use of cable ducts by 5%.

The reason for the reduction of the prices is largely due to a correction made in respect of non-relevant costs included by Swisscom as well as reduction of the relevant capital cost.

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¹ <http://www.comcom.admin.ch/themen/00500/00782/index.html?lang=en>