







# "Mobile Number Portability in South Africa"

Training on Competition and Changing Market Conditions: Impact of Regulation, 6th - 9th November 2007, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

By:

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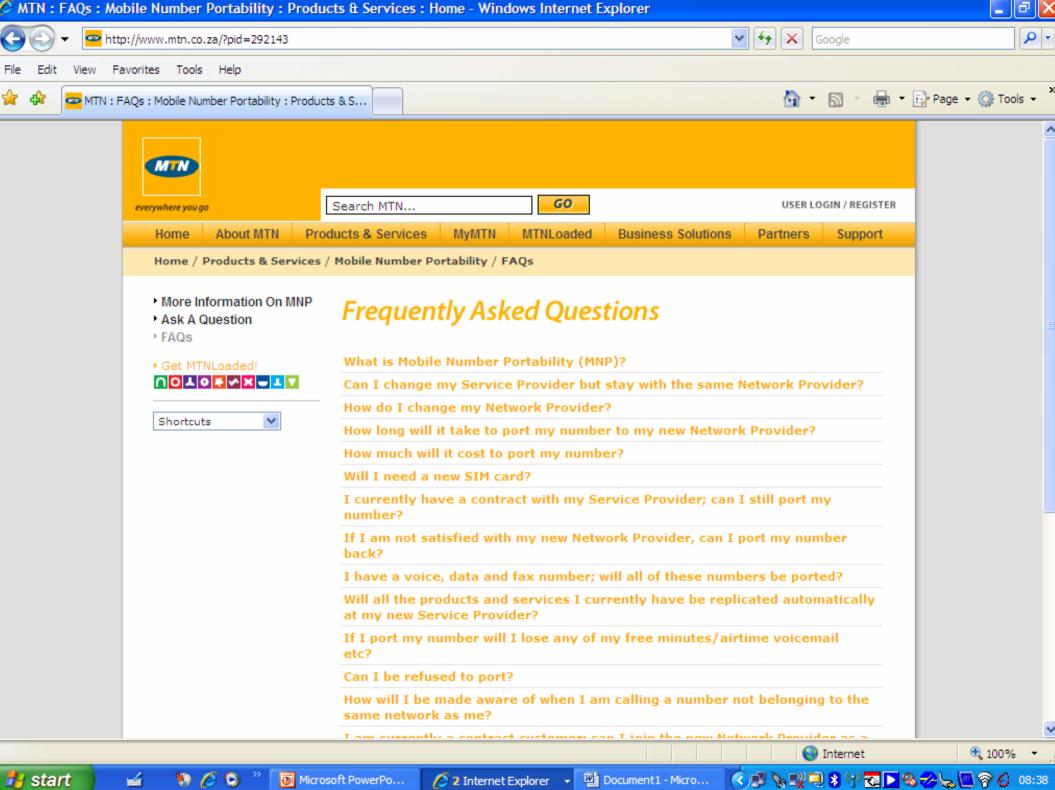
#### Consultation

- Introduced 2001 legislative amendment
- Service provider appointed techn5ca3 ex\*ert5se
- Working groups with industry
  - MNP Industry Steering Committee
  - Development of functional specifications
- Technical problems in the Central Reference Database solution
- MNP requires new business processes be designed and implemented between operators and service providers, between operators and operators and between operators and third parties
- Result that all operators equally delayed in commencing with vital Inter Operator Testing (IOT)
- Scheduled for July, then September 2006 delayed

## **Implementation**

- Consultation on regulations specifying procedures and dispute resolution
- 9 month implementation date after regulations gazetted
- Numerous delays but finally implemented 12 November 2006
- Virgin Mobile "Set them free with MNP"
- Switching costs
  - Contractual limitations
  - Handset subsidies
- Porting statistics low
- Newest entrant expected to be net gainer of porting customers





### **Practicalities**

- Within 30 days
- Recipient network may charge a fee; donor network may not levy a charge.
- Low costs except where contract concerned
  - SIM porting for pre-paid
  - Post-paid 2 year: remaining terms of contracts bought out
  - Month to month can port if they debt free to "donor" network
- Operators required to maintain a free, publicly available list of all numbers that have been ported from one operator to another.
- Operators not allowed to offer discriminatory incentives (offering tariffs and special offers to encourage customers to port without offering the same deal to new or existing subscribers who did not port their number across)

## Regulations

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