

ALTERNATIVE NETWORKS

Prior to deciding to deregulate the network the government had commissioned "Touche Ross and Co" to conduct a survey on the "Network Services Market" in New Zealand. This report was released on the 15th of February 1988. Touche Ross identified the following corporations as best placed to offer telecommunications services in competition to Telecom:

New Zealand Railways Corporation
Electricorp
Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand

The Railways Corporation has already indicated that they would be interested in a joint ventures, with private consortiums, to provide telecommunications services, in competition to Telecom.

Broadcast Communications Ltd (BCL was formerly the engineering divisions of Radio and Television New Zealand) have commissioned Bell Canada International to compile a "Business Plan" recommending suitable competitive approaches to the new market.

INTERCONNECTION STANDARDS

In order to ensure technical compatibility Telecom has set "Permit to connect" (PTC) standards, which are available from Telecom Corporation. These standards are based upon CCITT standards and BT standards, although it is not correct to assume that if equipment meets BT approval then it would necessarily be accepted in New Zealand. (See also Appendix 2.)

Testing of their standards is done at the "Department of Scientific and Industrial Research" (DSIR) and requires submission of 20 individual samples of the product. For telephone handsets, this full PTC test will cost the company seeking a "Telepermit", \$3600.00 NZ (approximately \$2700 CDN). However, the DSIR offers a trial PTC test, where 2 initial samples are submitted and tested, at a cost of \$940.00 (approximately \$710 CDN). Should the company seeking a "Telepermit" subsequently decide to proceed with the "full PTC" test, some rebate of this fee is available. As yet, there is no fee set for the testing of PABX's.

Because of the competitive environment in this sector, this procedure has been established to allow suppliers, not dealing exclusively with Telecom, to enter the market.

Alternatively, testing can be carried out by the Telecom Corporation NZ Ltd, with the supplier submitting 20 samples of the product, without having to pay for the test. This arrangement is only available to Telecom's approved suppliers who wish to market their product exclusively through Telecom.

PERMIT TO CONNECT DOCUMENTS

The documents outlining the interconnection standards can be obtained from:

Mr Doug Burrus
Telecom Corporation of NZ Ltd
Access Standards Section
P O Box 898
WELLINGTON/NEW ZEALAND
PH: (64-4) 749-778 FAX: (64-4) 728-897