

## **Telecommunications Carriers' Forum**

### **Extension to Project Scope**

#### **Interception Working Party Establishment of an Ongoing Forum and Technical Sub Group with Government Agencies**

**Date Submitted 7 August 2009**

#### **A. Background**

The Interception Working Party (IWP) was established by the TCF to:

1. Prepare a report considering whether the Board should develop a draft Code or Guidelines; and
2. Subject to the outcome of (1), develop an Interception Code or Guidelines.

The report was completed and approved in June 2008 and the Interception Guidelines were endorsed by the TCF Board in June 2009.

#### **B. On-going Forum for Discussion**

The Telecommunications Interception Capability Act 2004 (TICA) requires Network Operators to ensure that Public Switched Telecommunications Networks (PSTN) and Public Data Networks (PDN) have interception capability. There is an obligation that Network Operators shall assist authorised Government Agencies with interceptions upon request.

The TICA is non-prescriptive in its approach to outlining how Network Operators shall deliver these capabilities. The Interception Guidelines which have been developed provide minimum standards that Network Operators and Service Providers can implement to comply with the requirements of the TICA. However, the Interception Guidelines do not cover the implementation of the solution and there a number of areas that need to be discussed and agreed with the Government Agencies.

The IWP believes that the most appropriate solution for engaging with the Government Agencies is to develop a forum whereby TCF members can engage with Government Agencies as an industry to streamline processes and reduce confusion by implementing industry agreed solutions.

#### **C. Scope of Ongoing Engagement**

The IWP recommends that the scope of its ongoing engagement is to:

1. Develop a forum whereby quarterly meetings are held between the Interception working party, Government Agencies and the Ministry of

- Justice with the option to schedule ad hoc meetings if urgent matters arise which require immediate attention;
2. Develop a Technical Sub Group made up of participants from the TCF, Government Agencies and 3<sup>rd</sup> parties who would meet on an 'as required' basis to discuss technical issues.
  3. Foster a common understanding of the interception objectives, technology development and end to end system requirements;
  4. Promote the coordinated development of interception functions of telecommunications networks through, where appropriate, common standards or operations manuals;
  5. Develop an industry view on specific interception initiatives;
  6. Monitor and report on the effectiveness of the Interception Guidelines; and
  7. Undertake a review and recommend changes to the Interception Guidelines in accordance with the TCF Rules.

#### **D. Deliverables**

The deliverables from this aspect of the IWP role are:

1. Provision of regular reports to the CEO updating the CEO on any issues arising; and
2. As required, report to the Board seeking agreement to a TCF position/comments on specific initiatives.

## E. Working Party Membership

The current active members of the working party are:

|                               | Name             | Organisation        | Email                               |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Leader:</b>        | Stephen Franklin | Telecom             | Stephen.franklin@telecom.co.nz      |
| <b>Working Party Members:</b> | Ray Norton       | Telecom             | Ray.norton@telecom.co.nz            |
|                               | Gordon Cameron   | Telecom             | Gordon.cameron@telecom.co.nz        |
|                               | John Wilson      | TelstraClear        | John.wilson@team.telstraclear.co.nz |
|                               | Allan Levet      | Vodafone            | Allan.levet@vodafone.com            |
|                               | Teresa Muollo    | Vodafone            | Teresa.muollo@vodafone.com          |
|                               | Paul Clarkin     | WorldxChange        | Pclarkin@wxc.co.nz                  |
|                               | Brett Thomson    | WorldxChange        | bthomson@wxc.co.nz                  |
|                               | Helen Knox       | Forum Administrator | Helen.Knox@tcf.org.nz               |

It is recommended that an invitation be sent to all members of the TCF not already involved in this working party to participate in the discussions with the Government Agencies.

## F. Resource Requirements

The TCF budget includes an allowance of an average of 1 day of Forum Administrator resource per month.

## G. Recommendations

That the Board:

1. **Approve** the extension to the Interception project scope and agree that the scope of the working parties role in terms of providing an ongoing discussion forum is as per Section C above.
2. **Agree** an invitation be sent to all members of the TCF not already involved in this working party to participate in the Ongoing Forum and Technical Sub Group with the Government Agencies.
3. **Agree** to TCF legal counsel being included in the discussion forum due to statute law, ie the TICA, being the point of focus.