## INTUG



# Mobile telecommunications update

#### **Ewan Sutherland**

Executive Director ewan@intug.net

### **INTUG** contents

- market deficiences
- tromboning
- beauty contests and auctions
- roaming
- conclusion

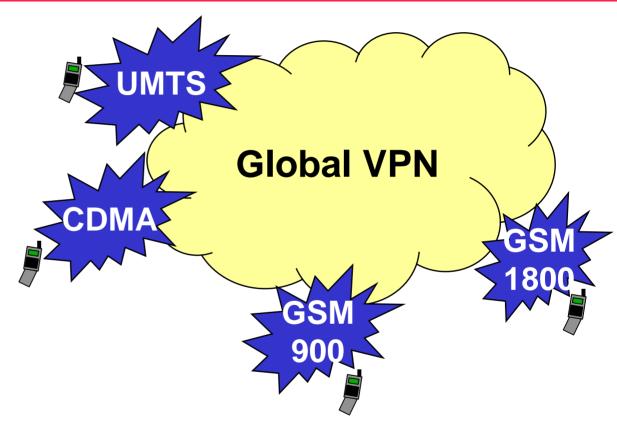


### **INTUG** users want unified service

- one global service chosen from a competitive market
- one point of contact
- one billing interface with flexible subdivisions
- maximise our buying power
- an end to roaming charges
- integration with VPNs



### INTUG VPN + GSM



dynamic allocation of a domestic mobile number buying only transit over mobile networks



#### **INTUG** market deficiencies

- high termination rates
- high roaming rates
- national oligopolies
- emerging global oligopoly



## **INTUG** tromboning

- high termination rates to mobile
- new high accounting rates to mobile
- arbitrage opportunities
- consumer confusion over new tariffs



#### **INTUG 3G licences**

- coming to an ignominious end
  - more spectrum in a few years
  - re-farming of 2G spectrum
- banking regulators worried
- anti-competitive behaviour
- consolidation amongst operators
- no underlying business model



## **INTUG** merger regulation

- approval of takeovers
- France Telecom + Orange
- Vizzavi
- J-Phone BT and Vodafone j/v
- BT and Esat
- lots more to come (e.g., DTAG and Voicestream)

#### **INTUG** vodafone + mannesmann

- so far no use of third party access
- mistake by DG Competition?
- other operators building pan-European networks
- further Vodafone decisions
  - Eircell
  - Sonera



## **INTUG** legislative package

- common regulatory framework
  - SMP
  - market definitions
- interconnection and access
  - Indirect Access (IA)
  - MVNOs
- authorisation
  - future auctions



## **INTUG** legislative package (2)

- universal service and users' rights
  - location for 112 calls
  - pricing information
- telecommunications data protection
  - location information
  - spamming



## **INTUG** potential nightmares

- data protection issues
- location and pattern of movements
- cookies on your handset
- pattern of calls and locations of those callers



#### **INTUG** location

- obligation in Universal Service and Users' Rights Directive to report the location of a caller to 112
- industry-led steering committee
- very confusing mix of issues
- network and handset solutions
- also an issue for VPNs and PBXs



## **INTUG DG Competition**

- part of a sectoral investigation
  - leased lines
  - local loop
- some operators increased their IOTs during investigation
- easy to find regulatory solutions, hard to find competition law solutions

## **INTUG INTUG Europe survey**

- 1999 study repeated in 2000
- findings:
  - still very high
  - IOT seems immune from competition
  - plenty of possible regulatory actions
- will do it again in 2001
- what can we do outside the EU/EEA?

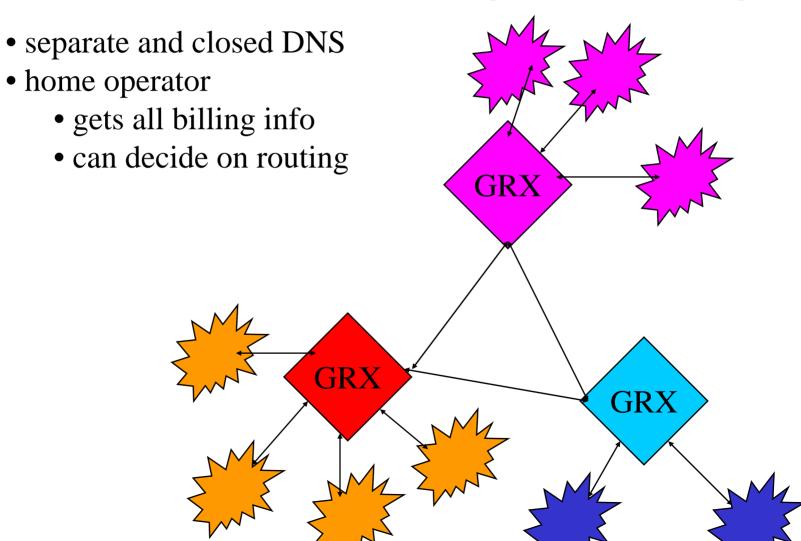


## INTUG 2.5 and 3G roaming

- roaming is undergoing revolutionary change
- GPRS will be very different and the model for UMTS roaming
- central role of VPN providers
- keeping customers when abroad
- data protection issues
- competition law issues



## INTUG GPRS Roaming eXchange



#### **INTUG MVNOs**

- slow but steady progress
- NRAs shifting to open access
- could be a solution to problems of:
  - high termination costs
  - exorbitant roaming fees
- some operators conceding MVOs might have a role
- a lot of pressure to get in

#### **INTUG** conclusion

- competition law is a very poor instrument to regulate a fast moving market
- regulatory cycle is longer than product/service life cycle!
- users need to look to GPRS and UMTS roaming
- GRX could fit with VPNs

