

[NTC (DTC) MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 20-12-92, December 23, 1992]

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES FOR CELLULAR MOBILE TELEPHONE SYSTEM (CMTS) OPERATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Pursuant to the provisions of the Radio Control Law, Act 3846 as amended, Commonwealth Act 146, Executive Order No. 546, series of 1979, and Department Circular No. 92-269, known as the Cellular Mobile Telephone System Policy, the following guidelines for the operation of Cellular Mobile Telephone System (CMTS) in the Philippines is hereby issued by this Commission:

SECTION 1. Scope and Objectives — Consistent with the government's desire to accelerate the introduction and development of cellular mobile telephone service throughout the country, this Circular shall:

- a. provide guidelines for enfranchised telecommunications service providers who would like to provide cellular mobile telephone services on a nationwide or regional basis;
- b. allocate the radio frequency bands available for CMTS operations on a regional and/or nationwide basis; and
- c. establish interconnection guidelines between the Public Switched Telephone and the Cellular Mobile Telephone Network/s and between Cellular Mobile Telephone Systems to ensure adequate and efficient service consistent with the provisions of Department Circular No. 92-269 otherwise known as the Cellular Mobile Telephone System (CMTS) Policy.

SECTION 2. Definitions — As used in this Circular the following terms and phrases shall mean:

- a. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) — an authority to operate a public telecommunications service issued by the Commission based on the premise that the provision of said service and the authorization to do business will promote public interest in a proper and suitable manner.
- b. Provisional Authority — a temporary authority to operate a public telecommunications service issued by the Commission.
- c. Cellular Mobile Telephone System (CMTS) — a wide area mobile radio telephone system composed of clusters of cells capable of providing high-capacity mobile as well as fixed telecommunications by utilizing frequency re-use techniques.
- d. Commission — refers to the National Telecommunications Commission.

- e. Grade of Service (GOS) Figure — the Grade of Service figure is used to express the probability that a call will be lost due to switching and/or transmission congestion.
- f. International Accepted CMTS Standards — as referred to in this Circular, are those standards that conform with relevant CCIR, CITT, TIA, EIA, ETSI recommendations.
- g. PSTN — as used in these guidelines shall refer to a Public Switched Telephone Network.

SECTION 3. General Provisions — (a) No CMTS may be operated on a nationwide or regional basis unless said operator is a holder of a franchise and has secured a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) or Provisional Authority (P.A.) from the Commission.

- b. A nationwide CMTS must cover at least 80% of all provincial capitals in the Philippines including all chartered cities within a period of seven (7) years.
- c. A regional CMTS must cover at least 80% of all provincial capitals within the region including all chartered cities therein within a period of five (5) years.
- d. The grant of a CPCN or P.A. for the operation of a nationwide or regional CMTS shall be subject to availability of radio frequencies as well as applicant's legal, technical, and financial capabilities as determined by the Commission.
- e. The CMTS service provider shall complete the installation of its system in accordance with the terms and conditions of its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) or Provisional Authority (P.A.).

SECTION 4. Technical Standards — (1) CMTS Service Providers shall adhere to internationally accepted CMTS standards.

2. The following frequency bands shall be allocated to the CMTS in accordance with the international norms of frequency allocation:

a. 824 - 849 MHZ

869 - 890 MHZ

b. 890 - 915 MHZ

935 - 960 MHZ

3. All CMTS service providers shall comply with the applicable Service Performance Standards as provided for in Memorandum Circular 10-17-90.

4. All CMTS service providers shall comply with the relevant and applicable technical standards (Fundamental Technical Plans) as contained in Memorandum Circular No. 10-16-90.

SECTION 5. Network Interconnection — (a) The interconnection between the