

## **Policy on Pilot Project Requests**

Bermuda's size, geographic location and population density mean that it is an ideal location to act as a test-bed for new services.

It is a microcosm that offers the potential for testing various applications, or technologies, with limited investment.

This Pilot Project Policy is intended to give stakeholders the opportunity to become more acquainted with the technology, its benefits and associated pitfalls and be in a better position to evaluate its feasibility before proceeding to provide the service on a commercial basis.

The Regulatory Authority will consider any requests for pilot projects which an operator or any prospective investor may wish to carry out subject to the following conditions:

1. Requests made to the Regulatory Authority (RA) should contain
  - Reason why the pilot project is needed
  - Geographic coverage of pilot project in terms of households and/or population
  - Duration of pilot project
  - Short description of the technology being used highlighting any innovative features
  - Results expected from pilot in terms of validation of construction techniques, equipment used, budgets, timelines, performance, quality of service, back office processes and customer service.
  - Overall advantages to Bermuda
  
2. The pilot project request will be evaluated and the following overall guidelines will be used to determine its final decision:
  - Number of households in pilot should not exceed 30 (thirty) in total if pilot involves households
  - Number of population involved should not exceed 120 (one hundred and twenty) persons if pilot involves individual persons.

- Technology being tested has never been used before by the carrier in question in Bermuda
- Overall benefit to the Telecom Industry, Bermudian customers and the Bermudian economy
- Duration of the pilot should not exceed 60 (sixty) days.

3. Operators granted permission to carry out a pilot project need to adhere to following conditions:

- Equipment used in pilot must be certified to be compliant with Bermudian Regulations and the operator of the pilot project must at all times take all the necessary precautions to ensure that no interference is experienced.
- Should the operator decide to commercially launch the tested service prior to expiry of the granted period the operator would have to apply for all the necessary licenses and/or authorisations as defined in the Electronic Communications Act
- Pilot project operators are not exempted from the obligation of diligently obtaining, at their own expense, any permits, licenses or other approval or authorization that may be necessary to construct, operate the service or from the obligation of complying with any conditions associated with such permits, licenses, other approvals or authorisations
- Any right, interest or entitlement resulting from permission to conduct pilot project is not transferable and may only be exercised by the person identified in the request
- The pilot project operator is required to report back to the Regulatory Authority the project success or otherwise, details of the technology, particular issues encountered and other considerations. Such information will be treated in line with the confidentiality guidelines of the Authority.
- The Regulatory Authority reserves the right to inspect the installation in question at any time.

Date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2013.