

Please address all correspondence to the Regulator Private Bag, Apia, Samoa

Tel: +685 30282 Fax: +685 30281

Email: admin@regulator.gov.ws

## ORDER OF THE REGULATOR NO. 2018/T58

# WARNING MESSAGES for Data Usage, Roaming and Opt-Out Option for Mobile Broadband, Mobile Services, Pre-paid Fix Lines

Pursuant to the Telecommunications Act 2005 ("Act") Sections 8 (1) (b) and 8 (1) (r), the Regulator is empowered to regulate the telecommunications market and to issue orders, respectively in the course of implementing statutory duties under the Act.

#### WHEREAS:

Service Providers failed to provide any warning message to customers when data is depleted or close to depletion – in which the consumer's credit is then used and applied automatically and resulting in excessive costs to the customer;

Service Providers failed to provide any warning message to customers when their phones are in a roaming zone especially when travelling overseas.

Service Providers failed to develop a platform to enable automated opt-out option for their promotions;

As such, the Regulator has seen it fit to issue the following Orders.

#### ORDER 1:

### Service Providers are directed to:

- 1. Provide a WARNING messages with all Data bundles, informing the customer when <u>Data is</u>:
  - a. close to depletion (with the amount of data left);
  - b. completely depleted; and
  - c. implement a way to prevent the automatic use of credit once data is depleted.
- 2. Provide a WARNING message immediately when service is roaming or using roam credit; and
- 3. Provide an automated Opt-Out option as a mandatory feature of every message.

## **ORDER 2:**

- 1. Service Providers to first submit to the Regulator all requirements for testing prior to implementation;
- 2. Service Providers must take the necessary actions to implement the requirements by Sunday 31 March 2019.

Any act or omission contrary to this Order shall be considered as an Offence as per section 75 of the Act which is subject to certain liabilities.

Save for Order 1 which is expected to be effective immediately; the Effective date of this Order is 31 March 2019.

Dated this 12 day of December 2018

Lefaoalii Unutoa Auelua Fonoti

REGULATOR