

We provide a range of quality products. You choose.




SWITCH TO A HOST OF SALES OPPORTUNITIES

Call Ingram Micro today!



GIGABYTE™

THE FARLOWES

search...

Press Offices

Please Select

Subscribe

RSS Feed
Daily Newsletter



IT-Online

Home
Subscribe

Channelwise
brought to you by



Company News
Archives
Contact Us

Industry Areas

IT in Government and Parastatals
brought to you by **SAS**

- IT in Financial Services
- IT in Health
- IT in Manufacturing
- IT in Mining
- IT in Retail
- IT in Sport

Technology Areas

Business Intelligence
brought to you by **QlikView**

Compliance
brought to you by **FrontRange**

Contact Centres
brought to you by **Aspect**

CRM
brought to you by **GoldMine**

Document Management
brought to you by **ITEC**

Advertising White Papers More News Today

Number portability will bring telco costs down | Print | E-mail

Tuesday, 23 March 2010, 10:35

A large number of businesses that have been forced to rely on Telkom for years are likely to defect as soon as geographic number portability (GNP) becomes reality, allowing businesses to switch operators while retaining their existing fixed line numbers.

On 18 May 2009, ICASA announced the implementation of the first phase of GNP dealing with blocks of 1 000 and 10 000 numbers. In accordance with ICASA's proclamation the second phase of GNP, which deals with the individual porting of numbers is due to go live on 18 March 2010, exactly 10 months after phase 1.

"The reality is that the first phase of GNP has had no real impact. Most business do not have consecutive 1 000 number blocks. Although single number portability enables individual residential customers to now have a choice, the real opportunity is in the corporate sector where companies have hundreds of fixed line numbers and are paying exorbitant fees to Telkom," says Vox Telecom CEO Tony van Marken.

Telkom could see a mass migration to smaller, innovative operators like Vox Telecom once geographic number portability allows any company or individual to switch operator without losing their existing fixed line number.

Vox has already put all the necessary processes in place to switch customers on to its network, with CEO Tony van Marken promising that Vox will provide cheaper yet better quality services.

"A lot of consumers and businesses are exasperated by bad service and high prices and they will finally have real choice in which carrier they want to use. They will be able to take advantage of cheaper prices and in these economic times, that's crucial. We are also calling on ICASA to ensure that there is no further delay with GNP and that Telkom is ready in accordance with ICASA's own time table."

Vox offers corporate customers cut-price calls and rebates on incoming calls. But the big barrier is that most companies do not want to lose their geographic number – such as 011 and 021 – due to the inconvenience.

"A lot of our customers with 200 or 300 numbers are very keen to use Vox telephone numbers, but they won't do so until they can port their existing numbers from Telkom. We see the implementation of geographic number portability as a significant step in levelling the playing field for all the new ECNS operators in the SA market," says Van Marken.

Vox is also calling for Telkom to reassure customers that it will not drag its feet to delay the process. "We have a lot of customers that want to port away from Telkom so we don't want any delays. We hope that Telkom is ready, because we are ready and it is critical that we ensure that customers are finally given an alternative with no barriers to implementation."

Van Marken says geographic number portability promises far greater benefits for consumers and corporates than the highly publicised issue of lower mobile interconnection fees.

Vox also believes geographic number porting will have a massive take-up compared to the muted response to mobile number porting. The cellular players offer similar fees and services to their rivals, making it barely worth switching networks. But the cost and quality of landline services varies significantly between rival players, so customers have much to gain by switching networks.

< Prev Next >

[Back]



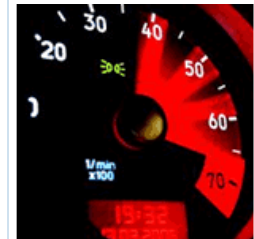
DELL™
YOURS IS HERE



MyByte
Where technology people network

Sign-up on www.mybyte.co.za to interact with information and communication technology people. Thanks to the sponsorship of Oki a personal membership to MyByte is free.

Powered by www.virtuaworks.co.za



SAHARA
DT955140 Desktop
powered by Intel® Core™ i7 processor.
Faster. Smarter. Learn more »



www.sahara.co.za

E-Commerce
brought to you by 

Gaming
brought to you by 

IT Consumables
brought to you by 

Lifecycle Management
brought to you by 

Mobile Computing
brought to you by 
Leading Innovation >>>

Office Equipment
brought to you by 

Personal Computers
brought to you by 

Servers
brought to you by 

Security
brought to you by 

Supply Chain
brought to you by 

Storage
brought to you by 

Virtualisation
 

Application Development
Application Software
Digital Lifestyle
Enterprise Networking
HR & Payroll
Intelligent Buildings
Linux and Open Source
Monitors
Power & Cooling
Risk Management
SOA
Telecommunications
Wireless Networking

NETGEAR®
SOLE DISTRIBUTOR
DUXBURY
Networking

3G WIRELESS BROADBAND ROUTER
click here 

More News Today

- The game is on in 2010
- Xerox ColorQube extends solid ink colour printing
- Employer tax filing season just around the corner
- The shrinking size and price of backup media
- FrontRange Solutions debuts next generation of HEAT
- Integr8 engineers complex system for Gold Fields
- Maximising return on sales force investment
- Digicape, Project 3 join forces to create Apple powerhouse
- Lonrho chooses Accpac
- Reshape data centre, save on costs, boost scalability

Industry News

- Workgroup to host IBM ProtecTIER
- Thin computers and their impact on the environment
- Safenet EDP Solution Suite reduces privacy cost, complexity
- Workgroup Novell Distributor of the Year; Berimbau channel champion
- Symantec Backup Exec 2010 available through Workgroup
- Powerful Satellite Pro S500 satisfies business needs
- New Open Source router targets developers
- Check Point changes the way mobile users work
- New Samsung CLP-770ND from Tarsus set to be the ultimate in snappy office assistants
- HP ProCurve 2520 range brings widened feature base to small corporates
- Samsung mono-laser MFP from Tarsus offers enhanced versatility
- Tarsus' new Dell product line-up set to wow resellers
- Zimbabwe on the rebound
- Endpoint protection for Macintosh announced
- Veeam Backup & Replication 4.1 announced



All in one Security Solution


Unified Threat Management

SAVE TIME AND MONEY
Consolidate and save with multifunctional products from Itec.


Click here to find out more 


NETGEAR®
Connect with Innovation™
DUXBURY
tenda®

Earn **DuxBux** with these products
www.earnduxbux.co.za


Get Ultimate Protection of eScan