



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION
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DA No. 01-2552

Report No. TEL-00458

Thursday November 1, 2001

INTERNATIONAL AUTHORIZATIONS GRANTED

Section 214 Applications (47 C.F.R. § 63.18); Cable Landing License Applications (47 C.F.R. § 1.767); Requests to Authorize Switched Services over Private Lines (47 C.F.R. § 63.16); Section 310(b)(4) Requests

The following applications have been granted pursuant to the Commission's streamlined processing procedures set forth in Section 63.12 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.12, other provisions of the Commission's rules, or procedures set forth in an earlier public notice listing applications accepted for filing.

Unless otherwise noted, these grants authorize the applicants (1) to become a facilities-based international common carrier subject to 47 C.F.R. § 63.22; and/or (2) to become a resale-based international common carrier subject to 47 C.F.R. § 63.23; or (3) to exceed the 25 percent foreign ownership benchmark applicable to common carrier radio licensees under 47 U.S.C. § 310(b)(4). Grants under Section 63.16 and certain grants under Section 63.18 also authorize carriers generally to use their authorized private lines to provide switched services (ISR) between the United States and particular international points pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 63.16. See also 47 C.F.R. §§ 63.22(e), 63.23(d).

This public notice serves as each newly authorized carrier's Section 214 certificate. It contains general and specific conditions, which are set forth below. Newly authorized carriers should carefully review the terms and conditions of their authorizations. These are set forth in detail below and in Sections 63.21, 63.22, and 63.23 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 63.21-.23. Failure to comply with general or specific conditions of an authorization, or with other relevant Commission rules and policies, could result in fines and forfeitures.

The Commission most recently amended its rules applicable to international telecommunications common carriers in 2000 Biennial Regulatory Review, Policy and Rules Concerning the International, Interexchange Marketplace, FCC 01-93, released, March 20, 2001, 66 Fed. Reg. 16874 (Mar. 28, 2001). See also IB Docket No. 97-142, Rules and Policies on Foreign Participation in the U.S. Telecommunications Market, Order on Reconsideration, 15 FCC Rcd 18158 (2000); IB Docket No. 98-118, Review of International Common Carrier Regulations, FCC 99-51, released March 23, 1999, 64 Fed. Reg. 19,057 (Apr. 19, 1999) and in IB Docket Nos. 98-148, 95-22, CC Docket No. 90-337 (Phase II), 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review - Reform of the International Settlements Policy and Associated Filing Requirements, FCC 99-73, released May 6, 1999, 64 Fed. Reg. 34, 734 (June 29, 1999). An updated version of Sections 63.09-.24 of the rules, and other related sections, is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/ib/td/pf/telecomrules.html>.

Petition for Declaratory Ruling

Other Companies:

MARINESAT COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, INC.; STRATOS MOBILE NETWORKS (USA) LLC; STRATOS VSAT, INC.

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Stratos Offshore Services Company (Stratos Offshore), Stratos VSAT, Inc. (Stratos VSAT), MarineSat Communications Network, Inc. (MCN), and Stratos Mobile Networks (USA) LLC (Stratos Mobile), collectively "the Stratos licensees," request that the Commission find permissible the indirect foreign ownership of the Stratos licensees in excess of the 25 percent benchmark of Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. Specifically, Stratos believes that it would serve the public interest to permit up to 100 percent indirect foreign ownership of the Stratos licensees by Canadian investors, including Stratos Wireless, Inc., Stratos Global Corporation, Aliant, Inc., Bell Canada, and BCE, Inc. The Stratos licensees request that the declaratory ruling apply to licenses in the following wireless services: 1) Offshore Radio Telephone Service, 2) Common Carrier Fixed Point to Point Microwave, 3) Marine Coastal, 4) fixed satellite earth stations, including transmit and receive earth stations, receive-only earth stations and very small aperture terminals (VSATs), and 5) mobile earth terminals.

Stratos Offshore, Stratos VSAT and MCN are U.S. corporations that are wholly owned by Stratos Holdings, Inc. (Stratos Holdings), also a U.S. corporation. Stratos Mobile, a U.S. corporation, is 91 percent owned by T-II Aeronautical Corporation (T-II), a U.S. corporation, and 9 percent owned by IDB Mobile communications, Inc. (IDB), a U.S. corporation. IDB is wholly owned by T-II, which in turn is wholly owned by Stratos Wireless, Inc. (Stratos Wireless), a Canadian corporation. Stratos Holdings and Stratos Wireless are both wholly owned by Stratos Global Corporation (Stratos Global), a Canadian corporation. Approximately 65 percent of Stratos Global is owned by Aliant Inc. (Aliant), a Canadian corporation, and the remaining 35 percent is publicly traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Bell Canada, a Canadian corporation, owns 41.6 percent of Aliant, and BCE, Inc., a Canadian corporation, owns 11 percent of Aliant, with the remaining 47.4 percent publicly traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange. In turn, BCE owns 80 percent of Bell Canada, with SBC Communications, Inc. owning the remaining 20 percent. Applicants assert that, pursuant to the rules and policies established in the Commission's Foreign Participation Order, 12 FCC Rcd 23891 (1997), Order on Reconsideration, 15 FCC Rcd 18158 (2000), the "home market" of each of the named foreign investors is Canada, which is a WTO Member.

The Chief, Telecommunications Division (Division) finds that it would not serve the public interest to prohibit the indirect foreign ownership of the Stratos licensees in excess of the 25 percent benchmark of Section 310(b)(4). Specifically, this ruling permits the Stratos licensees to be owned in an amount up to and including an aggregate 100 percent indirect interest by Stratos Wireless, Stratos Global, Aliant, Bell Canada, and/or BCE, as well as their Canadian shareholders. The Stratos licensees may acquire up to and including an additional, aggregate 25 percent indirect interest from other non-U.S. investors without seeking further Commission approval under Section 310(b)(4). For this purpose, non-Canadian foreign ownership of the entities named here shall be included in the total indirect foreign ownership of the Stratos licensees. In addition, no single non-U.S. investor or entity, with the exception of the foreign entities named here, may acquire indirect ownership in excess of 25 percent without further Commission approval.

International Telecommunications Certificate

Service(s): Global or Limited Global Facilities-Based Service, Global or Limited Global Resale Service

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to operate as a facilities-based carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(1) of the rules and also to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

International Telecommunications Certificate

Service(s): Global or Limited Global Facilities-Based Service, Global or Limited Global Resale Service

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to operate as a facilities-based carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(1) of the rules and also to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-214-20011001-00511 PLANET 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
International Telecommunications Certificate
Service(s): Global or Limited Global Resale Service
Grant of Authority Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-214-20011003-00503 TRANSCOM NETWORKS INC. (d/b/a TRANSCOM NETWORKS INC.)
International Telecommunications Certificate
Service(s): Global or Limited Global Facilities-Based Service, Global or Limited Global Resale Service
Grant of Authority Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to operate as a facilities-based carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(1) of the rules and also to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-214-20011003-00512 TELNET INTERNATIONAL, INC.
International Telecommunications Certificate
Service(s): Global or Limited Global Resale Service
Grant of Authority Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-214-20011004-00504 APEX TELECOM INC.
International Telecommunications Certificate
Service(s): Global or Limited Global Facilities-Based Service, Global or Limited Global Resale Service
Grant of Authority Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to operate as a facilities-based carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(1) of the rules and also to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-214-20011005-00506 BAK COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
International Telecommunications Certificate
Service(s): Global or Limited Global Facilities-Based Service, Global or Limited Global Resale Service
Grant of Authority Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to operate as a facilities-based carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(1) of the rules and also to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-214-20011009-00507 CONNECTION MANAGEMENT CORP.
International Telecommunications Certificate
Service(s): Global or Limited Global Facilities-Based Service, Global or Limited Global Resale Service
Grant of Authority Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Application for authority to operate as a facilities-based carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(1) of the rules and also to provide service in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.18(e)(2) of the rules.

ITC-T/C-20011009-00513

JAPAN TELECOM AMERICA, INC.

Transfer of Control

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 10/31/2001

Current Licensee: JAPAN TELECOM AMERICA, INC.

FROM: JAPAN TELECOM CO. LTD.

TO: VODAFONE GROUP PLC

Application for Consent to Transfer Control of Japan Telecom America, Inc. from Japan Telecom Co., Ltd. to Vodafone Group Plc.

CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO INTERNATIONAL SECTION 214 AUTHORIZATIONS

(1) These authorizations are subject to the Exclusion List for International Section 214 Authorizations, which identifies restrictions on providing service to particular countries or using particular facilities. The most recent Exclusion List is attached to this Public Notice. The list applies to all U.S. international carriers, including those that have previously received global or limited global Section 214 authority, whether by streamlined grant or specific written order. Carriers are advised that the attached Exclusion List is subject to amendment at any time pursuant to the procedures set forth in Streamlining the International Section 214 Authorization Process and Tariff Requirements, IB Docket No. 95-118, 11 FCC Rcd 12884 (1996), para. 18. A copy of the current Exclusion List will be maintained in the FCC Reference and Information Center and will be available at <http://www.fcc.gov/ib/td/pf/exclusionlist.html>. It also will be attached to each Public Notice that grants international Section 214 authority.

(2) The export of telecommunications services and related payments to countries that are subject to economic sanctions may be restricted. For information concerning current restrictions, call the Office of Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Department of the Treasury, (202) 622-2520.

(3) Carriers shall comply with the requirements of Section 63.11 of the Commission's rules, which requires notification by, and in certain circumstances prior notification by, U.S. carriers acquiring an affiliation with foreign carriers. A carrier that acquires an affiliation with a foreign carrier will be subject to possible reclassification as a dominant carrier on an affiliated route pursuant to the provisions of Section 63.10 of the rules. The Commission recently amended Section 63.11 of the rules in its Order on Reconsideration in IB Docket No. 97-142, 15 FCC Rcd 18158 (2000).

(4) Carriers shall comply with the Commission's International Settlements Policy and associated filing requirements contained in Sections 43.51 and 64.1001 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 43.51, 64.1001. The Commission modified these requirements most recently in 2000 Biennial Regulatory Review, Policy and Rules Concerning the International, Interexchange Marketplace, FCC 01-93, released, March 20, 2001, 66 Fed. Reg. 16874 (Mar. 28, 2001). See also 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review - Reform of the International Settlements Policy and Associated Filing Requirements, IB Docket Nos. 98-148, 95-22, CC Docket No. 90-337 (Phase II), FCC 99-73 (rel. May 6, 1999). In addition, any carrier interconnecting private lines to the U.S. public switched network at its switch, including any switch in which the carrier obtains capacity either through lease or otherwise, shall file annually with the Chief, International Bureau, a certified statement containing, on a country-specific basis, the number and type (e.g., 64 kbps circuits) of private lines interconnected in such manner. The Commission will treat the country of origin information as confidential. Carriers need not file their contracts for interconnection unless the Commission specifically requests. Carriers shall file their annual report on February 1 (covering international private lines interconnected during the preceding January 1 to December 31 period) of each year. International private lines to countries for which the Commission has authorized the provision of switched basic services over private lines at any time during a particular reporting period are exempt from this requirement. See 47 C.F.R. § 43.51(d).

(5) Carriers authorized to provide private line service either on a facilities or resale basis are limited to the provision of such private line service only between the United States and those foreign points covered by their referenced applications for Section 214 authority. In addition, the carriers may not -- and their tariffs must state that their customers may not -- connect their private lines to the public switched network at either the U.S. or foreign end, or both, for the provision of international switched basic services, unless the Commission has authorized the provision of switched services over private lines to the particular country at the foreign end of the private line or the carrier is exchanging switched traffic with a foreign carrier that the Commission has determined lacks market power in the country at the foreign end of the private line. See 47 C.F.R. §§ 63.16, 63.22(e), 63.23(d). A foreign carrier lacks market power for purposes of this rule if it does not appear on the Commission list of foreign carriers that do not qualify for the presumption that they lack market power in particular foreign points. This list is available at http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/International/Public_Notices/1999/da990809.txt. See generally 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review - Reform of the International Settlements Policy and Associated Filing Requirements, IB Docket Nos. 98-148, 95-22, CC Docket No. 90-337 (Phase II), FCC 99-73 (rel. May 6, 1999), paras. 12-15, 102-109.

(6) The Commission has authorized the provision of switched basic services via facilities-based or resold private lines between the United States and the following foreign points: Sweden, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Australia, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark, France, Germany, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Japan, Italy, Ireland, Hong Kong, Iceland, Spain, Finland, Israel, Singapore, Netherlands Antilles, Poland, Argentina, United Arab Emirates, Macau, Hungary, Philippines, Greece, Uruguay, Brunei, Trinidad & Tobago, Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Botswana, Costa Rica, South Africa, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Vincent, Antigua, Malaysia, Thailand, Belize, Panama, Guatemala, Venezuela, Bahrain, South Korea, Portugal, Cyprus, Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

(7) Carriers may engage in "switched hubbing" to countries for which the Commission has not authorized the provision of switched basic services over private lines consistent with Section 63.17(b) of the rules.

(8) Carriers may provide U.S. inbound or outbound switched basic service via their authorized private lines extending between or among the United States, Sweden, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Australia, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark, France, Germany, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Japan, Italy, Ireland, Hong Kong, Iceland, Spain, Finland, Israel, Singapore, Netherlands Antilles, Poland, Argentina, United Arab Emirates, Macau, Hungary, Philippines, Greece, Uruguay, Brunei, Trinidad & Tobago, Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Botswana, Costa Rica, South Africa, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Vincent, Antigua, Malaysia, Thailand, Belize, Panama, Guatemala, Venezuela, Bahrain, South Korea, Portugal, Cyprus, Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

(9) Carriers shall comply with the "No Special Concessions" rule, Section 63.14, 47 C.F.R. § 63.14.

(10) Carriers regulated as dominant for the provision of a particular communications service on a particular route for any reason other than a foreign carrier affiliation under Section 63.10 of the rules shall file tariffs pursuant to Section 203 of the Communications Act, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 203, and Part 61 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. Part 61. Except as specified in Section 20.15 with respect to commercial mobile radio service providers, carriers regulated as non-dominant, as defined in Section 61.3, and providing detariffed international services pursuant to Section 61.19 must comply with all applicable public disclosure and maintenance of information requirements in Sections 42.10 and 42.11. These non-dominant carriers may continue filing new or revised international tariffs for mass market services until January 28, 2002, when all tariffs, with limited exceptions, must be cancelled. Carriers may not file any new or revised contract tariffs or tariffs for other long-term international service arrangements. See 2000 Biennial Regulatory Review, Policy and Rules Concerning the International, Interexchange Marketplace, FCC 01-93, released March 20, 2001, 66 Fed. Reg. 16874 (Mar. 28, 2001).

(11) Carriers shall file the annual reports of overseas telecommunications traffic required by Section 43.61(a). Carriers shall also file the quarterly reports required by Section 43.61 in the circumstances specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of that Section.

(12) Carriers shall file annual reports of circuit status and/or circuit additions in accordance with the requirements set forth in Rules for Filing of International Circuit Status Reports, CC Docket No. 93-157, Report and Order, 10 FCC Rcd 8605 (1995). See 47 C.F.R. §§ 43.82, 63.23(e). These requirements apply to facilities-based carriers and private line resellers, respectively.

(13) Carriers should consult Section 63.19 of the rules when contemplating a discontinuance, reduction or impairment of service. Further, the grant of these applications shall not be construed to include authorization for the transmission of money in connection with the services the applicants have been given authority to provide. The transmission of money is not considered to be a common carrier service.

(14) If any carrier is reselling service obtained pursuant to a contract with another carrier, the services obtained by contract shall be made generally available by the underlying carrier to similarly situated customers at the same terms, conditions and rates. 47 U.S.C. § 203.

(15) To the extent that any of the above-listed applicants intends to provide international call-back services through the use of uncompleted call signaling, its authorization to resell international switched voice and/or data services to provide these services is expressly subject to the conditions listed in VIA USA Ltd., et al., 9 FCC Rcd 2288 (1994), on recon., 10 FCC Rcd 9540 (1995).

(16) To the extent the applicant is, or is affiliated with, an incumbent independent local exchange carrier, as those terms are defined in Section 64.1902 of the rules, it shall provide the authorized services in compliance with the requirements of Section 64.1903. See Regulatory Treatment of LEC Provision of Interexchange Services Originating in the LEC's Local Exchange Area and Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace, Second Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-149 and Third Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-61, 12 FCC Rcd 15756, recon., 12 FCC Rcd 8730 (1997), Order, 13 FCC Rcd 6427 (Com. Car. Bur. 1998), further recon., FCC 99-103 (rel. June 30, 1999).

(17) Except as otherwise ordered by the Commission, a carrier authorized here to provide facilities-based service that (i) is classified as dominant under Section 63.10 of the rules for the provision of such service on a particular route and (ii) is affiliated with a carrier that collects settlement payments for terminating U.S. international switched traffic at the foreign end of that route may not provide facilities-based service on that route unless the current rates the affiliate charges U.S. international carrier to terminate traffic are at or below the Commission's relevant benchmark adopted in International Settlement Rates, IB Docket No. 96-261, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 19806 (1997). See also Report and Order on

Reconsideration and Order Lifting Stay in IB Docket No. 96-261, FCC 99-124 (rel. June 11, 1999). For the purposes of this rule, "affiliation" and "foreign carrier" are defined in Section 63.09.

Petitions for reconsideration under Section 1.106 or applications for review under Section 1.115 of the Commission's rules in regard to the grant of any of these applications may be filed within thirty days of this public notice (see Section 1.4(b)(2)).

For additional information, please contact the FCC Reference and Information Center, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 418-0270.

Exclusion List for International Section 214 Authorizations

-- Last Modified December 22, 1999 --

The following is a list of countries and facilities not covered by grant of global Section 214 authority under Section 63.18(e)(1) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.18(e)(1). In addition, the facilities listed shall not be used by U.S. carriers authorized under Section 63.18 of the Commission's Rules unless the carrier's Section 214 authorization specifically lists the facility. Carriers desiring to serve countries or use facilities listed as excluded hereon shall file a separate Section 214 application pursuant to Section 63.18(e)(4) of the Commission's Rules. See generally 47 C.F.R. § 63.22.

Countries:

Cuba (Applications for service to Cuba shall comply with the separate filing requirements of the Commission's Public Notice Report No. I-6831, dated July 27, 1993, "FCC to Accept Applications for Service to Cuba.")

Facilities:

All non-U.S.-licensed satellite systems that are not on the Permitted Space Station List, maintained at <http://www.fcc.gov/ib/srd/se/permitted.html>. See International Bureau Public Notice, DA 99-2844 (rel. Dec. 17, 1999).

This list is subject to change by the Commission when the public interest requires. Before amending the list, the Commission will first issue a public notice giving affected parties the opportunity for comment and hearing on the proposed changes. The Commission may then release an order amending the exclusion list. This list also is subject to change upon issuance of an

Executive Order. See Streamlining the Section 214 Authorization Process and Tariff Requirements, IB Docket No. 95-118, FCC 96-79, 11 FCC Rcd 12,884, released March 13, 1996 (61 Fed. Reg. 15,724, April 9, 1996). A current version of this list is maintained at <http://www.fcc.gov/ib/td/pf/telecomrules.html#exclusionlist>.

For additional information, contact the International Bureau's Telecommunications Division, Policy & Facilities Branch, (202) 418-1460.