# **INTUG** World Trade and Roaming

The economic consequences of cross border barriers to on-line business processes

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### **INTUG** A bill shock horror story

- A South Florida woman got the shock of a lifetime when she opened her mobile phone bill to find she owed \$201k, due to roaming charges after holiday texting
- She said, "My life is over it's like buying a nice house"
- Texting was the only way for her to communicate with her two deaf and dumb brothers

# **INTUG** Suppose it applied to cars?



"Driven from abroad sir? That's a 300% petrol roaming surcharge! And an extra 3p per mile insurance, and a 100% mark up on spare parts while you're here!"

# **INTUG** Or it applied to hotels?



"Hilton Honours member, sir? Oh, you live abroad! That means a 250% surcharge, as you're roaming!"

# **INTUG** Or it applied to Banks?



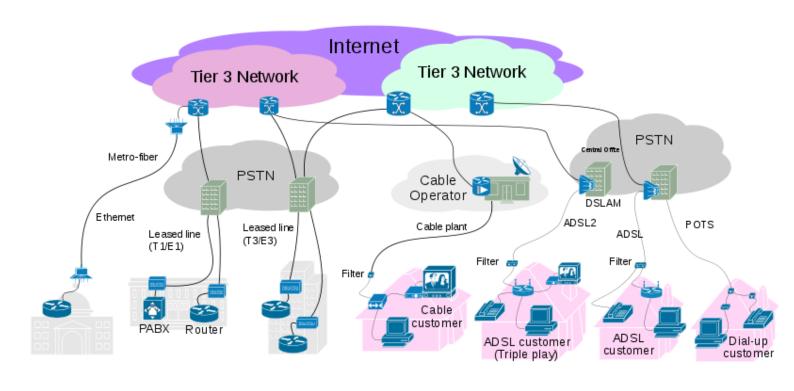
"You wish to withdraw £100, sir? As your account is in France, that's £200, including the roaming charge!"

# **INTUG** Or it applied to power?



"You wish to use your portable iron, madam? You do not have an electricity account here, so that'll be €0.90 per Kwh roaming charge!"

# **INTUG** Or it applied to ISPs?



"Broadband Internet, sir - that will be \$39.99 per month - Oh, you have a .ch email address, sorry that's \$99.99 per month, with the roaming charge!"

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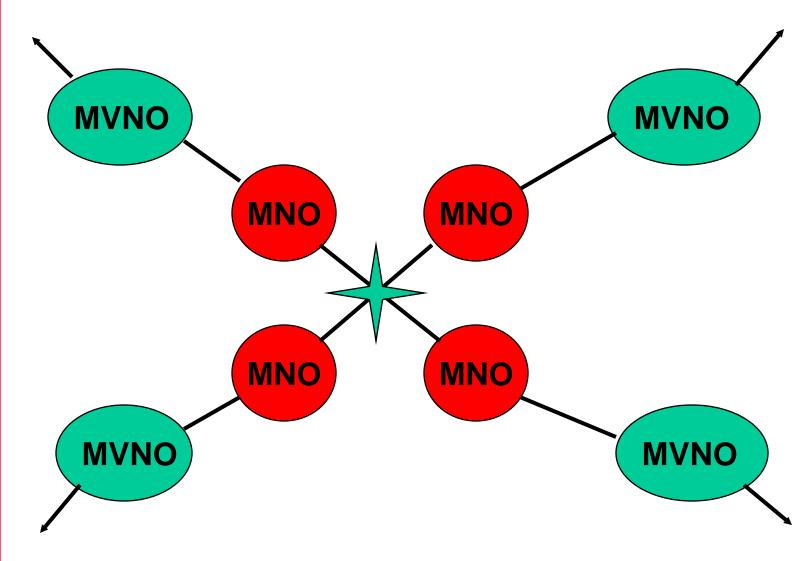
As we approach the 20th anniversary of "roaming", it is time to eradicate this costly mobile communications disease

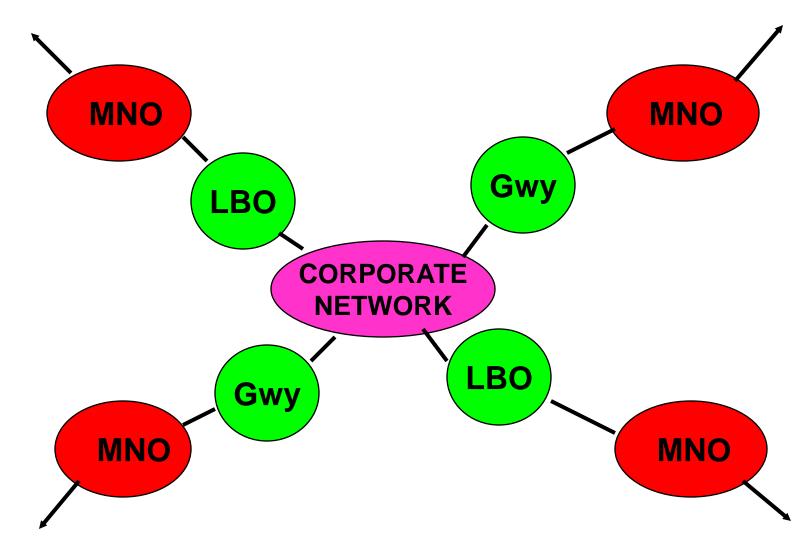
 Regulation – price caps, transparency and awareness, bill shock safeguards

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- Commercial contracts, tariffs, bundles

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Just stop gaps - undesirable, costly, inconvenient, complex - not a solution

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But the "roaming" debate should not be simply about prices.

There is another issue which demands a long term solution to the problem

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Next generation (4G/LTE) mobile spectrum licensing is an opportunity for a long term solution to the problem

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This will reduce capital expenditure, eliminate notspots, improve service, increase speed, obsolete price caps

### **INTUGWorld Trade and Roaming**

Let's make it an opportunity to make progress, not a problem

Thank You

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