

ASIA PACIFIC CARRIERS' COALITION
(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)

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APCC Announces Release of its 4th APAC Access Price Benchmarking Study

Singapore, 31. May 2013 – APCC has released its fourth report on Benchmarking of Local Loop Circuits (LLC) Access Pricing for the Asia Pacific region. This report, carried out by an independent consultant provides significant market information about the trends in local access pricing in 14 Asia-Pacific economies and is an update from the APCC's 2009 Report.

This 2013 report covers Ethernet access and DSL pricing comparisons, as well as that for leased lines. Leased lines remain the most widely used leased circuits across Asia-Pacific, but the share of Ethernet services and higher bitrates continues to increase.

Overall prices have fallen. Compared with the 2009 report, the data reported in 2013 indicates that despite overall price falls, Indonesia and Malaysia have been joined by Vietnam as showing consistently higher prices across most categories of leased circuits, and by the Philippines for Ethernet prices. An interesting downwards trend in prices takes place in India and continues in China. Although by no means the highest priced economies, the data taken at face value for Australia and New Zealand shows remarkable price increases over 2009.

For Ethernet access Vietnam is way beyond other economies in price. Malaysia prices are down by a large margin from 2009.

Hong Kong continues to stand out as the most price competitive economy and Singapore continues to be consistently more expansive than Hong Kong.

Simon Smith, President of APCC, commented "APCC welcomes all reductions in local access prices. Our members continue to experience challenges in obtaining competitive local access price charges, which are often disproportionate to the charges for an end-to-end international service. Fair local access charges remain a critical requirement for the creation of a truly competitive communications environment. We encourage regulators to review the details of this Report and take the necessary and appropriate regulatory action."

The detailed report is available on APCC's website.

<http://www.asiapacificcarriers.org>

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The APCC is an industry association of global and regional telecommunications carriers operating in Asia Pacific, formed to work with governments, National Regulatory Authorities (NRA's) and consumers in promoting open market policies and best practice regulatory frameworks throughout the region that will support competition and encourage new and efficient investment in telecommunications markets.

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