Implications of the UK Undertakings on ISPs

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WWW.ISPA.ORG.UK

About ISPA in the UK

- The UK's leading Internet trade association
- Established 1995
- Promotes competition, self regulation and development of the Internet industry
- Approx. 150 members representing 95% UK industry
- Governed by a council of 10 representatives from the industry

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Context

- ## Ofcom's Strategic Review

  - ### New converged regulator

  - ### Address the enduring economic bottlenecks

  - ### Undertakings in lieu of Enterprise Act referral

  - ### Ofcom presentation:

    Adobe Acrobat 7.0
    Document

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'The Undertakings'

- Legal document
- Others get the same level of service as BT
- Today's products
  - Detailed
  - Product specifics
- Future stuff
  - vague principles

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What is the UK model of Structural Separation

- UK already had some seperation:
  - BT Retail / BT Global Services
  - BT Wholesale

- Undertakings 'split' BT Wholesale
  - Openreach = ACCESS/INFRASTRUCTURE
    - BT Wholesale = rest (incl 21CN)

- EAB/EAO
  - Reports but no complaints !

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Issues so far

- Badges
- EOI
  - LES vs WES (ethernet access services)
    - Product, price etc
  - Fibre
  - WLR ?
  - BES/IPStream/LLU
- Equivalence Management Platform (systems)
- Implementation Reports:
  - http://www.ofcom.org.uk/telecoms/btundertakings/implementation/

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Other issues

- Levelling up or down ?
  - Issue for customers and regulator
  - LLU vs DSL customer appointments slots
    - 8:30 - 13:00 whereas previously they offered 8:30 - 10:30 and 10:30 - 12:30.
- Exemptions
  - Creeping relaxation or helpful flexibility ?
  - Consultation ?

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What next ?

- The next *Implementation reports are due on the 5th September and mid-October* and will comment on BT's compliance with the letter.

- An *overall evaluation report will be published in mid-October* providing a summary of BT's compliance with the spirit and an assessment of intermediate outcomes. An *assessment of consumer outcomes will then be published mid-November.*

- Plan B referral ? Would anyone be prepared to press the nuclear button ?

Discussion