WIRELESS NUMER PORTABILITY TIMELINE

REVISION

The wireless industry, through the Wireless Number Portability Operations team, a sub-committee of the NANC, has revised the timeline for wireless number portability which was forwarded to the FCC last year. While the wireless industry is working toward the November 24, 2002 implementation date for wireless number portability (and pooling), this revised timeline more accurately depicts the work yet to be completed and the timeframes available to complete that work.

The following matrix provides a brief comparison of the original and revised timelines.

Original Timeline	EVENT	Revised Timeline
Complete – 04/01	Inter-Carrier Communications Process	Not shown - complete
Complete – 04/00	Functional Specifications	Complete by 12/01
05/00 thru 01/01	System Development	Complete by 02/02
02/01 thru 04/01	Internal End-to-End Testing	02/02 thru 04/02
05/01 thru 09/01	NPAC Turn-up Testing	Complete by 04/02
Complete by 09/01	Inter-carrier test coordination and logistics	Complete by 04/02
10/01 thru 05/02	Inter-carrier testing	04/02 thru 09/02
06/02 thru 08/02	Deployment	09/02 thru 10/15/02
09/02 thru 11/24/02	Final Adjustments	10/15/02 thru 11/24/02

New Timeline Narrative:

The Inter-carrier Communications Process (ICP) is complete to the point that a high-tech interface (CORBA IDL) has been defined and documented. Work in still underway to define a fax interface, but testing is not prevented by the absence of this interface. Due to the amount of work completed, the ICP is no longer shown on the timeline.

Service providers must complete their functional specifications by the beginning of January 2002 and are dependant on vendors having their WNP products complete by December 2001. Even if all vendor products are available and functional specifications are complete by the beginning of January 2002, that only leaves one month to complete system development and unit and system testing. System Development, including unit and system testing, must be completed by the beginning of February, 2002. Some of this work may occur concurrently with the writing of functional specifications.

Internal end-to-end testing cannot begin until all system development is complete and tested because all functionality must be tested by porting numbers internally in a test environment. Two months have been allotted for internal end-to-end testing which should include each service provider testing all of their new and existing functionality (services, features, and products) with their network and back-office systems upgraded to accommodate WNP.
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During the period of System Development and Internal End-to-End testing, wireless service providers must also complete the "new entrant" testing with the NPAC. In addition, although the inter-carrier test plan is complete, inter-carrier test logistics and coordination must take place between the service providers who will be testing in selected MSAs. These steps must be completed by the first of April 2002 since they are all requirements for participation in inter-carrier testing.

Inter-carrier testing is now scheduled to occur between the first of April and mid-September 2002. This is nearly a 50% reduction in the timeframe from the original timeline, but is all the time that is available to still allow time for Deployment and Final Adjustments (roughly 45 days each) and implement on the mandated date of 11/24/02.