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Mobile termination rates decline 16% in 2009; forecast to reach 4 U.S. cents per minute in four years

Telecommunications Management Group, Inc. (TMG) announces an update to its highly acclaimed *A Primer on Mobile Termination Rates*. The new report, *Mobile Termination Rate Update 2010*, features mobile termination rates for 140 economies worldwide. The mobile termination rate (MTR) is the wholesale price that mobile operators charge for terminating calls on their networks. This, in turn, can impact the retail price that consumers pay for their mobile phone service.

The new report finds that MTRs have declined 34% since 2005, with the average global MTR standing at 8.4 U.S. cents in 2009. TMG believes that MTRs will continue to drop due to ongoing regulatory intervention to align interconnection rates with costs, with the world average reaching around 4 U.S. cents in four years (2013).

There is great diversity in MTRs between and within regions around the world. The Latin America/Caribbean and European regions have the highest average MTRs at more than 10 U.S. cents per minute. By contrast, the Asia-Pacific, Middle East and North Africa regions have the lowest MTRs with an average of around 5 U.S. cents.

The report finds a close link between the MTRs and mobile phone usage. The highest level of usage is found in countries without calling party pays (e.g., where the party receiving the call rather than the calling party pays for call termination and where MTRs are not used) or where MTRs are very low.

The report facilitates wholesale mobile interconnection rate benchmarking between countries by including MTRs in both U.S. dollars and purchasing power parity prices (which adjusts for differences in the level of income between nations). The report also identifies which countries do not use MTRs and includes key mobile market metrics for 40 major economies.

For ordering information, please visit: <http://reports.tmgtelecom.com/mtr2010>.

About TMG

Telecommunications Management Group, Inc. (TMG), www.tmgtelecom.com, is a premier consulting firm dedicated to advising clients on telecommunications and information technology matters. Comprised of an experienced team of attorneys, economists, market analysts, engineers and financial experts with an in-depth knowledge of the ICT industry, TMG provides strategic, managerial, regulatory and technical advice to telecommunications entities, governments and international agencies.

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