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IV. LICENSING

The monopoly of BTC PLC on the provision of fixed voice services and leased lines expired on January 1, 2003. In this relation, 5 individual licenses were issued for construction, support and utilization of public fixed telecommunications network and provision of fixed voice services. The providers of fixed voice telecommunications services operating on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria are as follows: Netplus OOD, Orbitel EAD, Globaltech – Bulgaria EOOD, East Telecommunication Company AD and Nexcom – Bulgaria EAD.

1. INDIVIDUAL LICENSES

In 2003 continued the issuance, amendment, suspension and withdrawal of individual licenses. The process of amending granted licenses upon request by the operators was also quite active.

1.1. Individual licenses issued under the Telecommunications Act

Table 5

Co de	Activity	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r.	Total:
100	Licenses for more than one activity /BTC, Embassy of France/	2	-	-	-	-	2
101	TV broadcasting with national coverage	-	2	1	-	1	4
102	TV broadcasting with local coverage	-	12	1	-	-	13
103	Radio broadcasting with national coverage	-	-	2	-	-	2
104	Radio broadcasting with local coverage	-	54	148	-	-	202
105	Cable telecommunications networks for allocation of radio and TV signals	-	593	492	155	251	1491
106	Telecommunications paging networks	-	3	4	1	-	8
107	TRUNK mobile telecommunications networks	-	2	-	-	-	2
109	VSAT Public telecommunications networks	-	1	3	2	1	7
110	NMT and GSM mobile cellular telecommunications networks	-	-	3	-	-	3
112	Terrestrial fixed satellite telecommunications networks	5	15	12	6	6	44
113	Fixed radio-relay telecommunications networks*	1	1	11	2	17	32
116	Fixed telephone telecommunications networks providing voice services	-	-	-	-	5	5
117	Public telecommunications data transmission networks	1	1	2	7	37	48
119	Installation and operation of systems for public phones	2	-	-	-	-	2
120	Private mobile telecommunications networks PMR **	4	43	454	263	119	883
124	Technological networks	-	-	-	-	1	1
500	Licenses issued on the grounds of international contracts and agreements under which Bulgaria is a party, as well as other instruments stipulating obligations for Bulgaria	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total:		15	727	1134	436	438	2750

* The total number of hops included in the licenses granted for fixed telecommunications radio-relay lines was 3650, including 906 for 2003.

** The total number of frequencies granted to private mobile telecommunications networks PMR under the issued licenses was 3794, including 397 granted in 2003.

1.2. Amendments to individual licenses under the Telecommunications Act

Table 6

Amendments and Transfers	Number
2000	104
2001	879
2002	298
2003	280
Total:	1561

1.3. Cancelled, terminated, suspended and revoked licenses under the Telecommunications Act

Table 7

Code	Activity	Number
104	Radio broadcasting with local coverage	40
105	Cable telecommunications networks for allocation of radio and TV signals	33
106	Telecommunications networks personal calls	1
112	Fixed terrestrial Telecommunications satellite networks	5
113	Fixed telecommunications radio-relay networks	2
120	Private mobile telecommunications networks PMR	42
	Total:	123

The realization of some telecommunications activities was facilitated by the new Telecommunications Act and Ordinance No 13 since 2003. For example, the telecommunications activity realized through cable telecommunications networks for allocation of radio and TV signals, as well as through public telecommunications data transmission networks without using scarce resource and the respective telecommunication services are provided on the grounds of registrations issued under general licenses. The realization of telecommunication services for providing access to voice telecommunication service by public phones, public telegraphs and telex networks is subject to the same registration.

2. GENERAL LICENSES

2.1. Registration certificates issued under general license

Table 8

Code	Activity	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total:
202	Satellite news gathering terminals	-	3	5	3	11
203	News gathering radio-relay lines	1	2	1	-	4
205	Radio stations on ships and aircrafts	35	20	18	31	104
207	Radio amateurs	2562	1403	139	72	4176
212	Private mobile telecommunications networks	-	-	3	6	9
214	Private telecommunications networks for broadband data transmission – WBDTS	-	-	2	3	5
215*	For performing personal telecommunications activity in fixed satellite service – VSAT networks and stations	-	-	1	4	5
Total:		2799	1439	169	119	4526

*The registration covers 564 VSAT stations including 490 for 2003

2.2. Other documents issued in regard to the general licenses

Table 9

Activity	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total:
Amateur radio skills permits	645	304	202	92	62	1305
CEPT licenses	-	83	67	19	9	178
HAREC certificates	-	51	33	17	6	107
Attachment to general license 203	-	-	-	1	-	1
Attachment to general license 208	-	201	3	-	-	204
Attachment to general license 212	-	-	-	3	6	9
Attachment to general license 215	-	-	-	1	4	5
Maritime radio station permits	52	55	60	37	87	291
Aeronautical radio station permits	46	147	41	34	52	320
Total:	743	841	406	204	226	2420

2.3. Amateur radio skills tests:

Table 10

Tests / Tested	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total:
Number of tests	5	6	9	5	4	4	33
Number of tested persons	309	397	220	53	75	53	1107

In 2003 Communications Regulation Commission continues to maintain and update the public registers in Internet of granted licenses and the related amendments and supplements, as well as information about registrations under general licenses.