

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Dated Tuesday 1st March 2005

ANOTHER FIRST FOR MAGRATHEA! – 056 NUMBER RANGE ALLOCATED TO USERS

Magrathea Telecommunications Ltd announced today that they are the first Network Operator to offer the new telephone number range 056 xxxx xxxx to their ITSP customers, as well as end users.

Once again, after assisting OFCOM with the consultation process, Magrathea were the first to be allocated a batch from this new range. “Although we already have comprehensive numbering options available, this new range will help us to stay on top by offering a wide variety of services to our clients” says Linus Surguy, Magrathea’s Technical Director.

The 056 number range has been designated ‘Location Independent Electronic Communications Services’ and is designed for use where other numbering ranges are not appropriate, such as where there is no geographic significance required or the service is by nature nomadic.

BT have confirmed that the new 056 number range will be included in retail discount calling packages. Magrathea is now pressing to have the number range included in unlimited schemes from other telcos. Linus adds “It will be vital to the success of services using this number range that there is parity with geographic numbering which is why we are very pleased with BT's action”.

End users are able to sign up for the new 056 numbers through www.uknumber.co.uk (one of Magrathea’s retail websites) immediately and they are also available for immediate use by our ITSP customers. This timing is ideal as the numbers are also available with the newly launched e164.info carrier ENUM exchange, enabling free calls to these numbers from users of other member companies on the exchange.

For more information about Magrathea Telecommunications Ltd please contact the sales team on 0870 068 0068, by email sales@magrathea-telecom.co.uk or on 056 0000 0000 from your VoIP phone.

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Notes to the Editor

About 056 numbers:

The 056 number range was announced by Ofcom last year at the end of a long consultation period concerning which telephone numbers should be available for use with Voice over IP and other 'new' voice services. It was determined that for products that did not require geographic related numbering a new number range was required which indicated that they were subscriber numbers but not 'mobile'. Thus the 056 number range was born.

http://www.ofcom.org.uk/media_office/latest_news/nr_20040906

About 'Carrier ENUM':

Carrier ENUM is a technology that allows co-operating telephone companies to interchange telephone numbers and telephone traffic between themselves, typically at zero cost. This in turn enables Voice over IP companies to provide 'free' calling between VoIP companies to their subscribers. For further information on e164.info, please see their latest press release at: https://www.e164.info/images/pm_e.pdf

About ITSP:

ITSP is short for Internet Telephony Service Provider. These are companies offering telephone service to their own customers using Internet technology.

About Magrathea:

The Magrathea group of companies was established in 1995 to provide a wide range of world class telecommunication solutions to match the needs of the telecommunication industry. The company has its own switching facilities based within the London Docklands area, including Telehouse and Global Switch, giving it access to virtually unlimited capacity and bandwidth and access to the best carriers in the world. Its technology is entirely developed in house but draws upon industry standards and utilises industrial strength components for ultimate carrier grade reliability. It offers complete VoIP solutions based on SIP, IAX and H.323. Packages vary from call termination services providing competitive national and international rates, numbering services (such as providing UK numbers to SIP clients) or complete packages including hardware and call termination all in one.
<http://www.magrathea-telecom.co.uk>