Media release





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First-of-its-kind telco report gives consumers key new information

Consumers are being given important new information to help them compare the performance of Australia's top telcos and make more informed choices.

The *Complaints in Context* report, jointly released today by the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO) and industry peak body Communications Alliance, shows the number of TIO complaints received per telco as a proportion of that telco's services in operation.

Five telcos – Telstra, Optus, Vodafone, iiNet and amaysim – volunteered to participate in the report.

The average number of complaints for the participating five providers was 6.9 complaints per 10,000 services in the July-September 2014 quarter – a marked improvement on the 7.6 complaints per 10,000 services recorded the previous quarter.

	New complaints per 10,000 services in operation				
Provider	Jul-Sep 2013	Oct-Dec 2013	Jan-Mar 2014	Apr-Jun 2014	Jul-Sep 2014
Amaysim	2.5	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.4
iiNet	6	4.9	6.7	7.1	5.7
Optus	6.3	5.2	5.4	5.2	4.6
Telstra	6.8	6.4	7.1	7.2	6.8
Vodafone	16	18	19.3	14.3	12.2
All participating providers	7.9	7.6	8.2	7.6	6.9

"The report puts TIO complaint numbers in the context of each telco's customer base, making the performance of individual telcos and the industry itself more transparent," Ombudsman Simon Cohen said.

Communications Alliance CEO, John Stanton, congratulated the five service providers that have volunteered to participate in the program.

"Customer service excellence is the new competitive battleground in Australian telecommunications, and the initiatives being taken by these service providers are borne out in the positive results in these data," he said.

The TIO and Communications Alliance plan to release the new comparative information each





quarter and have encouraged other telcos to take part. The report is at the <u>TIO website</u> and the <u>Communications Alliance website</u>.

Media queries:

Communications Alliance

Kreab Gavin Anderson
Lucy Chamberlain
0402 106 613
lchamberlain@kreabgavinanderson.com

Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman

Mirjana Jovetic, TIO Communications Manager (03) 8600 8378/0428 023 536 mirjana.jovetic@tio.com.au