

Illegal Transfer of International Calls Through VoIP Technology in Egypt

During the last few years, illegal methods, primarily VoIP technology, were used to transfer international calls between Egypt and other countries through international gateways. Telecom Egypt enjoys the exclusive right to establish, operate, and exploit such international transmission networks until 31 December 2005. Violating Telecom Egypt's international transmission exclusivity is punishable by imprisonment for a period of six months to five years and a fine of fifty thousand pounds to five hundred thousand pounds.

After 31 December 2005, a license from Egypt's National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (NTRA) will be required to offer such services. The NTRA is in the process of preparing a regulatory framework for VoIP services to be implemented when the market is further liberalized.

Caroline Simard, GREX Advisor

Adapted from: National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (NTRA) – “A New International Calls Fraud Case”

Source: http://www.tra.gov.eg/english/News_NewsDetails.asp?PID=24&ID=13