



## **UNIWORLD COMMUNICATIONS LTD CODES OF PRACTICE**

Including our Code of Practice on Complaint Handling and Dispute Resolution and our Code of Practice for Premium Rate Services and NTS calls

### **Part 1 – Uniworld Communications Ltd Code of Practice on Complaint Handling and Dispute Resolution for Small Business Customers**

#### **Introduction to our company and services**

Uniworld Communications Ltd is a company within the Gamma Telecom group that delivers communications services to business customers. While we may not provide all the component parts of our services ourselves we do take responsibility for the services delivered to you. So we will liaise with our suppliers to ensure that any problems with their services are resolved promptly.

#### **Purpose of this Code of Practice**

The Code informs you about our products, services, and customer care policies. Our code of practice on complaint handling and dispute resolution has been approved by Ofcom, the independent regulator for the UK communications industries.

#### **How to contact us**

Please contact our Customer Service Team or your Account Manager:

By phone: 0845 458 4510 (From 8am until 6pm Monday-Friday, outside of these hours details of your call will be passed to a duty manager).

By e-mail: [Customer.Service@Uniworld.co.uk](mailto:Customer.Service@Uniworld.co.uk) By fax: 0845 458 4509

By letter: Uniworld Communications Ltd, Waterside House, Haslar Marine Technology Park, Gosport, PO12 2AU

Or via our website: [www.uniworld.co.uk](http://www.uniworld.co.uk)

#### **Our commitment to you**

We are committed to giving you the highest quality of customer service. When we purchase our services from wholesale providers, we choose those providers carefully to ensure that you get a high quality service. We make every reasonable effort to supply services that satisfy your requirements. We work to all relevant laws and regulations.

Our products and services · Single and Multiline Line Rentals · Digital – ISDN2, ISDN30 and Highway Line Rentals · Landline calls · CPS-Carrier Pre-Selection · Broadband ADSL Lines · Leased Lines · Reduced Cost Dial Up Internet Services · Directory enquiries

For more details on any of our products and services, or to place an order immediately, please contact our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510

Uniworld Communications Ltd, Waterside House, Haslar Marine Technology Park, Gosport, PO12 2AU

---

T: 0845 458 4510 • F: 0845 458 4509 • E: [sales@uniworld.co.uk](mailto:sales@uniworld.co.uk) • [www.uniworld.co.uk](http://www.uniworld.co.uk)  
Registered in England No.02998021



## Marketing

We work to the principles in the British Code of Advertising, Sales Promotion and Direct Marketing, which are set out on the website, [www.cap.org.uk](http://www.cap.org.uk)

## Terms and Conditions

When you subscribe to a service from Uniworld Communications Ltd, we will send you our Standard Terms and Conditions and ask you to sign a contract, if applicable. If you have any questions, please phone our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510. We may carry out a credit check as part of our assessment procedures. Where applicable, the minimum contract term for our services is 1 month. We aim to provide services as soon as possible after your original request, subject to the availability and installation of any equipment and, where appropriate lines to your premises. If we need to carry out a survey of your premises or lay additional cabling we will advise you of the revised timescales as soon as we can.

## Cancellation

If you decide to cancel your order or agreement before we have provided the services, you may do so without charge within ten working days after your order is placed. After the minimum contract term you can cancel any service by calling our Customer Service Helpdesk on 0845 458 4510 giving us 1 months notice.

## Faults and repairs

Please call our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510 if you experience a fault with any of our services. We aim to begin investigating within 1 hour and have the fault repaired by midnight on the first working day after the day the fault was reported.

Compensation and refund policy Our policy is to provide a compensation scheme to customers buying the Uniworld line rental product as set out below:

If Uniworld is late in providing the Service - For each day or part day Uniworld is late in providing the Service in accordance with the provision lead times, the customer is entitled to claim an amount equal to 30% of 1 month's rental charge for the line or the Calling and Network Feature or the Messaging Service ordered. If Uniworld is late in repairing a Failure of the Service - For each day or part day Uniworld is late in repairing a Failure of the Service in accordance the repair lead times, the customer is entitled to claim an amount equal to 30% of 1 month's line rental charge. If Uniworld does not keep an appointment - If Uniworld is at fault for not keeping an appointment the customer is entitled to claim an amount equal to 30% of 1 month's line rental charge. If Uniworld disconnects the Service when it is not entitled to do so - If Uniworld disconnects the Service from an End User Site when it is not entitled to do so, the customer is entitled to claim an amount equal to 30% of 1 month's line rental charge for each day or part day when the Service is disconnected, provided the customer notifies Uniworld in writing that the Service has been disconnected within 6 working days of any disconnection of an End User.

The Limits on Compensation - The maximum compensation payable under our compensation policy for any one failure or series of related failures shall be an amount equal to two months' rental charge per calendar month up to a maximum of £1,000 for each line.



Provisioning and repair lead times are available upon request by calling Customer Services on 0845 458 4510

### **Price Lists**

Our pricing structure is available from our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510 and via our website. We will write to you in advance if we change the pricing structure on your products and services.

### **Billing**

We will bill you monthly. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, payment will be collected by direct debit.

We provide itemised bills showing calls over 40p via post or all calls via e-mail at no extra cost as part of our service to you.

If you have difficulty paying your bill, please contact us on 0845 458 4510 and we will try to arrange a different method of payment. We will do all we can to help our small business customers to manage their bills and avoid disconnection.

If you are moving home or office Please call our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510 no later than 14 days before your move date. We will amend your account and billing requirements as necessary. We will endeavour to offer you the same telephone number to minimise disruption but please note that for geographic numbers this is not always possible.

### **Number porting**

Uniworld Communications Ltd recognises that keeping your existing telephone numbers may be important to you. If you move your business to us and wish to keep the number that you have with your old provider, we will arrange it if you ask us. We will work with you to ensure that the services are switched over at a convenient and appropriate time. For more information, please call our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510.

### **Complaints**

We make every effort to ensure that our customers are happy with the level of service, and the products and service they receive from us. However, despite our best efforts, things can go wrong. We take customer complaints very seriously and aim to resolve them quickly and efficiently.

If you have a complaint about any part of our service, please contact our Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510. Our advisors will ask you about your complaint and seek to resolve the problem while you are on the line. During any discussions we will protect the privacy of the information that we hold on you. To do this we may have to ask you questions to confirm that we are speaking to the right person. You may also send your complaint to us in writing: Uniworld Communications Ltd, Waterside House, Haslar Marine Technology Park, Gosport, PO12 2AU; We will try to resolve your complaint quickly and efficiently, and to keep you informed at all times. If your complaint is not resolved to your satisfaction, you can take it further within our company, and ultimately to the Managing Director. If we cannot resolve the problem, we will write to you to say so.



If your complaint has been outstanding for more than 3 months or you have received a letter from us saying that your complaint has reached “deadlock”, then you may ask for help from The Office of the Telecommunications Ombudsman (Otelo) Tel: 01925 430870 or 0845 050 1614 email: enquiries@otelo.org.uk

Otelo is an independent organisation which is approved by Ofcom to provide an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) service. Ofcom-approved ADR services sort out disputes between communications providers and their consumer and small business customers. Their job is to investigate complaints fairly by listening to both sides of the story. They look at the facts given to them before recommending any action that may be needed to put things right.

### **Nuisance Calls**

We take the problem of nuisance calls and malicious communications very seriously. We tackle it by working closely with the police and others in the communications industry. If you have been a victim of this activity, please call the Customer Service Team on 0845 458 4510 to report the incident, and for information on how to deal with it.

### **Services for people with special needs**

We are committed to helping all our customers to communicate easily. We offer the following additional services for customer who are older or who may have a disability, including: Additional help and support if you have difficulty paying your bill, A free Directory Enquiries service for people who are unable to use the printed phone book

Copies of this Code are available in larger print and other formats on request Data protection

We comply fully with our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998.



## **Part 2 – Uniworld Communications Ltd Code of Practice for Premium Rate Services & NTS Calls**

### **Purpose of this Code of Practice**

This code informs you about our policies on providing information about Premium Rate Service (PRS) calls and on our charging policy for calls to NTS and PRS numbers.

Premium rate services Premium rate services (PRS) are telephone numbers that offer some form of information or entertainment that is charged to your phone bill. UK-based PRS numbers are normally prefixed by “09”. Typical services include TV votelines, mobile ringtone downloads, technical helplines, charity fund-raising and adult entertainment.

Charges for these services are added to your telephone bill. Calling a PRS number generally costs between 10 pence and £1.50 per minute, per call or per text (incl. vat). Calling these services from, for example, mobile phones, cable networks or public payphones will generally cost more than the advertised rate. Our charges for calling these services are shown in our price list, which is available on request from our Customer Services Team and via our website.

If you have a problem with PRS, we can help. We can provide advice on checking the telephone number of any PRS charges that appear on your bill and will try to help you identify the premium rate service provider. We can use call barring to restrict access to “09” numbers. Please call our Customer Service Team on xxxx for advice on this. We can give you a factsheet on PRS.

You can also ask for help from the Independent Committee for the Supervision of Telephone Information Services (ICSTIS), which is the industry-funded regulatory body for Premium Rate Services. ICSTIS operates a code of practice that sets out standards for the operation of PRS. You can use the ICSTIS website at [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk) to check PRS numbers direct or to download a complaint form. ICSTIS has legal powers to require a provider of PRS to amend its service or promotional material (or both) and can also impose penalties on content service providers. For other ways to contact ICSTIS, see the “Useful addresses” section below.

### **Number translation services**

Number translation services (NTS) are based on numbers that are normally pre-fixed “08”. For example, 0800 and 0808 are used to provide freephone services (some freephone services are also provided on 0500 numbers). 0844 and 0845 numbers are used for dial-up pay-as-you-go Internet access and customer service helplines. 0870 and 0871 numbers are used for information services, technical helplines and telephone banking. They are also used by organisations to help them provide call-management features such as intelligent call routing and fax-to-email services.

Charges for calling services on NTS numbers are added to your telephone bill and prices range from free up to 10p per minute or per call (incl. vat). Calling these services from, for example, mobile phones, cable networks or public payphones will generally cost more than the advertised rate. Our charges for calling these services are shown in our price list, which is available on request from our Customer Services Team and via our website. We can also give you a factsheet on NTS.



If you are unhappy with the help you have received from us on a problem with PRS or NTS, please contact Malcolm Goddard (tel 0845 458 4510 or email [malcolm.goddard@uniworld.co.uk](mailto:malcolm.goddard@uniworld.co.uk)), who has responsibility for compliance with our code of practice for PRS and NTS. You may also complain using the complaints procedure set out in this code including, ultimately, referring your complaint to Otelo.

### **Internet Diallers**

If you use the Internet, it is possible for software to be placed on your computer without you knowing - using the same methods as for computer viruses. This type of software (known as Internet or rogue diallers) can then make calls to PRS and NTS numbers without your knowledge. Software is available to detect this activity and we can help you to access this - please contact our Customer Services Team for details. ICSTIS has been given responsibility for policing this type of activity and you can contact them via [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk) to ask for help or to report examples of this type of abuse. For other ways to contact ICSTIS, see the "Useful addresses" section below. We can also help by barring calls to 09 numbers.

### **The Telephone Preference Service**

If you don't want to get sales and marketing calls you have not requested, you can add your details to a list run by the Telephone Preference Service (TPS). If your number is on the list, it is illegal for a company to call you for marketing purposes. You can contact the Telephone Preference Service via [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk) or by telephoning 0845 0700707.

### **Useful addresses**

Otelo – PO Box 730, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 6WU. Tel: 01925 430870 or 0845 050 1614 email: [enquiries@otelo.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@otelo.org.uk) Website: [www.otelo.org.uk](http://www.otelo.org.uk)

Ofcom - Riverside House, 2a Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA. Tel: 020 7981 3040 email: [contact@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:contact@ofcom.org.uk) Website: [www.ofcom.org.uk](http://www.ofcom.org.uk)

ICSTIS Ltd, Clove Building, 4 Maguire Street, London, SE1 2NQ. Tel: 0800 500212 or 020 7940 7474 Website: [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk)

Telephone Preference Service, DMA House, 70 Margaret Street, London W1W 8SS Tel: 0845 0700707 Website: [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk)

Federation of Communication Services (FCS), Burnhill Business Centre, Provident House, Burrell Row, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1AT. Tel: 020 8249 6363 email: [fcs@fcs.org.uk](mailto:fcs@fcs.org.uk) Website: [www.fcs.org.uk](http://www.fcs.org.uk)

This code has been licensed by The Federation of Communication Services Limited 2005 Licence number 001388 Published August 2005. Correct at the time of printing. © The Federation of Communication Services Limited 2006