

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE**  
**(Chapter 106)**

**SPACE STATION CARRIER LICENCE**

DATE OF ISSUE: 16 April 2018

**APT Satellite Company Limited**

of **22 Dai Kwai Street, Tai Po Industrial Estate, Tai Po, New Territories**

(the “licensee”) is licensed, subject to the following conditions set out in this licence-

- (a) to provide a public telecommunications service (the “service”), the scope of which is described in Schedule 1;
- (b) to establish and maintain a telecommunications network (the “network”) described in Schedule 2 to provide the service;
- (c) to possess and use the radiocommunications installations described in Schedule 3 to provide the service; and
- (d) to deal in, import and demonstrate, with a view to sale in the course of trade or business, such apparatus or material for radiocommunications as may be necessary to supply customers of the service.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

- 1.1 In this licence, except as hereinafter provided or unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) (the “Ordinance”) and, as the case may be, the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1). For the purposes of interpreting this licence, headings and titles shall be disregarded.
- 1.2 This licence shall not be construed as granting an exclusive right to the licensee to provide the service.
- 1.3 This licence replaces any licence or any exemption from licensing, however described, which the Authority may have granted to the licensee for providing the service.
- 1.4 The grant of this licence does not authorize the licensee to do anything which infringes any exclusive licence granted under the Ordinance or any exclusive right to operate and provide telecommunications networks, systems, installations or services granted under any other Ordinance.

### **2. TRANSFER**

- 2.1 The licensee may, only with the prior written consent of the Authority and subject to such reasonable conditions as the Authority thinks fit, transfer this licence or any permission, right or benefit under this licence. In giving its consent the Authority will have regard to such matters as it thinks fit including but not limited to the effect which the transfer will have on market structure and the financial and technical competence and viability of the transferee.

### **3. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS**

- 3.1 The licensee shall at all times perform and observe the requirements of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and the regulations and recommendations annexed to it, as are stated to be applicable to Hong Kong, and any other international convention, agreement, protocol, understanding or the like to the extent that the instruments described in this General Condition 3.1 impose obligations on Hong Kong of which the Authority gives notice to the licensee, except to the extent that the Authority may in writing exempt the licensee from such compliance.
- 3.2 Where the Government has been consulted about or is involved in the preparation or negotiation of an international convention, agreement, protocol or understanding or the like or amendments thereto which are on the subject-matter of telecommunications or which relate to another subject-matter

but which the Government anticipates could have a material impact on the provision of the service under this licence, the Government will, where practicable, provide the licensee with a reasonable opportunity to make a submission stating its views on the matter.

#### **4. COMPLIANCE GENERALLY**

4.1 The licensee shall comply with the Ordinance, regulations made under the Ordinance, licence conditions or any other instruments which may be issued by the Authority under the Ordinance.

#### **5. PROVISION OF SERVICE**

5.1 The licensee shall, subject to Schedule 1 to this licence and any special conditions of this licence relating to the provision of the service, at all times during the validity period of this licence operate, maintain and provide a good, efficient and continuous service in a manner satisfactory to the Authority. The Authority may, on application in writing by the licensee, exempt a part or parts of the service from the requirement of continuous provision.

#### **6. CUSTOMER CHARTER**

6.1 Unless a waiver in writing is granted by the Authority, the licensee shall prepare a customer charter which sets out the minimum standards of service to the licensee's customers and gives guidance to the employees of the licensee in their relations and dealings with customers.

#### **7. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CUSTOMER INFORMATION**

7.1 The licensee shall not disclose information of a customer except with the consent of the customer, which form of consent shall be approved by the Authority, except for the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders or except as may be authorized by or under any law.

7.2 The licensee shall not use information provided by its customers or obtained in the course of provision of service to its customers other than for and in relation to the provision by the licensee of the service.

#### **8. RECORDS AND PLANS OF NETWORK**

8.1 The licensee shall keep records and plans (including overall network plans and cable route maps) of the telecommunications installation (including radiocommunications installation) and telecommunications nodes and exchanges, if any, provided under this licence and any other details concerning the network as may be reasonably required by the Authority, including but not limited to information from operational support systems, traffic flow information, and database information relating to the manner in which the

network treats any communication (“network information”).

- 8.2 As required by the Authority, the licensee shall make the network information available, within reasonable time, to the Authority or to a person authorized in writing by the Authority for inspection for the Authority's own purposes.

## **9. CONTROL OF INTERFERENCE AND OBSTRUCTION**

- 9.1 The licensee shall take reasonable measures to install, maintain and operate the service and the network in such a manner as not to cause any harmful interference or physical obstruction to any lawful telecommunications service, or cause any physical obstruction to the installation, maintenance, operation, adjustment, repair, alteration, removal or replacement of the facilities of any lawful telecommunications or utility service provider.

- 9.2 The licensee shall take reasonable measures to ensure that the customers of the service do not cause harmful interference to lawful telecommunications services or utility services through use of the service.

- 9.3 The Authority may give such reasonable directions as it thinks fit to avoid harmful interference or physical obstruction referred to in General Condition 9.1. The licensee shall comply with the directions.

10. Repealed in July 2016, as per the Joint Statement of the Secretary and the Authority dated 10 March 2015, and the Telecommunications (Carrier Licences)(Amendment) Regulation 2016 enacted on 1 July 2016.

## **11. COMPLIANCE**

- 11.1 If the licensee employs any person under contract for the purpose of the service, or for the installation, maintenance or operation of the network (a “contractor”), the licensee shall continue to be responsible for compliance with the conditions of this licence, and the performance thereof, by any contractor.

## **12. REQUIREMENTS OF RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATION**

- 12.1 Each radiocommunications installation operated by or on behalf of the licensee shall be used only at the location and with emissions and at the frequencies and of the classes and characteristics specified in Schedule 3 to this licence and with such power and aerial characteristics as are specified in that Schedule in relation to the class and characteristics of the emission in use.

- 12.2 The apparatus comprised in each radiocommunications installation shall at all times comply with such technical standards as may be issued by the Authority.

- 12.3 The apparatus comprised in a radiocommunications installation shall be of a type approved by the Authority and shall be so designed, constructed,

maintained and operated that its use shall not cause any interference to any radiocommunications.

- 12.4 A radiocommunications installation shall be operated only by the licensee or a person authorized by the licensee. The licensee shall not allow an unauthorized person to have access to the apparatus comprised in a radiocommunications installation. The licensee shall ensure that persons operating each radiocommunications installation shall at all times observe the conditions of this licence.
- 12.5 The licensee shall not make a change –
- (a) to any radiocommunications installation; or
  - (b) of the location of any radiocommunications installation,
- without the prior written approval of the Authority.
- 12.6 If any telecommunications installation (including radiocommunications installation) crosses above or may fall or be blown onto any overhead power wire (including electric lighting and tramway wires) or power apparatus it shall be guarded to the reasonable satisfaction of the owner of the power wire or power apparatus concerned.

### **13. USE OF FREQUENCIES**

- 13.1 The radiocommunications installation operated by or on behalf of the licensee shall only be operated on such frequencies as the Authority may assign.

### **14. SAFETY**

- 14.1 The licensee shall take proper and adequate safety measures for the safeguarding of life and property in connection with all installations, equipment and apparatus operated or used, including safeguarding against exposure to any electrical or radiation hazard emanating from the installations, equipment or apparatus operated or used under this licence.
- 14.2 The licensee shall comply with the safety standards and specifications as may from time to time be prescribed by the Authority and any directions of the Authority in relation to any safety matter.

### **15. PROHIBITION OF CLAIMS AGAINST GOVERNMENT**

- 15.1 The licensee shall have no claim against the Government in tort or in contract in respect of any disturbance or interruption to any part of the network due to works carried out by or on behalf of the Government which result in disturbance to the network.

## **16. INDEMNITY**

- 16.1 The licensee shall indemnify the Government against any losses, claims, charges, expenses, actions, damages or demands which the Government incurs or which may be made against the Government as a result of or in relation to the activities of the licensee or any employee, agent or contractor of the licensee in relation to the provision of the service or the installation, maintenance and operation of the network.

## **17. CONTRAVENTION BEYOND LICENSEE'S CONTROL**

- 17.1 The licensee shall not be liable for any breach of this licence where it is able to demonstrate, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Authority, that the breach was caused by circumstances beyond its control and that it has taken all reasonable steps open to it to rectify that breach.
- 17.2 Where the circumstances referred to in General Condition 17.1 are such that there is an outage or interruption in the service affecting a significant number of the licensee's customers for a period of more than 7 days, the licensee shall provide the Authority with a full report in writing detailing the reasons for the breach and indicating when, or if, it will be able to continue to provide the service.
- 17.3 If the Authority is, after considering a report provided under General Condition 17.2, of the reasonable belief that the licensee would be able to provide the service within a reasonable period of time despite the circumstances outlined in that report, the Authority may direct that the licensee recommence the service within such reasonable period as the Authority may in writing direct. The licensee shall comply with such direction.

## **18. PUBLICATION OF LICENCE**

- 18.1 The licensee, or the Authority, may at their discretion make the terms and conditions of this licence, including any specific conditions, publicly available in any manner they think fit.

## **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

### **1. TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

- 1.1 The licensee shall not operate the network outside the relevant limits specified in Schedule 2 without the prior written consent of the Authority.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding Special Condition 1.1, the licensee may, in an emergency situation beyond the control of the licensee, operate the network in deviation from the technical characteristics and limits specified in Schedule 2 on a temporary basis and shall inform the Authority of such deviation within 24 hours of its occurrence.
- 1.3 If any deviation as described in Special Condition 1.2 will, or is likely to, exceed a period of 30 days the licensee shall as soon as is reasonably practicable apply in writing to the Authority for approval to so operate, specifying the reasons for the deviation.
- 1.4 Where the Authority receives an application under Special Condition 1.3 and is satisfied that the deviation will not amount to a breach of any relevant regulations issued by the International Telecommunication Union or amount to a breach of any obligation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) under any international conventions specified in General Condition 3.1, it shall, within a reasonable period following receipt of the application, approve it subject to such conditions as it may reasonably impose.

### **2. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND CODES OF PRACTICE**

- 2.1 The licensee shall comply with the Ordinance, regulations made under the Ordinance, licence conditions or any other instruments which may be issued by the Authority under the Ordinance and any guidelines or codes of practices which may be issued by the Authority as in its opinion are suitable for the purpose of providing technical specifications or practical guidance on any particular aspect of any conditions of this licence.

### **3. CONTROL OF INTERFERENCE**

- 3.1 The network shall be fitted with devices to ensure immediate cessation of its radio emissions whenever required in extraordinary circumstances by the Authority for the purpose of avoiding harmful interference to other telecommunications services or apparatus.

#### **4. LIMITATION ON SERVICES**

- 4.1 The earth stations in the network shall not be used for the purpose of uplinking to any space station services of the type described in Schedule 1 on behalf of any person other than the licensee or its wholly-owned subsidiary.
- 4.2 Notwithstanding Special Condition 4.1, the licensee may uplink to any space station services of the type described in Schedule 1 on behalf of another person for the purpose of providing emergency back up telemetry, tracking, control, monitoring and testing for other space objects or other satellites where such services will not interfere with those services for which the network was primarily intended, namely the provision of such services for the licensee, and shall inform the Authority of such provision of services within 24 hours of its occurrence.
- 4.3 For the purpose of Special Condition 4.1, a company is deemed the wholly-owned subsidiary of another if:
- (a) it is incorporated in the HKSAR;
  - (b) it has no members except that other and that other's wholly-owned subsidiaries and its or their nominees; and
  - (c) its affairs are conducted in accordance with the wishes of that other.
- 4.4 If any provision of services as described in Special Condition 4.2 will or is likely to exceed a period of 30 days, the licensee shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable, apply in writing to the Authority for its prior written approval to the provision of such services stating in its application the estimated number of days by which the period of 30 days will be exceeded.
- 4.5 Upon request from the Authority, the licensee shall notify the Authority as soon as practicable of the general nature of the services carried by every transponder on a space station and the countries, from and in which, the services are transmitted and received respectively.

#### **5. INDEMNITY**

- 5.1 For the avoidance of doubt the indemnity provided under General Condition 16 is independent of and shall have no effect on the obligations of the licensee under the indemnity provided by Section 12 of the Outer Space Ordinance.

#### **6. DETERMINATION**

- 6.1 Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of section 34 of the Ordinance, the Authority may at any time determine the licence if the licensee:
- (a) fails to pay, within one month of its falling due, the licence fee;



- (b) goes into liquidation (other than for the purpose of an amalgamation or reconstruction approved by the Government);
- (c) goes into receivership, or makes any assignment to or composition with its creditors;
- (d) ceases to carry on business;
- (e) repeatedly fails to comply with a term or condition of the licence, or any lawful reasonable direction of the Authority or fails to do all such acts as are necessary to enable it to perform its obligations under the licence;
- (f) is also a licensee under the Outer Space Ordinance or any Ordinance enacted in place in whole or in part of the Outer Space Ordinance whose licence has been revoked; or
- (g) is wholly or very substantially prevented from offering and providing satellite services or services of the type described in Schedule 1 for a continuous period of not less than 28 days by reason of any supervening catastrophic event beyond the contemplation of the licensee and the Government.

## **7. REQUIREMENT TO FURNISH INFORMATION TO THE AUTHORITY**

- 7.1 The licensee shall furnish to the Authority, in such manner and at such times as the Authority may request in writing, such information related to the business run by the licensee under this licence, including financial, technical and statistical information, accounts and other records, as the Authority may reasonably require in order to perform its functions under the Ordinance and this licence.
- 7.2 Subject to Special Condition 7.3, the Authority may use and disclose information to such person as the Authority thinks fit.
- 7.3 Where the Authority proposes to disclose information obtained and the Authority considers that the disclosure would result in the release of information concerning the business or commercial or financial affairs of a licensee which disclosure would or could reasonably be expected to adversely affect the licensee's lawful business or commercial or financial affairs, the Authority will give the licensee a reasonable opportunity to make representations on the proposed disclosure before the Authority makes a final decision whether to disclose the information.

## **SCHEDULE 1**

### **SCOPE OF THE SERVICE**

The licensee is permitted to:

- (a) provide capacities associated with the space stations on board a space object for radiocommunications; and
- (b) use the network for the purpose of telemetry, tracking, control, monitoring and testing functions related to the use, maintenance, operation and control of space objects.

**SCHEDULE 2**  
**DESCRIPTION OF NETWORK**



### **SCHEDULE 3**

## **TECHNICAL PARTICULARS OF RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF THE SERVICE**

Location: Not applicable

Frequency: Not applicable

Class and Characteristics of Emission: Not applicable

Power: Not applicable

Aerial characteristics: Not applicable

---

(Agnes Wong)  
for Communications Authority  
Date: 16 April 2018