

NEW TARIFF STRUCTURE ON STARCOMMS MOBILE LINES

Free calls on Saturdays and Sundays and new time belts characterize a comprehensive incentive regime espoused by Starcomms Limited, Nigeria's largest CDMA 3G Mobile Network, as it develops highly competitive tariffs on mobile lines aimed at giving the customer optimal flexibility and maximum savings matched with unrivalled service delivery.

The new tariff structure will be known as the Freedom Roaming Tariffs, and will run on the 07028 number series recently introduced by the company.

Unlike the Starcomms Freedom Talkie tariffs, the new structure on fixed lines which have four categories, the freedom roaming tariffs come in three categories, RoamEASY, RoamSMART, and RoamPRO, all usable in phones in any Starcomms coverage city.

There are free complimentary weekend calls during off peak (6 pm to 6 am) on Saturdays and Sundays only, while international calls Per Minute Billing as Per Starcomms IDD Pan. Peak and off Peak timings are 07:00hrs-22:00hrs (7 am to 10 am).

RoamEASY will operate on per minute and per second with local calls at N10 per minute and N20 per second during peak periods (on net), and N14 and N28, per minute and second respectively, for unified lines. Off peak (on net) for local calls stand at N8 per minute and N16 per second, while unified lines stand at N10 per minute and N20 per second. Off net (peak) for PTO / Nitel / Fixed lines stand at N17 per minute and N34 per second, while GSM and unified calls cost N30 per minute and N56 per second. Off net (off peak) for PTO / Nitel / Fixed lines stand at N15 per minute and N30 per second, while GSM and unified calls cost N20 per minute and N34 per second.

RoamSMART and RoamPRO, which operate on per second billing, offer N18 and N14 respectively on local calls for peak hours (on net) and N24 and N20 for unified lines. On net off peak for local calls stand at N14 and N12 respectively, and N8 and N14 for unified calls. Off net (peak) for PTO / Nitel / fixed lines stand at N30 and N24, while GSM and unified calls cost N50 and N42 respectively.

Off net (off peak) for PTO/ Nitel / Fixed lines stand at N26 and N20 respectively, while GSM and unified calls cost N30 and N26.

Starcomms' Commercial Director, Mr. Prakash Pantham, who disclosed the new tariffs, said it was part of a concerted drive to give subscribers value for their money.

'It is the policy of the company to constantly retool its marketing options and offer very competitive tariffs aimed at making sure that subscribers enjoy the best in telecommunications services. This is backed up by innovative products and robust technology.'

Launched in 1990, Starcomms has invested heavily in new technologies over the years and to improve the quality of its products. Its deployment of its world-class mobile broadband internet access service, which is CDMA 2000 1X EV-DO powered technology, has exponentially taken the company above half a million customers in Lagos, Kano, Maiduguri, Port-Harcourt and Ibadan, with five other cities on queue to join the network soon.

Pantham said the new tariff structure was made imperative with the introduction of the new lines (0702) which came alive in February in compliance with provisions of the national unified license granted the company by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC).

The new range of numbers, he said, operates on the CDMA 2000 (Code Division Multiple Access) platform, and will enable subscribers enjoy the roaming mobility that was once the exclusive of GSM (Global system for Mobile Communications) lines.