



## OMNITEL VODAFONE: INTRODUCTION PLAN FOR MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY DELIVERED ON TIME. READY FOR MONITORING.

*Rome, October 2, 2001* - Omnitel Vodafone has already delivered the plan for introduction of Mobile Number Portability into its own network to the Authority and continues to regard the introduction of innovative services, including number portability, as an institutional objective. Omnitel is also continuing its collaboration with the Authority to define all the operational aspects of number portability.

The Communication Authority's resolution of last June also outlined the technical solution for mobile operators to adopt (direct routing). Following the resolution, Omnitel Vodafone collaborated in practical terms with the Authority to define the technical/operational conditions, as yet uncompleted, considered indispensable to implement *Mobile Number Portability*.

At the same time, the investments required to create the technical framework chosen by the Authority were begun.

During procedures carried out by the Authority, Omnitel has always underlined the complexity of activities required for the implementation, the specificity of both the platforms it already operates and the related clients as compared to other operators, as well as the size of the investments to be carried out.

On the basis of these technical factors, Omnitel set a minimum period of 15 months, starting from the definition of the technical specifications, for full implementation of the service to take place.

The above situation is clearly stated in the records documented by the Authority, which nevertheless fixed deadlines that were technically impossible for Omnitel to meet.

Omnitel Vodafone therefore had to present a first petition for review in accordance with resolution 12/01/CIR. Preliminary investigations are still under way.

In order to protect its own rights while the Authority reaches a decision, Omnitel Vodafone had to appeal to the Regional Administrative Court (TAR) on September 27, 2001 (the last possible date) in relation to the same resolution.

Omnitel thus believes it has satisfied demands relating to the technical and operative procedures for number portability and ensured that elements required by the monitoring unit to evaluate timing the start-up of the first stage were supplied within the established deadlines. It is obviously also prepared to periodically check the timing of introduction of the service together with the monitoring unit set up by the Authority.