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FCC Announces 90-Day Period For International Carriers To Come Into Compliance With Section 214 Requirements

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has announced the commencement of a 90-day period during which international carriers are encouraged to come into full compliance with all rules and policies applicable to their Section 214 authorizations to provide international telecommunications services. The 90-day period began on February 5, 2000 and ends on May 7, 2001.

During this 90-day period, the International Bureau of the FCC does not expect to initiate enforcement action against carriers holding Section 214 authorizations. However, at the end of the 90-day period, the International Bureau will refer cases of noncompliance to the FCC's Enforcement Bureau for appropriate enforcement action.

The FCC established the 90-day period following a series of belatedly filed applications requesting Section 214 authority or the transfer of control or assignment of existing Section 214 authorizations. These filings have led the FCC to conclude that there may be additional carriers providing international telecommunications services without proper authority.

The FCC issued Public Notices on January 30, 2001 and February 12, 2001 describing the regulatory requirements imposed on international common carriers and the 90-day grace period during which companies not in compliance with the rules may file the necessary applications. These notices can be viewed by clicking on each of the highlighted dates.