

61 6 2791991



Australian Government
**Department of Communications,
Information Technology and the Arts**

our reference

Ms Louise Gell
Committee Secretary
Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Gell

Budget Estimates May 2004 - Answers to Questions on Notice

This letter is to clarify responses provided to questions taken on notice at the Budget Estimates Hearing in May last year.

On 25 January 2005 the Committee was provided with responses to question numbers 190 and 37. It has since been identified that there was an error in the response to question 190 and the attached revised response clarifies that Telstra was part of a consortium that received \$50,000 under round 5 of the ITOL program.

In respect to the response to question 37, updated information is now available regarding the 'required interest threshold' for the Hall exchange and again a revised response is attached.

Apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Tuck', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Damian Tuck
Manager
Parliamentary Liaison Section
4 February 2005

61 6 2791991

**Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio

Telstra Corporation

Budget Estimates Hearings 24, 25, 26 and 27 May 2004

Outcome na, Output na

Question: 37

Topic: Hall Exchange

Hansard Page: ECITA 85

Senator Lundy asked:

Can you tell me—and you cannot because you have not got it in front of you—what the threshold is for the Hall exchange to create a case for commercial viability for its upgrade?

Answer:

Following Telstra's approval as a provider of ADSL services under the Australian Government's Higher Bandwidth Incentive Scheme (HiBIS), the "required interest threshold" for Hall was established as fifty.

61 6 2791991

**Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio
Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
Budget Estimates Hearings 24, 25, 26 and 27 May 2004**

Outcome 3, Output 3.5

Question: 190

Topic: Why Telstra received an ITOL grant

Hansard Page: ECITA 16

Senator Lundy asked:

Can you tell me why Telstra received an ITOL grant?

Answer:

In 2001, a consortium including Telstra received \$50,000 under round 5 of the ITOL program to manage the SmartTEN project. The consortium also included the Australian Department of Defence, two e-business standards bodies - EAN Australia and Tradegate ECA, and a range of clothing manufacturers - Mountcastle, Walkabout, Cant Tear Em and Yakka.

The objective of the project was to facilitate the adoption of standards in the textile, clothing and footwear (TCF) industry for order and invoice messaging and product identification. The pilot focussed on uniforms and involved Australian uniform suppliers with Telstra and the Department of Defence being the major customers.

The project successfully developed 300,000 product identifiers compliant with the EAN system of numbering and barcoding. These identifiers provided the base for the development of e-business in the clothing supply chain.