ICTNPL413

Evaluate networking regulations and legislation for the telecommunication industry

Topic 1: Economic and political influences on networking regulations and legislation

Telecommunications in Australia has grown significantly since its first inception in the late 1800s. Due to the exponential technological advancements, telecommunications support the entire economy.

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RESEARCH

There are different types of research that you can carry out, along with sources of information.

Type of research include:

- Quantitative research

- Qualitative research

- Primary research

- Secondary research

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LEGISLATION

When we discuss networking regulations and legislation that govern the telecommunications industry and information technology industry, we are referring to the carriers and service providers in Australia.

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PURPOSE AND IMPLEMENTATION

Specific legislation that applies to the telecommunication (including the internet) includes:

- Telecommunications Act 1997

- Competition and Consumer Act 2010

- Broadcasting Services Act 1992

- Radiocommunications Act 1992

- Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999

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PURPOSE AND IMPLEMENTATION

Specific legislation that applies to the telecommunication (including the internet) includes:

- Encryption Act

- The Privacy Act 1988

- Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979

- National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011

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ACTIVITY: DISCUSS

As a group, discuss examples of how each networking legislation is implemented in practice. Also discuss the role of legislation for data security and safety.

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ACTIVITY: READ

For more information and further links for the telecommunications legislation in Australia, visit the websites provided.

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ACTIVITY: REFLECT

What can you do in the workplace (or your studies) to make sure you keep up to date with legislative changes?

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DEALING WITH NON-COMPLIANCE

- If you come across issues that relate to non-compliance with legal requirements, you may have to problem-solve.

- You would need to assess the problem and work out how to solve it.

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REGULATION AND DEREGULATION

- The provision of telecommunications networks and services are enforced under key regulatory bodies and federal legislation.

- These regulatory bodies impact and influence network planning activities for telecommunication businesses and should be considered as part of your research.

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ACTIVITY: READ

Read the following overview on telecommunication's regulations:

Website: https://thelawreviews.co.uk/title/the-technology-media-and-telecommunications-review/australia

Read the following rules for carriers and service providers in Australia:

Website: https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/media-centre/publications/rules-carriers-and-service-providers

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REGULATION AND DEREGULATION

- Sometimes, regulations place restrictions on businesses.

- Deregulation removes these restrictions granting businesses greater freedom.

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ACTIVITY: DISCUSS

Read through the scenario.

As a group:

- discuss how regulation and deregulation impacts this problem.

- brainstorm examples of further issues the networking industry face in relation to regulation and deregulation.

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ACTIVITY: PRACTICAL

Do research to find out further information on the impact of government regulation and deregulation on the networking planning industry.

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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Economic factors should be assessed to determine their influence on network growth and planning. Improving or increasing the quantity of these factors can lead to growth in the economy.

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ACTIVITY: BRAINSTORM

As a group, brainstorm a list of common economic factors that can affect growth for public and commercial enterprises. Also brainstorm examples of how the factors affect growth in the network planning industry.

Take notes and keep them for future reference.

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ACTIVITY: DISCUSS

As a group, discuss specific examples of economic conditions and political influences that are affecting the network planning industry right now.

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ACTIVITY: READ

If you'd like to know more, read the article on how economic growth is defined in Australia.

Article: https://www.rba.gov.au/education/resources/explainers/economic-growth.html

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ACTIVITY: PRACTICAL

Work in small groups to define the economic condition in your State or Territory (such as Queensland or Northern Territory) and Australia as a whole.

How is the economic condition influencing the growth and planning of telecommunication networks?

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REPORTING ON ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INFLUENCES

In business, research is conducted, evaluated, and reported to relevant stakeholders to read and use to make informed decisions. This applies to research conducted on the economic conditions and political influences related to networking markets too.

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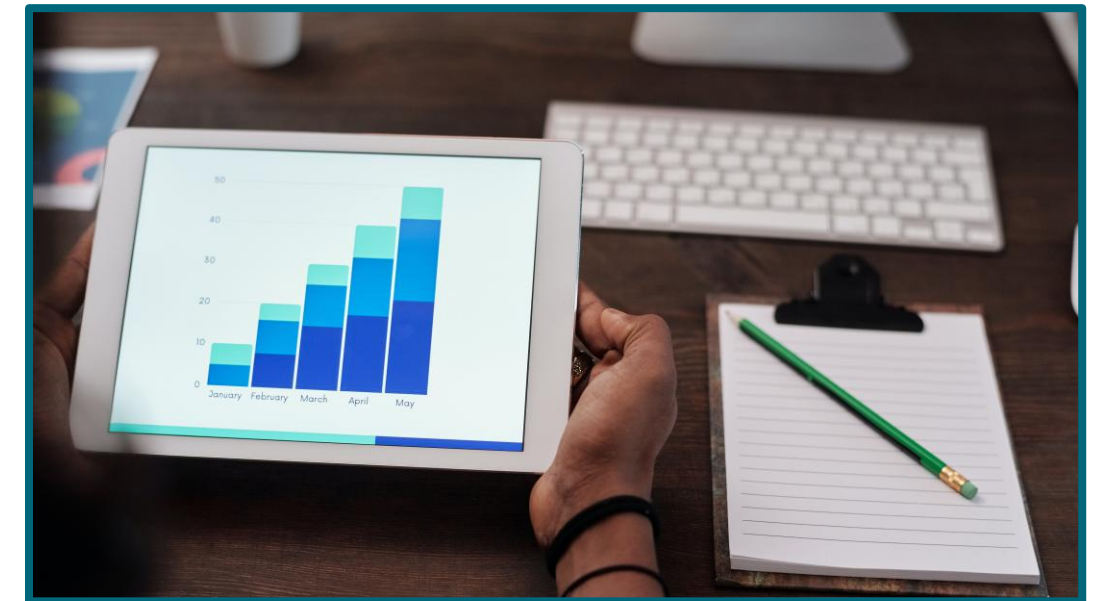
ACTIVITY: REFLECT

Which legislative and/or business decisions will your assessment of the economic and political influences on the growth and planning of networks influence?

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REPORTING ON ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INFLUENCES

An evaluation report is one way to communicate an assessment of the economic and political influences on networking regulations and legislation.

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ACTIVITY: READ

Read the article on how to write an evaluation report:

Website: https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/how-to/how-to-write-an-evaluation-report

Read the article on what to include in an evaluation report:

Website: https://www.betterevaluation.org/en/evaluation-options/final_reports

Review the following example template of an evaluation report:

Website: https://wikieducator.org/images/5/53/Evaluation_report_template.pdf

Topic 1: Economic and political influences on networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: DEVELOP

For this activity you are to do research and write a report that evaluates economic and political influences on both public and commercial enterprises that provide services in networking markets.

Topic 1: Economic and political influences on networking regulations and legislation

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: PRACTICAL

Refresh your memory on legislation and regulations related to the network industry. If necessary, go through the relevant content in Topic 1 again.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

Legislation and regulations impact all stakeholders associated with the network industry. This includes:

- rights for carriers and service providers

- enforced competitive provisions between service providers

- planning obligations for network accessibility (under the Universal Service Obligation).

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: REFLECT

What do you think would happen if there were no networking regulations and legislation for the telecommunications industry?

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

RIGHTS OF CARRIERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

In the context of carriers and service providers and installing telecommunication services in Australia, rights relate to legislation, human rights of others and specific allowances relating to the industry such for the consumer and supplier.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CARRIER AND SERVICE PROVIDER?

- Carrier: A carrier network provides the network infrastructure used by a telecommunications service provider.

- Carriage service provider: Carriage service providers provide services for:

  o network units that a licensed carrier owns

  o network units covered by a nominated carrier declaration

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: REFLECT

Which service provider do you use? Who is the carrier?

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS OR CARRIERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS?

Aside from the regulations, obligations, and compliances that carriers and service providers must follow, there are also powers and immunities from state and territory law.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: READ

A link to the telecommunications code of practice can be found at the following website:

https://ablis.business.gov.au/service/ag/telecommunications-code-of-practice/41746

Take any notes to summarise what you have read and keep for future reference.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: READ

See the following website for a list of the different types of low-impact facilities.

Website: https://www.acma.gov.au/local-councils-and-network-facilities

Take any notes to summarise what you have read and keep for future reference.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: PRACTICAL

Do research to:

- outline the main purpose of the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979 and how this applies to carriers and service providers.

- find out carrier powers and immunities.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ENFORCING COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

- Think back to what you learnt about the ACCC in topic 1 (refresh your memory by summarising the content if you need to).

- The ACCC is responsible for the economic regulation of the communications sector.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: READ

Read through the ACCC websites provided.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION (USO)

ACTIVITY: REFLECT

Think about the size of Australia and consider the accessibility of networking services to both individuals and organisations. Then compare a city with a regional town such as Brisbane v Mount Isa or Perth v Bremer Bay. Consider the distances in Australia and the remote and rural towns.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ENFORCING COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

The Universal Service Obligation (USO) means that you have the right to a standard fixed telephone service provided by Telstra, regardless of where you live or work.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: READ

See more information on the USO from their tip sheet.

Website: https://accan.org.au/files/Tip%20Sheets/USO%20Tip%20sheet.pdf

Take any notes to summarise what you have read and keep for future reference.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: PRACTICAL

Choose ONE suburb or city in Australia. Work in small groups to write a report that:

- reviews the planning obligations of the USO.

- evaluates the accessibility of networking services to both individuals and organisations in that area.

- provides clear conclusions.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation

ACTIVITY: DEVELOP

Produce a summary report that evaluates the impact of Australian federal legislation on network service planning processes and accessibility to networks.

Topic 2: The impact of networking regulations and legislation