

March 21, 2016

**Via Electronic Filing**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

**GRANTED**

**MAR 28 2016**

Competition Policy Division  
Wireline Competition Bureau

*For 60 days*

**Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority  
Application for Approval, as Necessary, to Transfer Control of Etrali North  
America, LLC to IPC Systems, Inc. Pursuant to Section 214 of the  
Communications Act of 1934, as Amended, WC Docket No. 16-65**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

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IPC Systems, Inc. ("IPC Systems") and Etrali North America, LLC ("Etrali NA") (together, "Applicants"), by their attorneys and pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"),<sup>1</sup> hereby request special temporary authority ("STA"), for a period of sixty (60) days, to allow Etrali NA to continue providing domestic service to customers under the control of IPC Systems during the pendency of the application for approval of the indirect transfer of control, which was filed in the above-referenced docket on February 24, 2016 (hereinafter, the "Application"). Applicants respectfully request the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission") grant this STA request on an expedited basis.

**A. Background**

As explained in the Application, Applicants, together with their affiliates, are leading international providers of compliance and unified communications solutions to the global financial community. The suite of industry-specific hardware, services and trading solutions offered by IPC Systems and Etrali NA include very limited point-to-point private line communications services.

IPC Systems is authorized to provide domestic interstate telecommunications services and global facilities-based and resold international telecommunications services.<sup>2</sup> IPC Systems, together with IPC Network Services (FIN 0008398166) and other subsidiaries (collectively, "IPC"), provides communications solutions to global trading enterprises, including the world's largest financial service firms, principally utilizing proprietary trading and communications

<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214.

<sup>2</sup> ITC-214-20010817-00425.

equipment interconnected via resold private lines or IP-based transport services. IPC typically provides resold interexchange telecommunications services to sophisticated financial institution customers as part of a suite of industry-specific service offerings, and does not serve residential customers.

Etrali NA also provides financial trading solutions and technology services to enterprise customers, including point-to-point private line services. Etrali NA is not facilities based and offers such services on a purely resold basis. Etrali NA, together with its parent company, Etrali S.A., were indirectly acquired by IPC Systems on January 26, 2016. Prior to the transaction, Etrali NA regarded itself as an end user of the communications services purchased from certificated wholesale communications providers, which were offered as one of Etrali NA's industry-specific services. Etrali NA was treated as an end user by its wholesale communications providers, which maintained responsibility for assessing applicable regulatory fees and surcharges to Etrali NA and remitting such fees and surcharges to the appropriate governmental authorities. As such, Etrali NA had not registered with the Commission as a telecommunications provider and there was no formal 214 authority to be transferred prior to consummation of the holding company level transaction. However, now that Etrali NA is part of IPC Systems, consistent with IPC Systems' policy of treating all domestic U.S. entities that include private line services as part of their trading solutions service offerings as resellers registered with the FCC, Applicants filed the above-captioned application for approval of the indirect transfer control of Etrali NA to IPC Systems, and are also requesting the instant STA.

IPC Systems' wholly-owned subsidiary, IPC Network Services, will soon be integrating the network-related services provided by Etrali NA onto its platform. This migration is expected to be completed within several months. Following the migration, IPC Network Services will provide all network-related services to Etrali NA's customers.

#### **B. Public Interest Statement**

The Commission's approval of the requested STA will serve the public interest, as it will facilitate the uninterrupted provision of private-line communications services to Etrali NA's enterprise customers who rely on this connectivity as a component of the financial trading solutions and technology services provided by Etrali NA.

Approval of the STA and Application further serve the public interest as such approvals will result in Etrali NA being a registered reseller within the IPC corporate family, which has the necessary technical, financial and managerial qualifications to permit the combined company to continue to provide high-quality services to the pre-existing customers of Etrali NA.

Due to the fact that the change of ownership occurred at the holding company level, the transfer of control was seamless to Etrali NA's customers. The transfer of control is not expected to have any adverse consequences on Etrali NA's customers (all of which are sophisticated business customers), as such customers will continue to receive the same services they currently enjoy.

In addition, as mentioned above and in the Application, IPC Network Services will be integrating Etrali NA's services onto its platform in the coming months, and will ultimately provide all network-related services to Etrali NA's customers. IPC Systems and IPC Network Services have a strong history of compliance with FCC rules and regulations, and Applicants will work to ensure Etrali NA's full compliance with applicable FCC regulatory requirements going forward.

**C. Conclusion**

Wherefore, for the foregoing reasons, IPC Systems and Etrali NA respectfully request that the FCC grant the requested STA for a period of sixty (60) days. Applicants acknowledge that, once granted, the requested STA may be revoked by the Commission upon its own motion and that a grant of this STA request will not prejudice any action the Commission may take on or with respect to the corresponding Application.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with regard to this request or the proceeding more generally.

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrew M. Klein*

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cc: Jodie May Donovan, Wireline Competition Bureau