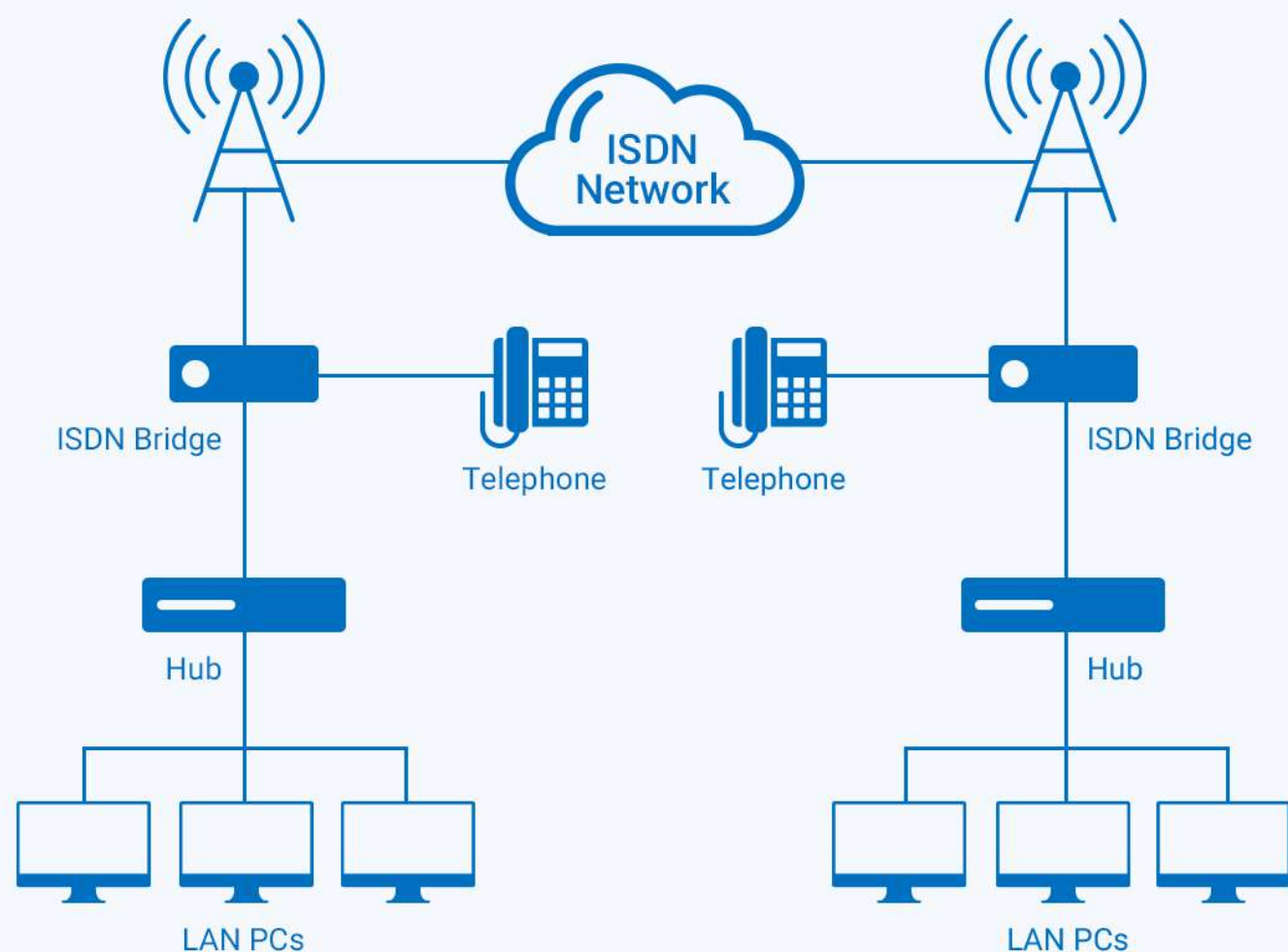# Are You Ready for the ISDN Switch Off?

ISDN switch off is happening all around the globe. But why is it the trend and what it means to your business? This infographic will show you everything you need to know about the change and how you could save your business from being lag behind and fall into a dilemma before it's too late.

1. What Is ISDN And How Does It Work?

ISDN or Integrated Services Digital Network is a circuit-switched telephone network system introduced in the 1990s for better speed and higher quality connection that transmits both data and voice over a digital line. These digital lines could be copper lines.

ISDN Network

ISDN Bridge   Telephone   Telephone   ISDN Bridge

Hub   Hub

LAN PCs   LAN PCs

2. Why Is ISDN Switch Off?

However, as technology advances and business demands on telecommunications grow rapidly, the ISDN lines could no longer be able to meet all the expectations of businesses communications, gradually slipping further and further into obsolescence.
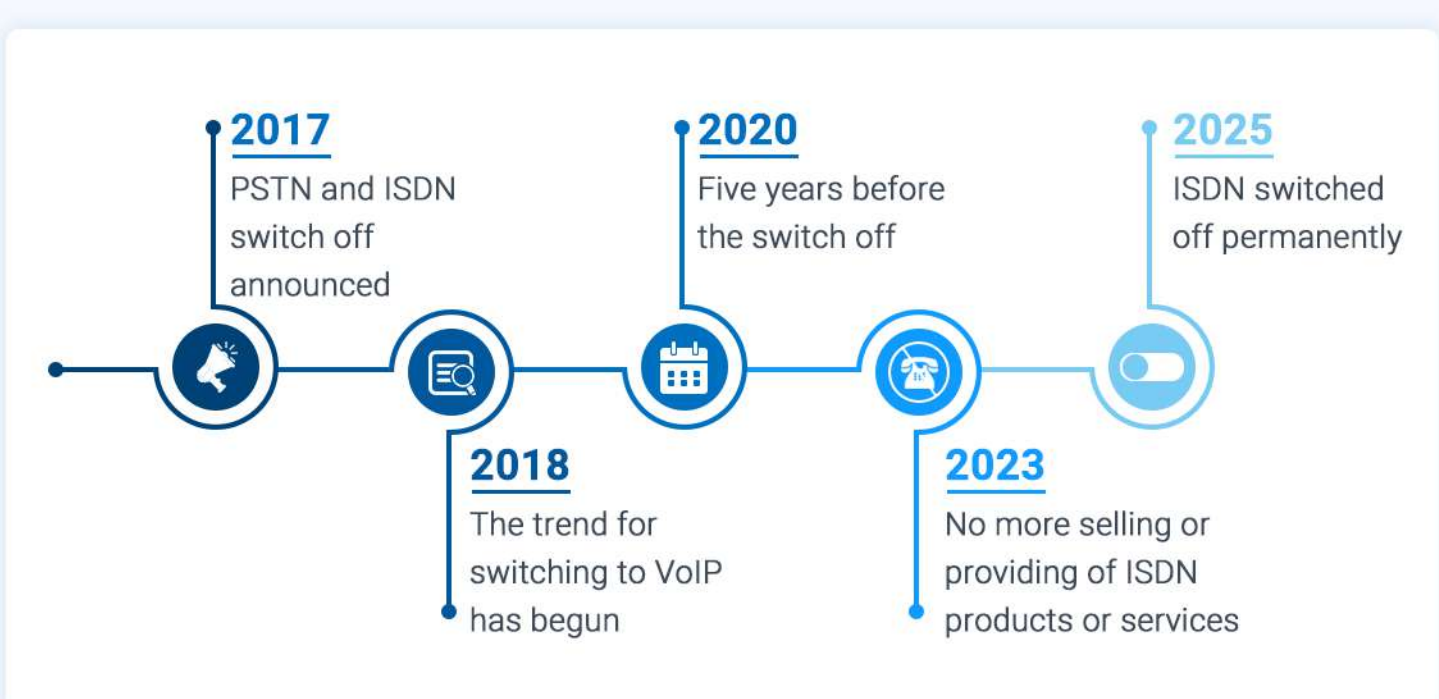
Lack of flexibility and scalability

Lack of up-to-date features and functionalities

WHY?

Fail to meet business' ever-increasing demands

High maintenance cost

3. ISDN Switch Off - Timeline (Take UK for example)

2017
PSTN and ISDN switch off announced

2020
Five years before the switch off

2025
ISDN switched off permanently

2018
The trend for switching to VoIP has begun

2023
No more selling or providing of ISDN products or services

4. An Ideal Alternative - VoIP

VoIP is a comparatively new technology which uses the internet instead of physical landline to route calls, freeing your devices from being connected with physical lines and realizing robust unified communications features in a simple and effective way. With VoIP, copper lines and line rental would be redundant and all you need to have is an active and stable internet connection.

	ISDN	VOIP
Future proof	Will end its life before the year 2025.	The very latest technology in the market.
Cost & Savings	High line rental fees and call rate.	Low monthly rental fees inclusive of call bundles.
Flexibility	Complicated procedure and professional team needed.	Scaling up or altering the phone system set up could be done easily.
Phone System features	Only supports key phone system features but come with extra cost.	Supports business enhancing features to meet the business needs.

5. How to Prepare for the Change?

Option 1
Take a phased transition to VoIP

If you are using the traditional PBX with a limited budget on a complete replacement of the existing devices, you can take a phased transition by combining the traditional analog or ISDN PBX and analog devices with SIP service providers.

Option 2
Take a one-time switch to VoIP

If your traditional PBX is too old to continue serving you, or you are the one who goes with the tide of the time, then you should turn to fully VoIP enabled services like on-premises VoIP PBX or hosted PBX solutions that require no hardware devices.