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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

OF

**Tandem Telephone, Inc.**

For Circuit-Switched (T)  
and VoIP Traffic

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations and rates applicable to the furnishing of competitive interstate switched exchange access service provided by Tandem Telephone, Inc. (“the Company”). This service offered may be provided pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251(b)(5), 251(g) or other applicable provisions of federal and state law. This tariff is on file with the Federal Communications Commission. Copies may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company’s principal place of business at 350 W. Franklin, Hartwell, Georgia 30643. (T) (T)

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Issued: April 20, 2012

By: Thomas H. Hadden, President  
350 W. Franklin  
Hartwell, GA 30643

Effective: May 5, 2012

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**CHECK SHEET**

Sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

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\* Indicates pages included in this filing. "Original" pages with a \* are new pages.

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

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**ISSUING CARRIER**

Tandem Telephone, Inc.

**OTHER CARRIERS**

NONE

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**CONNECTING CARRIERS**

NONE

**OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS**

NONE

INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION 1- DEFINITIONS

Certain terms used generally throughout this tariff for the Access Services of this Company are defined below.

Circuit-Switched: "Circuit-Switched" traffic is traffic that originates from a calling party using non-VoIP customer premises equipment and terminates to a called party using non-VoIP customer premises equipment. All traffic is either Circuit-Switched traffic or VoIP traffic. This tariff applies to both Circuit-Switched traffic and VoIP traffic.

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CCS/SS7 - Common Channel Switching/Signaling System 7; a switching network and transmission control standard.

Commission – the Federal Communications Commission.

Company – Tandem Telephone, Inc., issuer of this tariff.

Constructive Order: Use of the Company's service by a party who fails to expressly order service is a constructive order when that party could reasonably expect that the call would be traversing the Company's network or when the party is billing its own customer for the call and the Company's network contributes to the call being completed.

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Customer - The person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity that expressly or constructively orders or uses Service or is otherwise, under the terms and conditions of this tariff, responsible for the payment of charges.

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Customer Premises - The premises specified by the Customer for termination of access services. Typically, an Interexchange Carrier's Point of Presence.

DS1 - Digital Signal Level 1; a dedicated, high capacity, full duplex channel with a line speed of 1.544 Mbps isochronous serial data having a line signal format of either Alternate Mark Inversion (AMI) or Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) and either Superframe (D4) or Extended Superframe (ESF) formats. DS1 Service has the equivalent capacity of 24 Voice Grade or DS0 services.

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**SECTION 1- DEFINITIONS (Cont'd.)**

End User - Any individual, association, corporation, governmental agency, or any other entity that uses telephone exchange or exchange access services of the Company or other Carrier and is not itself a Carrier, except that a Carrier shall be deemed to be an "end user" when it uses a service for administrative purposes (i.e., calls from or to the Carrier's own employees). In many contexts, the End User is the customer of an Interexchange Carrier (IC) who in turn utilizes the Company's Access services described in this tariff to provide the End User with access to the IC's communication and switching systems. Where the Company is providing local switching, both the End User and the IC will typically be Customers of the Company. Where the Company is not providing local switching, and is instead providing only tandem transport or another access function, the End User will typically be a Customer of the Carrier that is providing local switching, while the IC will still be a Customer of the Company.

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End User Premises - The premises specified by the Customer or End User for termination of access services at the End User's physical location. If the End User has a Private Branch Exchange or similar equipment ("PBX") serving multiple stations in different locations, the location of the End User's PBX shall be considered the End User Premises.

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Feature Group D - a trunk-side switched access connection to the public switched network.

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Gbps - Gigabits per second; billions of bits per second.

ICB - Individual Case Basis; standard tariff pricing is not available. Each installation is individually priced and negotiated with the customer.

LATA - Local Access and Transport Area. A geographic area established by the US District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 17-49, within which a Local Exchange Company provides communications services.

LEC - Local Exchange Company

Mbps - Megabits per second; millions of bits per second.

STP - Signal Transfer Point; a specialized packet switch that routes and translates signaling messages in the CCS network.

VoIP: VoIP traffic is traffic that originates from a calling party using Voice-Over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) customer premises equipment and/or terminates to a called party using VoIP customer premises equipment. All traffic is either Circuit-Switched traffic or VoIP traffic. This tariff applies to both Circuit-Switched traffic and VoIP traffic.

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

**SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company**

**2.1.1 Scope**

The Company's services offered pursuant to this Tariff are furnished for Switched Access Service for the origination and termination of interstate circuit-switched and VoIP long-distance traffic to, from, or through the Company or its subsidiaries and affiliates. Without excluding any other applicable legal authority, this tariff is filed pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 203, 251(b)(5) and 251(g). The Company may offer these services over its own or resold facilities. Meet point billing applies when the Company provides part of the necessary facilities making up Switched Access Service and other providers provide the remainder of the facilities.

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The Company installs, operates, and maintains the communications services provided herein in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth under this Tariff. The Company may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities as required in the Commission's rules and orders, when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to the Company's network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service agreement.

The Company is responsible under this tariff only for the services and facilities provided hereunder, and it assumes no responsibility for any service provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company's network in order to originate or terminate its own services, or to communicate with its own customers.

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The Company's services and facilities are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise indicated, and are available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

**2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities**

- A. The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company when necessary because of lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- B. The furnishing of service under this tariff is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the company may obtain from other Carriers from time to time, to furnish service as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities (Cont'd.)

C. The provisioning and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

**SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 **Terms and Conditions**

- A. Except as otherwise provided herein, service is provided and billed on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, and shall continue to be provided until canceled by the Customer, in writing, on not less than 30 days notice. Unless otherwise specified herein, for the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. Customers seeking to cancel service must first make lawful arrangements with their customers to either route calls in some way that does not require use of Company's network or discontinue service dependent on routing calls over the Company's network. Thus Customers seeking to cancel service must cease routing calls over the Company's network. By originating traffic from or terminating to the Company's network, Customer will have constructively ordered the Company's switched access service.
- C. The Customer agrees to operate Company-provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void Company liability for interruption of service and may make the Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to section 2.1.3 .D below.
- D. The Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

**SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

2.3 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)

2.3.2 **Claims**

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees for:

- A. any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to employees or invitees of either the Company or the Customer, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invitees;
- B. any claim, loss, damage, expense or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, without limitation, use of the Company's services and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between the Customer and the Company.

2.3.3 **Jurisdictional Reporting**

The jurisdictional reporting requirements will be as specified below. When a Customer orders Access Service, its projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) must be provided in whole numbers to the Company. These whole-number percentages will be used by the Company to apportion the use and/or charges between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received as set forth herein. Reported or default PIU factors are used only where the call detail is insufficient to determine the appropriate jurisdiction of the traffic.

- A. Originating Access: Originating access minutes are traffic originating from the Company Local Switching Center(s). The Customer should provide the Company with a projected PIU factor on a quarterly basis.

If no PIU for originating minutes is submitted as specified herein, then the projected PIU will be set on a default basis of 100% interstate traffic for traffic on which the Company does not perform local switching and 50% interstate traffic and 50% intrastate traffic for traffic on which the Company does perform local switching.

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## INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

### SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd.)

#### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

##### 2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting. (Cont'd.)

- B. Terminating Access: For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the Customer should provide the Company with a projected PIU factor by supplying the Company with an interstate percentage of terminating access minutes on a quarterly basis, as described in Section 2.3.3.D below.

If no projected PIU factor is submitted by the Customer, then the projected PIU will be set on a default basis of 100% interstate traffic for traffic on which the Company does not perform local switching and 50% interstate traffic and 50% intrastate traffic on which the Company does perform local switching.

- C. Except where the Company-measured access minutes are used as set forth above, the Customer-reported Projected PIU factor as set forth above will be used until the Customer reports a different projected PIU factor, as set forth below.
- D. Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer should update its interstate and intrastate jurisdictional report. The Customer should forward to the Company, to be received no later than 15 days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate and intrastate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June, and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate use, based solely on the traffic originating from or terminating to the Company Local Switching Center. The revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months' billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. If the Customer does not supply the reports for those services where reports are needed, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as that provided previously. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the Customer, the Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in 2.3.3A and 2.3.3B above.
- E. Jurisdictional Reports Verification: For Switched Access Service, if a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected PIU factor, the Customer will provide the data used to determine the projected PIU factor. The Customer will supply the data within 30 days of the Company request.

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

**SECTION 2- RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd.)**

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting. (Cont'd.)

The Customer shall keep records of call detail from which the percentage of interstate and intrastate use can be ascertained and, upon request of the Company, shall make the records available for inspection as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages. The Company reserves the right to conduct an audit at any time during the year. The Customer, at its own expense, has the right to retain an independent auditing firm.

The Company may require that jurisdictional reports submitted by the Customer break the interstate and intrastate percentages down further into Circuit-Switched traffic components and VoIP traffic components. (N)  
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**2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels**

2.4.1 **General**

A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company.

2.4.2 **Station Equipment**

A. The Customer is responsible for providing and maintaining any terminal equipment on the Customer Premises. The electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by, and maintained at the expense of, the Customer. All such terminal equipment must be registered with the FCC under 47 C.F.R., Part 68 and all wiring must be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations. The Company will, where practicable, notify the Customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, nothing contained herein shall be deemed to impair the Company's right to discontinue forthwith the use of a service temporarily if such action is reasonable under the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the Customer will be promptly notified and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition, which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in Section 2.6 following is not applicable.

## INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

### SECTION 4- SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

#### 4.1 General

Switched Access Service involves the use of common terminating, switching and transport facilities. Switched Access Service provides the ability to originate or terminate calls between an End User's Premises and a Customer's Premises. Rates and charges are set forth in Section 5. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in Section 5.

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With respect to any given call, the Company may furnish all or part of the transmission and switching services needed to connect the End User Premises to the Customer's Premises. Meet point billing applies when the Company provides only a portion of those transmission switching and services. In accordance with meet point billing the Company will charge only for the specific access services that it provides or obtains the use of. The Company may furnish services using facilities it owns, leases or otherwise obtains the use of. Other providers may charge the Customer for other portions of the necessary transmission and switching services, and it shall be Customer's responsibility to pay such other provider(s) and reimburse the Company if the Company is required to pay those other providers.

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This tariff applies equally to Circuit-Switched and VoIP Traffic, and the charges for the two are the same unless a specific rate described in this tariff expressly distinguishes between those two traffic types.

The End User Premises may be a conference bridge, in which case the conference call shall be treated as separate calls between each calling party and the conference bridge.

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#### 4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements

##### 4.2.1 Feature Group Access

FG Access is provisioned at the DS-1 level and provides trunk-side access to Local Switching Center switches, for the Customer's use in originating and terminating communications. Basic FG Access service will be provided with Multi-Frequency In Band Signaling (SS7 is also available, where capabilities exist).

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**4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements**

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**4.2.1 Feature Group Access (Con'td.)**

All traffic is routed to and from the Company's local switching center via the Customer's tandem provider or via end office trucking, where available. Delivery of calls to, or acceptance of calls from, the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services shall constitute an agreement by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. The Company reserves the right to require the Customer to submit an ASR for switched access.

**4.2.2 Manner of Provision**

Trunks used for Switched Access Service may be configured for one-way (either originating only or terminating only) or for two-way directionality.

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

**SECTION 5- SWITCHED ACCESS RATES**

**5.1 General**

This section contains the specific regulations governing the rates and charges that apply for Switched Access Services:

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service:

- Non-Recurring Charges: One-time charges that apply for a specific work activity.
- Recurring Charges: Fixed charges apply each month and depend on the number and type of facilities in place.
- Usage Charges: Charges that are applied on a per access minute basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

**5.2 Rate Categories**

There are several rate categories that apply to Switched Access Service:

- Local Transport and Tandem Switching
- End Office
- Chargeable Optional Features

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INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION 5-SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

**5.4 Rates and Charges where the End User Premises of the calling End User (in the case of originating access) or the called End User (in the case of terminating access) is within Service Area of Hart Telephone Company:** In this situation, the Company's switched access rates are intended to mirror the current interstate switched access rates of the competing Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC), Hart Telephone Company. (T)

**5.4.1 End Office**

**5.4.1.1 Local Switching**

Per access minute \$0.044902

**5.4.1.2 Information Surcharge**

Per 100 access minutes \$0.0494

**5.4.2 Local Transport and Tandem Switching** (T)

Tandem switched facility  
(per access minute per mile) \$0.000188

Tandem switched termination  
(per access minute per termination) \$0.000979

Tandem Switching  
(Per access minute per tandem) \$0.002468

**5.4.3 Chargeable Optional Features**

**5.4.3.1 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query**

Per Query \$0.0053

**5.4.3.2 Paper/Electronic Media Fee**

Customers who elect to receive a paper or CD-ROM version of an invoice will incur a surcharge of \$15.00 per bill.

INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION 5-SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

**5.5 Rates and Charges where the End User Premises of the calling End User (in the case of originating access) or the called End User (in the case of terminating access) is not within the Service Area of Hart Telephone Company:** Pursuant to the FCC's Eighth Report and Order, 19 FCC.Rcd. 9108 ¶ 48 (2004) the following rates are intended to be equal or lower than the nationwide average large ILEC rate, except for the Chargeable Optional Features, as the Company's service area for this product is nationwide.

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**5.5.1 End Office**

**5.5.1.1 Local Switching**

Per access minute \$0.003196

**5.5.1.2 Information Surcharge**

Per 100 access minutes \$0.0200

**5.5.2 Local Transport and Tandem Switching**

Tandem switched facility  
(per access minute per mile) \$0.000078

Tandem switched termination  
(per access minute per termination) \$0.000367

Tandem Switching  
(Per access minute per tandem) \$0.001628

**5.5.3 Chargeable Optional Features**

**5.5.3.1 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query**

Per Query \$0.0090

**5.5.3.2 Paper/Electronic Media Fee**

Customers that elect to receive a paper or CD-ROM version of an invoice will incur a surcharge of \$25.00 per bill.

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**SECTION 5-SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)**

**5.6 Miscellaneous Charges (T)**

Customer Requested Expedite <sup>2</sup>	\$250, per location, per order
Cancellation (more than 3 business days from order placement) <sup>1</sup>	Full NRCs + \$250, per order
Design Change, DS0/DS1	\$150, per circuit
Design Change, DS3 and higher	\$300, per circuit
Administrative Processing	\$25, per order

**5.7 Switched Access Optional Features (T)**

All Optional Features are offered on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

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<sup>1</sup> For services involving facilities leased from other telecommunications providers, Supplementary Charges will be priced on an Individual Case Basis, and will be based upon a pass-through of all charges assessed by other providers, plus the Company's administrative costs.

INTERSTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION 6-END USER ACCESS, (Cont'd.)

6.7 End User Common Line Charge (Subscriber Line Charge)

	Maximum Rate per Line
Primary Residential Line	\$6.50
Additional Residential Line	\$6.50
Single Line Business	\$6.50
Multiline Business	\$9.20
Primary Rate ISDN	\$46.00

6.8 End Users Access Charges

In addition to any other charges payable by the End User under the Company's local service tariff on file with the Georgia PSC, its intrastate access tariff(s) on file with state Public Utility Commission(s), and/or any contract between the Company and the End User, the End User shall be liable to the Company in the amount of any access charges that the Company cannot collect from (or must refund to) the Interexchange Carrier (IC) due to unlawful, fraudulent, or grossly negligent conduct of the End User.

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