

ACCESS SERVICE**CHECK SHEET**

The title page and pages 1 through 10-6 inclusive of this Tariff are effective as of the dates shown. Original and revised pages, as named below, comprise all changes from the original Tariff in effect on the date indicated.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>
1	3rd*	2-19	Original	4-15	Original
2	Original	2-20	Original	4-16	Original
3	1st*	2-21	Original	4-17	Original
4	1st*	2-22	Original	4-18	Original
5	2nd*	2-23	Original	4-19	Original
6	Original	2-24	Original	4-20	Original
7	Original	2-25	Original	5-1	Original
8	1st*	2-26	Original	6-1	Original
1-1	Original	2-27	Original	6-2	Original
1-2	Original	3-1	1st*	7-1	2nd*
1-3	Original	3-2	1st*	7-2	Original*
1-4	1st*	3-3	1st*	7-3	Original*
1-5	1st*	3-4	1st*	7-4	Original*
2-1	Original	3-5	1st*	7-5	Original*
2-2	Original	3-6	1st*	8-1	Original
2-3	Original	3-7	1st*	9-1	Original
2-4	Original	3-8	1st*	10-1	Original
2-5	Original	4-1	Original	10-2	1st
2-6	Original	4-2	Original	10-3	Original
2-7	Original	4-3	Original	10-4	1st
2-8	Original	4-4	Original	10-5	1st
2-9	Original	4-5	Original	10-6	1st*
2-10	Original	4-6	Original		
2-11	Original	4-7	Original		
2-12	Original	4-8	Original		
2-13	Original	4-9	Original		
2-14	Original	4-10	1st		
2-15	Original	4-11	Original		
2-16	Original	4-12	Original		
2-17	Original	4-13	1st		
2-18	Original	4-14	Original		

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Chief Financial Officer
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TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont'd)

2.4	Customer Equipment and Channels	2-14	
2.4.1	In General	2-14	
2.4.2	Interconnection of Facilities	2-14	
2.5	Payment Arrangements	2-14	
2.5.1	Payment for Service.....	2-14	
2.5.2	Billing and Collection of Charges	2-14	
2.5.3	Deposits	2-18	
2.5.4	Refusal and Discontinuance of Service	2-19	
2.5.5	Cancellation of Application for Service	2-23	
2.5.6	Late Payment Charge.....	2-23	
2.5.7	Returned Check Charge.....	2-24	
2.6	Allowances for Interruptions in Service	2-24	
2.6.1	Credit for Interruptions	2-24	
2.6.2	Limitations on Allowances	2-25	
2.6.3	Cancellation for Service Interruption	2-26	
2.7	Cancellation of Service	2-26	
2.8	Transfers and Assignments	2-26	
2.9	Notices and Communications	2-27	
3.	<u>ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE</u>	3-1	(C)
3.1	General.....	3-1	
3.1.1	Ordering Conditions	3-1	
3.1.2	Provision of Other Services.....	3-2	
3.1.3	Constructive Ordering of Switched Access Services	3-2	
3.2	Access Order.....	3-3	
3.2.1	Access Service Date Intervals	3-3	
3.2.2	Access Service Request Modifications.....	3-4	
3.2.3	Cancellation of an Access Service Request.....	3-7	
3.2.4	Minimum Period of Service.....	3-8	

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont'd)

4.	<u>SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE</u>	4-1
4.1	General	4-1
4.2	Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements	4-1
4.2.1	Feature Group D (FGD) Access	4-1
4.2.2	Manner of Revision	4-2
4.2.3	Rate Categories	4-2
4.2.4	Descriptions & Application of Rate	4-14
4.2.5	Billing Validation Service	4-15
4.2.6	Acceptance Testing	4-16
4.2.7	Ordering Options and Conditions	4-16
4.3	Obligations of the Company	4-16
4.3.1	Network Management	4-16
4.4	Switched Access Optional Features	4-17
4.4.1	Nonchargeable Optional Features	4-17
4.4.2	Feature Group D Optional Features	4-18
5.	<u>SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION</u>	5-1
5.1	Special Construction	5-1
5.1.1	Basis for Rates and Charges	5-1
5.1.2	Termination Liability	5-1
5.2	Individual Case Basis Arrangement	5-1
6.	<u>BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	6-1
6.1	Undertaking of the Company	6-1
6.2	Obligations of the Customer	6-1
6.3	Usage Rates	6-2
7.	<u>SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICES</u>	7-1
7.1	General	7-1

(N)

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont'd)

7.	<u>SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICES (Cont'd)</u>	7-1	(N)
7.2	Rate Regulations	7-1	
7.2.1	Rate Categories	7-1	
7.2.2	Types of Rates and Charges	7-3	
7.2.3	Moves	7-4	
7.2.4	Mileage Measurement	7-5	(N)
8.	<u>RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE</u>	8-1	(M)
9.	<u>RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE</u>	9-1	(M)
10.	<u>RATES AND CHARGES</u>	10-1	
10.1	<u>Service Orders</u>	10-1	
10.1.1	Access Order Charge	10-1	
10.1.2	Service Date Change	10-1	
10.1.3	Design Change	10-1	
10.1.4	Miscellaneous Service Order Charge	10-1	
10.1.5	Expedited Order Charge	10-1	
10.1.6	Cancellation Charge	10-1	
10.2	<u>Miscellaneous Services</u>	10-2	
10.2.1	Presubscription	10-2	
10.2.2	Unauthorized PIC Change	10-2	
10.3	<u>Billing Name and Address</u>	10-2	
10.4	<u>Switched Access</u>	10-3	
10.4.1	Local Transport	10-3	
10.4.2	End Office	10-5	
10.4.3	Information Surcharge	10-5	
10.4.4	8YY Database Access Service	10-5	
10.4.5	Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge (PICC)	10-5	
10.5	<u>Special Access</u>	10-6	
10.5.1	High Capacity Service	10-6	(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of interstate access service and miscellaneous services related to the provision of switched and special access services by Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc. (hereinafter "the Company"). (C)

ACCESS SERVICE

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

Out of Band Signaling: An exchange access signaling feature which allows customers to exchange call control and signaling information over a communications path which is separate from the message path.

Point of Presence: Location where the Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's network.

Point to Point Service: An unswitched full time transmission service utilizing the Company's facilities to connect two or more Customer designated locations.

Premises: The space occupied by a Customer or Authorized User in a building or buildings or on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

Presubscription: An arrangement whereby an end user may select and designate to the Company an Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Carriers it wishes to access, without an Access Code, for completing interLATA and intraLATA calls. The selected IXC(s) are referred to as the end user's Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC). The end user may select any IXC that orders FGD Switched Access Service at the Local Switching Center that serves the end user.

Recurring Charges: The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Service Commencement Date: For Switched and Special Access Services, the first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance of service. The parties may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date. If the Company does not have an executed service Order from a Customer, the Service Commencement Date will be the first date on which the service or facility was used by the Customer. (C)

Service Order: The written request for network services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format devised by the Company; or, in the alternative, the submission of an Access Service Request by the Customer in the manner specified in this tariff. The signing of a Service Order to submission of an ASR by the Customer and acceptance thereof by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this tariff, but the duration of the service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date.

Service(s): The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered by the Company.

Shared Facilities: A facility or equipment system or subsystem which can be used simultaneously by several customers.

ACCESS SERVICE

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

Signaling Point of Interface: The customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer.

Signaling System 7 (SS7): The common Channel Out of Band Signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Signaling Transfer Point Access: Allows the Customer to access a specialized switch which provides SS7 network access and performs SS7 messaging routing and screening.

Special Access Service: Dedicated access between a Customer's premises and another Point of Presence for the purpose of originating or terminating communications.

(C)

Switched Access Service: Access to the switched network of an Exchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications. Switched Access is available to carriers, as defined in this tariff.

Trunk: A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

ACCESS SERVICE**3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE** (C)

3.1 General: This section sets forth the regulations and order related charges for Access Service Requests (ASR) for Switched and Special Access Service, as defined in this tariff. These charges are in addition to other applicable charges set forth in other sections of this tariff. (C)

3.1.1 Ordering Conditions: All services offered under this tariff will be ordered using an ASR. The format and terms of the ASR will be as specified in the industry Access Service Order Guidelines, unless otherwise specified herein. A Customer may order any number of services of the same type and between the same premises on a single ASR. All details for services for a particular order must be identical.

The Customer shall provide all information necessary for the Company to provide and bill for the requested service. When placing an order for Access Service, the Customer shall provide the following minimum information:

- (A) Customer name and Premise(s) address;
- (B) Billing name and address (when different from Customer name and address); and
- (C) Customer contact name(s) and telephone number(s) for the following provisioning activities: order negotiation, order confirmation, interactive design, installation and billing.

The order date (Application Date) is the date on which the Company receives a firm commitment and sufficient information from the Customer to allow processing of the ASR. The Customer is advised of the critical events in the provisioning process, the Application Date, the Plant Test Date and the Service Commencement Date, at the time the Company gives the Customer a Firm Order Confirmation (FOC).

ACCESS SERVICE

3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)

(C)

3.1 General (Cont'd)

- 3.1.2 Provision of Other Services: Unless otherwise specified herein, all services offered under this tariff shall be ordered with an ASR.

With the agreement of the Company, other services may subsequently be added to the ASR at any time, up to and including the service date for the Access Service. When added subsequently, charges for a Design Change as set forth in Section 10.1 will apply when an engineering review is required.

Additional Engineering is not an ordering option, but will be applied to an ASR when the Company determines that Additional Engineering is necessary to accommodate a Customer request. Additional Engineering will be provided by the Company at the request of the Customer only when a Customer requests additional technical information after the Company has already provided the technical information included on the Design Layout Report as set forth herein. The Customer will be notified when Additional Engineering is required, and will be furnished with a written statement setting forth the justification for the Additional Engineering as well as an estimate of the charges. If the Customer agrees to the Additional Engineer, a firm order will be established. If the Customer does not want the service or facilities after being notified by the Company that Additional Engineering is required, the Customer may cancel the order and no charges will apply. Once a firm order has been established, the total charge to the Customer for the Additional Engineer may not exceed the original estimated amount by more than ten (10) percent.

3.1.3 Constructive Ordering of Switched Access Services

Notwithstanding Section 3.1.1 above, in the event the Company terminates Switched Access minutes for an interexchange carrier that has not submitted an ASR to the Company, the interexchange carrier will be held to have constructively ordered Switched Access Service from the Company for the terminating access minutes. The terminating access minutes shall be subject to charges for Switched Access described in Section 4 of this tariff and the other applicable terms and conditions of this tariff.

ACCESS SERVICE**3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)** (C)**3.2 Access Order**

An ASR is required by the Company to provide a Customer Access Service, as described herein. (C)
An ASR will be required for each new similar service arrangement or group of common circuits.

When a Customer requests new or additional Access Service, one or more ASR's may be (C)
required. The number of orders required is dependent on the type of services and/or facilities
being requested.

3.2.1 Access Service Date Intervals

The Company will provide a FOC and the Service Commencement Date contingent on
the ASR being complete as received. To the extent the Access Service can be made
available with reasonable effort, the Company will provide the Access Service in
accordance with the Customer's requested interval subject to the following conditions.

- (A) Customer Requested Interval: If none of the conditions described in Section
3.2.1(B) below apply, the Service Date interval shall be based on provision of
access service by the Customer's requested Service Date.
- (B) Negotiated Interval: The Company will negotiate a Service Date interval with
the Customer when one of the following conditions exists. In such cases, the
Company will offer a Service Date based on the type and quantity of Access
Service the Customer has requested.
 - (1) There is no existing facility connecting the Customer premises with the
Company; or
 - (2) The Customer requests a service that is not considered by the Company
to be a standard service offering (for example, if Additional
Engineering is required to complete the order); or
 - (3) The Customer requests a service that requires provision of facilities by
a connecting local exchange carrier in addition to facilities provided by
the Company and the connecting local exchange carrier is unable to
place connecting facilities in service by Customer's requested Service
Date.
 - (4) The Company determines that Access Service cannot be installed
within the time frame requested by the Customer.
 - (5) All services for which rates are applied on an Individual case Basis are
provided with a Negotiated Interval.

ACCESS SERVICE**3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)**

(C)

3.2 Access Order (Cont'd)**3.2.2 Access Service Request Modifications**

The Customer may request a modification of its ASR prior to the Service Commencement Date. All modifications must be in writing using the industry ASR process. The Company, in its sole discretion, may accept a verbal modification from the Customer. The Company will make every effort to accommodate a request modification when it is able to do so with the normal work force assigned to complete such an order within normal business hours. Charges for access Service Order modification will apply as set forth below, on a per occurrence basis.

- (A) Service Commencement Date Charges: ASR service dates for the installation of new services or rearrangement of existing services may be changed, but the new service date may not exceed the original Service Commencement Date by more than 30 calendar days. When, for any reason, the Customer indicates that service cannot be accepted for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days, and the Company accordingly delays the start of service, a Service Date Change Charge will apply. In addition, when the Customer submits a request for a Service Date Change that is less than five (5) business days from the date of notification by the Customer, a Service Date Change Charge and an Expedited Order Charge will apply. No Expedited Order Charge will apply if the Customer requests a Service Date Change that is more than five (5) business days from the date of request by the Customer but earlier than the original requested Service Commencement Date.

If the Customer requested service date is more than 30 calendar days after the original service date, the order will be canceled by the Company on the 31st day. Appropriate cancellation charges will be applied. If the Customer still requires the service, the Customer must place a new ASR with the Company.

The Service Date Change Charge will apply on a per order, per occurrence basis for each service date change. The applicable charges are set forth in Section 10.1.

ACCESS SERVICE

3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)

(C)

3.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

3.2.2 Access Service Request Modifications (Cont'd)

- (B) Design Change Charge: The Customer may request a Design Change to the Service Ordered. A Design Change is any change to an ASR which requires an Engineering Review. An Engineering Review is a review by Company personnel of the Service Ordered and the requested changes to determine what change(s) in the design, if any, are necessary to meet the Customer's request. Design Changes include such changes as the addition or deletion of optional features or functions, a change in the type of Transport Termination (Switched Access only) or type of Channel interface. Any other changes are not considered Design Changes for the purpose of this subsection and will require issuance of a new ASR and the cancellation of the original ASR, the appropriate cancellation charges will apply.

The Design Change Charge will apply on a per order, per occurrence basis, for each order requiring a Design Change. The applicable charges, as set forth in Section 10.1 are in addition to any service Date Change Charges that may apply.

ACCESS SERVICE

3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)

(C)

3.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

3.2.2 Access Service Request Modifications (Cont'd)

(C) Expedited Order Charge: When placing an Access Order for service(s) for which a Standard Interval exists, a Customer may request a Service Commencement Date that is earlier than the Standard Interval Service Date, in which case an Expedited Order Charge will apply. The Expedited Order Charge will not apply if the new Service Commencement Date is more than five (5) days from the date of the request to the Company of the expedited order request. The request for an earlier service date may be received from the Customer prior to its issuance of an ASR, or after the ASR has been issued but prior to the service date. The Company has the exclusive right to accept or deny the Expedited Order Charge request. However, if, upon reviewing availability of equipment and scheduled work load, the Company agrees to provide service on an expedited basis and the Customer accepts the Company's proposal, an Expedited Order Charge will apply.

If the Company is subsequently unable to meet an agreed upon expedited service date, then the Expedited Order Charge will not apply.

In the event the Company provides service on an expedited basis at the Customer's request, and the Customer delays service or is not ready for delivery of service at the time of installation, a Service Date Change Charge will apply in addition to the Expedited Order Charge.

In the event that the Customer cancels an expedite request, the Expedited Order Charge will be added to any applicable Cancellation Charge specified herein.

In the event that the Customer requests a Service Date Change after the Company has received the original expedite request, the Expedited Order Charge will still apply.

An Expedited Order Charge will not be applied to orders expedited for Company reasons.

If costs other than additional administrative expenses are to be incurred when the Access Order is expedited, the regulations and charges for Special Construction as set forth in this tariff will apply.

The Expedited Order Charge will apply on a per order, per occurrence basis, as specified in Section 10.1.

ACCESS SERVICE

3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd) (C)

3.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

3.2.3 Cancellation of an Access Service Request

A Customer may cancel an ASR for the installation of Access Service at any time prior to notification by the Company that service is available for the Customer's use. The cancellation date is the date the Company receives written or verbal notice from the Customer that the order is to be canceled. The verbal notice must be followed by written confirmation within ten (10) days. A Customer may negotiate an extension of a service date of an ASR for installation of new service or rearrangement of existing service, in which case a Service Date Change Charge will apply. However, the new service date cannot exceed the originally established service date by more than 30 calendar days. On the 31st day beyond the original service date, the ASR will be canceled and the appropriate Cancellation Charge will be applied. (C)

Except as provided below, Cancellation Charges will apply as specified in Section 10.1. (C)

If the cancellation occurs prior to the Company's receiving the ASR, no charges shall apply.

If the Company misses a service date for a Standard or Negotiated Interval Access Order by more than 30 days due to circumstances such as acts of God, governmental requirements, work stoppages and civil commotion, the Company shall not be liable for such delay and the Customer may cancel the ASR without incurring cancellation charges.

ACCESS SERVICE**3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)** (C)**3.2 Access Order (Cont'd)****3.2.4 Minimum Period of Service**

The minimum period for which Access Service is provided and for which charges are applicable is one month.

- (A) The following changes will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and a request for installation of a new service. All associated Non-Recurring Charges will apply for the new service, and a new minimum period will be established:

- (1) A change in the identity of the Customer of record;
- (2) A move by the Customer to a different building;
- (3) A change in type of service;
- (4) A change in Access Service Interface (i.e. DS-1 or DS-3); (C)
- (5) A change in Access Service Traffic Type. (C)

- (B) When Access Service is disconnected prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the balance of the minimum period. The Minimum Period Charge for monthly billed services will be determined as follows:

For Access Service, the charge for a month or fraction thereof is the applicable minimum monthly charge for the capacity made available to the Customer. (C)

All applicable Non-Recurring Charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.

When Access Service is disconnected prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the balance of the minimum period. The Minimum Period Charge for monthly billed services will be determined as follows:

For Access Service, the charge for a month or fraction thereof is the applicable minimum monthly charge for the capacity made available to the Customer. (C)

All applicable Non-Recurring Charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.

ACCESS SERVICE**7. SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICE****7.1 General**

(N)

Special Access Service provides a transmission path to connect customer designated premises, directly, or through a Telephone Company hub where multiplexing functions are performed, or to connect a customer designated premises to a Public Packet Data Network Service. Special Access Service includes all exchange access not utilizing Telephone Company end office switches.

(C)

(C)

The connections provided by Special Access Service are digital. Analog connections are differentiated by spectrum and bandwidth. Digital connections are differentiated by bit rate.

7.2 Rate Regulations

(N)

7.2.1 Rate Categories

There are three basic rate categories which apply to Special Access Service:

- Channel Terminations (described in 7.2.1(A) following)
- Channel Mileage (described in 7.2.1(B) following)
- Optional Features and Functions (described in 7.2.1(C) following).

(A) Channel Termination

The Channel Termination rate category is associated with the communications path between a customer designated premises and the serving wire center of that premises. Included as part of the Channel Termination is a standard channel interface arrangement which defines the technical characteristics associated with the type of facilities to which the access service is to be connected at the Point of Termination (POT) and the type of signaling capability, if any. One Channel Termination charge applies per customer designated premises at which the channel is terminated. This charge will apply even if the customer designated premises and the serving wire center are collocated in a Telephone Company building, except as provided for below.

(B) Channel Mileage

The Channel Mileage rate category is associated with the end office equipment and the transmission facilities between the serving wire centers associated with two customer designated premises, between a serving wire center associated with a customer designated premises and a Telephone Company hub or between two Telephone Company hubs, between a serving wire center associated with a customer designated premises and a wire center equipped for Add/Drop Multiplexing (ADM) or between two ADM equipped wire centers. Channel Mileage rates are made up of the Channel Mileage Facility rate and the Channel Mileage Termination rate.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE**7. SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICE**

(N)

7.2 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)**7.2.1 Rate Categories (Cont'd)****(B) Channel Mileage (Cont'd)****(1) Channel Mileage Facility**

The Channel Mileage Facility rate is associated with the per mile elements for the transmission path which extends between the Telephone Company serving wire centers and/or hub(s), between the Telephone Company serving wire center and another wire center equipped with a Public Packet Data Network Service, between Telephone Company serving wire center equipped with ATM-CRS and another telephone company ATM-equipped serving wire center.

(2) Channel Mileage Termination

The Channel Mileage Termination rate is associated with terminating the facility (i.e., basic circuit equipment and terminations at serving wire centers and hubs). The Channel Mileage Termination rate will apply at the serving wire center(s) for each customer designated premises and Telephone Company hub where the channel is terminated. If the Channel Mileage is between Telephone Company hubs, the Channel Mileage Termination rate will apply per Telephone Company designated hub.

(C) Optional Features and Functions

The Optional Features and Functions rate category recovers the costs associated with optional features and functions which may be added to a Special Access Service to improve its quality or utility to meet specific communications requirements. These are not necessarily identifiable with specific equipment, but rather represent the end result in terms of performance characteristics which may be obtained. These characteristics may be obtained by using various combinations of equipment. Although the equipment necessary to perform a specified function may be installed at various locations along the path of the service, they will be charged for as a single rate element.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE**7. SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICE**

(N)

7.2 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)**7.2.2 Types of Rates and Charges**

There are two types of rates and charges. These are monthly rates and nonrecurring charges. The rates and charges are described as follows:

(A) Monthly Rates

Monthly rates are recurring rates that apply each month or fraction thereof that a Special Access Service is provided. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have 30 days.

(B) Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring charges are one-time charges that apply for specific work activity (i.e., installation or change to an existing service). The types of nonrecurring charges that apply for Special Access Service are: installation of service, installation of optional features and functions, and service rearrangements. These charges are in addition to the Access Order Charge as specified in 10.1.1 following.

(1) Installation of Service

Nonrecurring charges apply to each service installed. The nonrecurring charges for the installation of service are set for each channel type as a nonrecurring charge for the Channel Termination.

(2) Installation of Optional Features and Functions

When optional features and functions are installed coincident with the initial installation of service, no separate nonrecurring charge is applicable. When optional features and functions are installed or changed subsequent to the installation of service, an Access Order Charge as specified in 10.1.1 following will apply per order.

(3) Service Rearrangements

Service rearrangements are changes to existing (installed) services which may be administrative only in nature, as set forth following, or that involve actual physical change to the service.

Changes in the physical location of the point of termination or customer designated premises are moves as set forth in 7.2.3 following.

Changes in the type of Service or Channel Termination which result in a change of the minimum period requirement will be treated as a discontinuance of the service and an installation of a new service.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE**7. SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICE**

(N)

7.2 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)**7.2.3 Moves**

A move involves a change in the physical location of one of the following:

- The Point of Termination at the customer's premises; or
- The customer's premises

The charges for the move are dependent on whether the move is to a new location within the same building or to a different building.

(A) Moves Within the Same Building

When the move is to a new location within the same building, the charge for the move will be an amount equal to one half of the nonrecurring (i.e., installation) charge for the service termination affected. There will be no change in the minimum period requirements. This charge is in addition to the Access Order Charge as specified in 10.1.1 following.

(B) Moves To a Different Building

Moves to a different building will be treated as a discontinuance and start of service and all associated nonrecurring charges will apply. New minimum period requirements will be established for the new services. The customer will also remain responsible for satisfying all outstanding minimum period charges for the discontinued service.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE**7. SPECIAL ACCESS SERVICE**

(N)

7.2 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)**7.2.4 Mileage Measurement**

The mileage to be used to determine the monthly rate for the Channel Mileage Facility is calculated on the airline distance between the locations involved, i.e.,

- the serving wire centers associated with two customer designated premises,
- a serving wire center associated with a customer designated premises and a Telephone Company hub,
- a serving wire center associated with a customer designated premises and a wire center equipped for Add/Drop Multiplexing,
- two wire centers equipped for Add/Drop Multiplexing,
- or two Telephone Company hubs.

The serving wire center associated with a customer designated premises is the serving wire center from which this customer designated premises would normally obtain dial tone.

To determine the rate to be billed, first compute the mileage using the V&H coordinates method, as set forth in the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, then multiply the resulting number of miles times the Channel Mileage Facility per mile rate, and add the Channel Mileage Termination rate for each termination. When the calculation results in a fraction of a mile, always round up to the next whole mile before determining the mileage and applying the rates.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE**10. RATES AND CHARGES****10.5 Special Access****10.5.1 High Capacity Service**

		Monthly <u>Rate</u>	Nonrecurring <u>Charge</u>
(A)	Channel Termination Per Termination		
	DS1 1.544 Mbps	\$ 654.58	\$330.00
	DS3 44.736 Mbps	\$5,396.53	\$445.00
(B)	Channel Mileage	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	
(1)	Channel Mileage Facility Per Mile		
	- 1.544 Mbps	\$ 40.51	
	- 44.736 Mbps	\$352.75	
(2)	Channel Mileage Termination Per Termination		
	- 1.544 Mbps	\$ 210.11	
	- 44.736 Mbps	\$1,349.12	
(C)	Optional Features and Functions	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	
(1)	Multiplexing, per arrangement		
	DS3 to DS1	\$1,250.42	