

POLAR TELCOM, INC.

PO Box 270
110 4th St., E.
Park River, ND 58270

RATES, RULES and REGULATIONS for FURNISHING
SWITCHED ACCESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Issued: September 11, 2019
Issued by:

Executive Vice-President
Polar Telcom, Inc.
PO Box 270 / 110 4th St., E.
Park River, ND 58270

Effective: September 12, 2019

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

CHECK SHEET

The title page and pages 1 – 17-1 of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes that are in effect on the date indicated.

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CONCURRING CARRIERS

NONE

CONNECTING CARRIERS

NONE

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

NONE

REGISTERED SERVICE MARKS

NONE

REGISTERED TRADEMARKS

NONE

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

C	to signify changed regulation.
D	to signify discontinued rate or regulation.
I	to signify increase to a rate or charge.
M	to signify matter relocated without change.
N	to signify new rate or regulation.
R	to signify reduction to a rate or charge.
S	to signify matter reissued without change.
T	to signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.
Z	to signify a correction.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADA	Abbreviated Dialing Arrangement	ICL	Inserted Connection Loss
AML	Actual Measured Loss	kbps	Kilobits per second
ANI	Automatic Number Identification	kHz	Kilohertz
AP	Program Audio	LATA	Local Access and Transport Area
AT&T	American Telephone and Telegraph Company	ma	Milliamperes
BHMC	Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity	Mbps	Megabits per second
CDP	Customer Designated Premises	mcs	Microsecond
CI	Channel Interface	MHz	Megahertz
CO	Central Office	MRC	Monthly Recurring Charge
Cont'd	Continued	MT	Metallic
CPE	Customer Provided Equipment	MTS	Message Telecommunications Services
DA	Directory Assistance	MTSO	Mobile Telephone Switching Office
DB	Decibel	NPA	Numbering Plan Area
DBrnC	Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting	NRC	Nonrecurring Charge
dBrnC	Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighted O	NXX	Three Digit Central Office Prefix
Dc	direct current	PBX	Private Branch Exchange
DDD	Direct Distance Dialing	PIC	Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier
EAS	Extended Area Service	POT	Point of Termination
EDD	Envelope Delay Distortion	SAC	Service Access Code
EML	Expected Measured Loss	SRL	Singing Return Loss
EPL	Echo Path Loss	SWC	Serving Wire Center
ERL	Echo Return Loss	TG	Telegraph Grade
ESS	Electronic Switching System	TLP	Transmission Level Point
ESSX	Electronic Switching System Exchange	TV	Television
f	Frequency	VG	Voice Grade
FCC	Federal Communications Commission	V&H	Vertical & Horizontal
HC	High Capacity	WATS	Wide Area Telecommunications Service(s)
Hz	Hertz	WSO	WATS Serving Office
C	Interexchange Carrier		
ICB	Individual Case Basis		

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 1 – APPLICATION OF TARIFF

The terms and conditions in this Tariff apply to the Interstate Switched Access Telecommunications Services provided by the Issuing Carrier of this Tariff, hereinafter the Company. The Company may provide any of the services offered under this Tariff or any combination of services to Customers through the use of contracts. Terms and conditions of each contract offering are subject to the agreement of both the Customer and the Company. Customized service packages and competitive pricing arrangements at negotiated rates may be furnished on an individual case basis. Rates in other Sections of this Tariff do not apply to Customers who agree to contract arrangements with respect to services within the scope of the contract. Specialized rates or charges will be made available to similarly situated Customers on a non-discriminatory basis.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS2.1 Undertaking of the Company2.1.1 Scope

- A. The Company's services and facilities are furnished for communications services between and among domestic points within the United States under terms of this Tariff.
- B. The Company arranges for installation, operation, and maintenance of the communications services provided in this Tariff for Customers 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, when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to the Company's network.
- C. The Company will, for maintenance purposes, test its service only to the extent necessary to detect and/or clear troubles.
- D. Services are provided twenty-four (24) hours daily, seven (7) days per week, except as set forth in other applicable sections of this Tariff.
- E. The Company does not undertake to transmit messages, but offers the use of its facilities when available, and will not be liable for errors in transmission or for failure to establish connection.
- F. The Company provides only those services that are contained in this Tariff that the Company is technically capable of providing.
- G. The services provided under this Tariff may be used by the Customer for any lawful telecommunications purpose for which the service is technically suited.
- H. Company services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, in accordance with, the terms and conditions of any Tariffs of such other communications carriers.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.2 Provision of Services

The Company will provide to the Customer, upon reasonable notice, services offered in other applicable sections of this Tariff at rates and charges specified therein. The provision of the Company's services is subject to and contingent upon the Company obtaining and retaining all governmental authorizations that may be required or be deemed necessary by the Company. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to obtain and keep in effect all such governmental authorizations. The Company shall be entitled to take, and shall have no liability for, any action necessary to bring its facilities and/or services into conformance with any requirement or request of the Federal Communications Commission or other governing entity or agency

2.1.3 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities and equipment, and related plans and proposals, provided by the Company in furnishing service remains with the Company, its agents or contractors.

2.1.4 Service Maintenance

The Company shall maintain the services provided under this Tariff. The Customer or others may not rearrange, move, disconnect, remove or attempt to repair any facilities provided by the Company, other than by connection or disconnection to any interface means used, except with written consent of the Company.

2.1.5 Changes and Substitutions

The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters the Customer.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.6 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- A. Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities and/or equipment and subject to the provisions of this Tariff. The Company may decline applications for service to or from a location where the necessary facilities or equipment are not available. The Company may discontinue furnishing service in accordance with the terms of this Tariff.
- B. The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of its facilities when necessary because of lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control. The Company may obtain facilities from other carriers to furnish service as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.7 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventive maintenance. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable notification requirements. Some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, may not allow for notification to the Customer.

2.1.8 Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

The Company intends to work cooperatively with the Customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.9 LimitationsA. Assignment or Transfer of Services

All services provided under this Tariff are directly or indirectly controlled by the Company and neither the Customer nor its Authorized Users may transfer or assign the use of service without the express prior written consent of the Company. Such transfer or assignment shall only apply where there is no interruption of use or relocation of the service. All terms and conditions contained in this Tariff shall apply to all such permitted transferees or assignees, as well as conditions of service.

The assignment or transfer of services does not relieve or discharge the assignor or transferor from remaining jointly or severally liable with the assignee or transferee for any obligations existing at the time of the assignment or transfer.

B. Use and Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of services 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.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.10 LiabilityA. Limits of Liability

The liability of the Company for damages arising out of the furnishing of its service, including but not limited to mistakes, outages, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or other defects, representations, failures arising out of the use of these services or failure to furnish service, whether caused by act, omission or negligence, shall be limited to the extension of such allowances as set forth in the section of this Tariff on Allowances for Interruptions in Service. The extension of such allowance for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer or other person, and the sole liability of the Company.

The Company's entire liability, if any, for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid Company by Customer for the specific services giving rise to the claim. No action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than one (1) year after the service is rendered.

In no event shall the Company be liable for any incidental, indirect, special, consequential, exemplary, or punitive damages (including lost revenue or profits) of any kind whatsoever regardless of the cause of foreseeability thereof.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.10 Liability (cont'd)B. Act or Omissions

The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other carrier or Customer providing a portion of a service, nor shall the Company for its own act or omission hold liable any other carrier or Customer providing a portion of a service.

C. Circumstances Beyond the Company's Control

The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance hereunder if such failure is due to any cause or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company. Such causes shall include, without limitation, acts of god, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes, vandalism, cable cut, storm or other similar occurrence, any law, order, regulation, direction, action or request of the United States government or any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state or local governments, or of any civil or military authority; national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockout, work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.

The Company does not guarantee or make any warranty with respect to its services when used in an explosive atmosphere. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer from any and all claims by any person relating to such Customer's use of services so provided.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.10 Liability (cont'd)D. Damages Caused by Others

The Company shall not be liable for interruptions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission, or for any injury whatsoever, caused by the Customer, the Customer's agents, or Authorized Users, or by facilities or equipment provided by the Customer. The Company shall not be liable for any act, omission or defect of an entity furnishing to the Company or to the

Customer services, facilities or equipment used for or with the Company's services; or for the acts or omissions of common carriers or warehousemen.

E. Damages to Customer Premise

The Company is not liable for damages to the Customer's premise resulting from the furnishing of a service, including the installation and removal of equipment and associated wiring, unless the damage is caused by the willful misconduct of the Company's employees or agents.

F. Indemnification of the Company

The Customer and the End User shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company (including the costs of reasonable attorney's fees) against:

1. Claims for libel, slander, infringement of copyright or unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name or service mark arising out of the material, data, information, or other content transmitted over the Company's facilities or equipment;

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.10 Liability (cont'd)F. Indemnification of the Company (cont'd)

2. All other claims (including, without limitation, claims for damage to any business or property, or injury to, or death of, any person) arising out of any act or omission of the Customer, the Customer's agents or Authorized Users, in connection with any service or facilities or equipment provided by the Company.
4. In the event parties other than the Customer, including but not limited to joint users and the Customer's customers, shall have use of the Company's service directly or indirectly through the Customer, then the Customer agrees to forever indemnify and hold the Company harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, losses, damages, assessments or payments which may be asserted by said parties arising out of or relating to the Company's furnishing of service.

G. Warranties or Representation by the Company

The Company makes no warranties or representations, express or implied, either in fact or by operation of law, statutory or otherwise, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.

H. No License Granted

No license under patents (other than the limited license to use) is granted by the Company or shall be implied or arise by estoppel, with respect to any service offered under this Tariff.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)2.1.11 Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in unusual locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply

2.1.12 Special Construction

Subject to the agreement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this Tariff, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken:

- A. where facilities are not presently available and there is no other requirement for the facilities to be constructed;
- B. of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- C. over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- D. in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- E. on an expedited basis;
- F. on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
- G. involving abnormal costs; or
- H. in advance of its normal construction schedules.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)

2.2 Term and Charge of Service

The minimum period for which services are provided and for which rates and charges are applicable is one (1) month unless otherwise specified in this Tariff or by mutually agreed upon contract. When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable, whether the service is used or not.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer2.3.1 Payment of Charges (cont'd)

The Customer shall be responsible for payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this Tariff. When mixed Interstate and Intrastate Switched Access Service is provided, all charges (i.e. non-recurring, monthly and/or usage) including optional features and functions charges, will be prorated between Interstate and Intrastate. The percentage determined as set forth in Sections 2.3.9 or 2.3.10 following will serve as the basis for prorating the charges unless the Company is billing by jurisdiction according to actual measured usage. The percentage of an access service to be charged as Interstate is applied in the following manner:

- A. For monthly and non-recurring chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent Interstate use times the quantity of chargeable elements times the stated Tariff rate.
- B. For usage sensitive (i.e. access minutes and calls) chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent Interstate use times actual use (i.e. measured) times the stated Tariff rate.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.2 Damages

The Customer shall be responsible for any damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer.

2.3.3 Equipment Space and Power

The Customer shall provide, as specified from time to time by the Company, any personnel, equipment, space, power, heating and air conditioning needed to operate, and maintain a proper operating environment for, Company facilities and equipment installed on the Customer's premise.

2.3.4 Rights-of-way

The Customer shall at the option of the Company obtain, maintain, and otherwise have full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of Company facilities from the building entrance or property line to the location of Company's equipment space on the Customer's premise. Any costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-ways described herein, including any building modification costs, shall be borne entirely by the Customer. Customer shall also be responsible for complying with all applicable laws, and obtaining all required permits or other approvals related to the location and installation of Company facilities and equipment in the Customer's premise or within the rights-of-way for which the Customer is responsible.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.5 Availability for Installing, Maintaining, and Removing

The Customer shall grant or obtain permission for Company employees or agents to enter the premise of the Customer at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or removing the facilities or equipment of the Company and/or inspecting Customer-provided equipment which is connected to Company's facilities.

2.3.6 Customer-Provided Equipment

The Customer shall be responsible for the provision, operation and maintenance of any Customer-Provided Equipment (CPE) that is connected to Company's equipment and/or facilities, and for ensuring that such CPE is compatible with Company equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company equipment, facilities and wiring by such CPE shall be such as not to cause damage to Company's equipment, facilities and wiring or injury to Company's employees or to other persons. Upon Company request, Customer will submit to Company a complete manufacturer's specification sheet for each item of CPE that is or is proposed to be attached to Company's facilities. Company may provide, at the Customer's expense, any additional protective equipment required, in the sole opinion of the Company, to prevent damage or injury resulting from the connection of any CPE.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Company (cont'd)2.3.7 Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

The Customer shall cooperate with the Company to plan, coordinate and undertake any actions required to maintain maximum network capability following natural or manmade disasters that affect telecommunications services.

2.3.8 Indemnification of the Company by the Customer and the End User

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company, the Customer and the End User shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, for:

- A. death or injury of any person caused by or resulting from any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Customer or any third party;
- B. death or injury of any person caused by the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invites; and
- C. 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 this Tariff or any agreement between Customer and Company.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report - Switched Access

The Customer must indicate a Percent of Interstate Use (PIU) factor in a whole number (i.e. a number 0 - 100) when ordering Switched Access Service. A Customer provided PIU factor is required on each Access Service Request.

Where jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, the Company will develop a projected PIU factor from the call detail that will be used to bill the Customer. Where call detail is insufficient to determine the jurisdiction, the Customer will provide a Jurisdictional Report indicating the projected PIU factor in whole number. The Company will use the Jurisdictional Report to bill all Interstate usage and Interstate rates and/or nonrecurring charges until the Company receives a revised report from the Customer. The following regulations govern such estimates, their reporting by the Customer and cases where the Company will develop jurisdictional percentages.

A. General

Except where Company measured access is used as set forth following, the Customer shall update its PIU as set forth in paragraphs B. or C. following and such report will be used for billing purposes until the Customer reports a different projected Interstate percentage. The revised report will serve as the basis for future billing and will be effective on the next bill date. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report-Switched Access (cont'd)A. General (cont'd)

Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer shall update the Interstate jurisdictional report. The Customer shall forward to the Company, to be received no later than fifteen (15) days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate and Interstate percentage of use for the past three (3) months ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively, for each service arranged for Interstate use.

Except where the Company is billing by jurisdiction according to actual measured usage, the revised report will serve as the basis for the next three (3) months billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report.

If the Customer does not supply the reports, the Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the last quarterly report. 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 the order for service.

The percentages described in paragraphs B. through D. following are applied to Carrier Common Line, Information Surcharge, Local Switching, Tandem Switched Transport and Transport Interconnection Charge (TIC). Separate PIUs are required for flat rated Entrance Facilities, Direct Trunked Transport and Multiplexers charges.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report-Switched Access (cont'd)B. Feature Group D

When a Customer orders Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s) the Customer may provide the projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) for each end office in its order. The Company, where the jurisdiction cannot be determined from the call detail, will determine the projected PIU as follows:

1. For originating access minutes, the projected Interstate percentages will be developed on a monthly basis by end office where the feature Group D Switched Access Service access minutes are measured by dividing the measured Interstate originating access minutes respectively by the total originating access minutes, when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction.
2. For terminating access minutes, the data used by the Company to develop the projected Interstate percentages for originating access minutes will be used to develop the projected usage percentages for such terminating access minutes.
3. When the Customer has both Interstate and Intrastate Operator Services traffic, the PIU determined for the Customer's FGD service will be applied to the Customer's Operator Services charges.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report-Switched Access (cont'd)C. Directory Assistance Service

When a Customer orders Directory Assistance Service, the Customer shall in its order, provide the PIU for terminating use in a whole number (a number of 0 through 100) for each Directory Access Service group ordered. (A method the Customer may wish to adopt could be to use its terminating traffic from its premise to the involved Directory Assistance Location and calculate the PIU as set forth in paragraph B. preceding.)

D. All Other Type of Access Service

The Customer must provide the Company with a projected PIU for all other type of access including 500, 700, 800, 888, 900, etc.

2.3.10 Determination of Jurisdiction of Mixed Use Special Access Service

When an ASR is submitted for Interstate and Intrastate Special Access Service, the Customer will provide to the Company an estimate of whether the Interstate traffic will comprise more than ten (10) percent or less than ten (10) percent of total traffic:

- A. If the Customer estimates that the Interstate traffic on the service involved constitutes less than ten (10) percent of the Customer's total traffic on that service, the service will be provided in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the Company's Intrastate Access Tariff.
- B. If the Customer estimates that the Interstate traffic on the service involved constitutes ten (10) percent or more of the Customer's total traffic on that service, the service will be provided in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of this Tariff.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.11 Jurisdictional Reports Verification

- A. For Switched Access Service, if a billing dispute arises concerning the PIU, the Company will ask the Customer to provide the data the Customer uses to determine the PIU. The Customer will supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Company request.
- B. The Customer shall keep records of call detail from which the PIU 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.
- C. For Special Access Service, if a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected PIU factor, the Company will ask the Customer to provide that data the Customer used to determine the PIU. The Customer shall supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Company request. The Customer shall keep records of system design and functions from which the percentage was determined, and, upon request of the Company, shall make the records available for inspection as reasonably necessary for purposes of verifications of percentages.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.12 Payment of Service Charges Imposed by Another Entity

The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges imposed on the Company by another entity, for visits to the Customer premise when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

2.3.13 Ordering Where More than One Company is Involved

The Company, at its option, can require a Customer to order access services that require the provisioning by more than one (1) Exchange Carrier, to directly request such provisioning directly from each Exchange Carrier.

2.3.14 Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More than One Company is Involved

All charges for services provided by each Company are billed under each Exchange Carrier's applicable Tariffs. Under a Meet Point Billing Arrangement, the Company will bill for charges for traffic carried between the Company Tandem and the End User.

- A. Each Company will provide its portion of access service based on the regulations, rates and charges contained in its respective Access Service Tariff.
- B. The application of non-distance sensitive rate elements varies according to the rate structure and the location of the facilities involved.
- C. When rates and charges are listed on a per minute basis, the Company's rates and charges will apply to traffic originating from the Customer's premise and terminating at the End User's premise, and vice versa.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.4 Prohibited Use

The Customer shall not use or allow the use of Company facilities or equipment installed at the Customer's premise for any purpose other than for which the Company provides it, without the prior written consent of the Company.

- A. The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits, or used in an abusive manner. Abusive use includes:
 - 1. The use of the service of the Company for a call or calls, anonymous or otherwise, in a manner reasonably expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another;
 - 2. The use of the service in such a manner as to interfere unreasonably with the use of the service by one (1) or more other Customers.
- B. The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and commission regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- C. The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.5 Interconnection

Service furnished by the Company may be interconnected with services or facilities of other authorized communications common carriers and with private systems, if authorized by the Company and subject to technical limitations established by the Company. Service furnished by such interconnection is not part of a joint undertaking with such other common carriers or systems. The Company does not undertake to provide any special facilities, equipment, or services to enable the Customer to interconnect the facilities or the equipment of the Company with services or facilities of other common carriers or with private systems.

2.6 Inspection, Testing and Adjustment

The Company may, upon reasonable notice, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine whether the terms and conditions of this Tariff are being complied with in the installation, operation or maintenance of the Customer's or the Company's facilities or equipment. The Company may interrupt service at any time, without penalty or liability, due to the departure from or reasonable suspicion of the noncompliance of the Customer.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)

2.7 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

2.7.1 Payment of Rates, Charges, and Deposits

A. Responsibility for Charges

Charges for installations, service connections, moves, rearrangements, and prepaid services, where applicable, are payable upon demand to the Company or its authorized agent. Billing thereafter will include recurring charges and actual usage as defined in this Tariff.

The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by and credits due to the Customer under this Tariff attributable to services established or disconnected during the preceding billing period. In addition, the Company shall bill in advance charges for all non-usage based services to be provided during the ensuing billing period. All usage-based service will be billed in arrears.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.7 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (cont'd)2.7.1 Payment of Rates, Charges, and Deposits (cont'd)B. Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges incurred by the Customer or other users for services and facilities furnished to the Customer by the Company. All such payments are due within thirty (30) days after the invoice date. Any objections to billed charges must be reported to the Company or its billing agent within ninety (90) days (commencing five (5) days after remittance of the bill) All undisputed portions of the bill must be paid by the due date to avoid late payment charges, if any.

C. Deposits

The Company reserves the right to examine the credit record of the Customer. If the Customer's financial condition is unknown or unacceptable to the Company, the Customer may be required to provide the Company with a security deposit that the Company may apply against overdue charges. The following regulations apply:

1. The amount of the deposit shall not exceed the actual or estimated rates and charges for the service for a two (2) month period.
2. The deposit in no way relieves the Customer from complying with the Company's regulations as to the prompt payment of bills at presentation.
3. At any time, at its option, the Company may return the deposit or credit it to the Customer's account.
4. When the service to the Customer is terminated, the amount of deposit will be credited to the Customer's account and any credit balance refunded.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.7 Payment Arrangements & Credit Allowances (cont'd)2.7.1 Payments of Rates, Charges, & Deposits (cont'd)D. Taxes and Fees

The Company reserves the right to bill any and all applicable taxes and fees in addition to normal rates and charges for services provided to the Customer. Taxes and fees include, but are not limited to: Federal Excise Tax, State Sales Tax, Municipal Tax, and Gross Receipts Tax. Such taxes and fees are in addition to rates as quoted in this Tariff and will be itemized separately on Customer invoices.

2.7.2 Credit Allowance for Service Interruption

- A. An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a circuit, service or facility to be interrupted and releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the circuit, service or facility is operative. If the Customer reports an interruption but declines to release the circuit, service or facility for testing and repair, the circuit, service or facility will be considered impaired but not interrupted.
- B. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rata basis, dependent on the duration of the interruption, against the monthly recurring charges payable by Customer under this Tariff, and shall be expressly indicated on the next Customer bill. Only those facilities on an interrupted portion of a circuit, service or facility will receive a credit.
- C. For the calculation of credit allowance, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.7 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (cont'd)2.7.3 Interest on Customer Overpayments

A Customer who makes a payment to the Company in excess of the correct charge for service, which overpayment was caused by erroneous billing by the Company, shall be paid interest on the amount of the overpayment. The rate of interest on such amount shall be the greater of the unadjusted Customer deposit rate or the applicable late payment rate. The interest shall be paid from the date when the Customer overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit or late payment charge rates and compounded monthly until the date when the overpayment is refunded within thirty (30) days after such overpayment is received by the Company.

2.8 Cancellation of Service or Application for ServiceA. Cancellation of Service

The Customer may have service discontinued upon written notice to the Company. The Company shall hold the Customer responsible for payment of all bills for service furnished until the cancellation date specified by the Customer or until the date that the written cancellation notice is received, whichever is later. If Customer cancels a service order or terminates service before the completion of the term of service specified in the service order for any reasons, Customer agrees to pay to Company all costs, fees and expenses reasonably incurred in connection with special construction and with the term of service. In addition, Customer may be liable for termination charges up to a maximum amount equal to the total of charges applicable for the remaining term specified in the service order (discounted to present value).

B. Cancellation of Application of Service

Applications for service are non-cancelable unless the Company otherwise agrees. Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun. These charges will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.9 Refusal or Discontinuance by the Company

Service continues to be provided until canceled by the Customer, in writing, or until discontinued by the Company as set forth below. The Company reserves the right to discontinue service when necessitated by conditions beyond its control, or when the Customer is using the service in violation of the provisions of this Tariff, or in violation of the law without incurring any liability. The Company may render bills subsequent to the termination of service for charges incurred before termination.

The Company reserves the right to discontinue service, limit service, or to impose requirements on Customers as required to meet changing regulatory or statutory rules and standards, or when such rules and standards have adverse material affect on the business or economic feasibility of providing service, as determined by the Company in its reasonable judgment without incurring any liability.

In addition, the Company may discontinue service without incurring any liability:

- 2.9.1 For Nonpayment: The Company, by written notice to the Customer and in accordance with applicable law may discontinue service or cancel an application for service without incurring any liability when there is an unpaid balance for service that is more than thirty (30) days overdue.
- 2.9.2 For Lack of Use: The Company, by written notice to the Customer, may discontinue service in the same manner as provided for nonpayment of overdue charges if after sixty (60) days the service has not been used.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.9 Refusal or Discontinuance by the Company (cont'd)

- 2.9.3 For any violation of law or any of the provisions governing the furnishing of service under this Tariff: The Customer shall be subject to discontinuance of service, without notice, for any violation of any law, rule, regulation or policy of any government authority having jurisdiction over service, or by reason of any order or decision of a court or other government authority having jurisdiction which prohibits the Company from furnishing such service.
- 2.9.4 For the Company to comply with any order or request of any governmental authority having jurisdiction: The Customer shall be subject to discontinuance of service, without notice, for the Company to comply with any order or request of any governmental authority having jurisdiction.

When Access Service is provided by more than one (1) Company, the companies involved in providing the joint service may individually or collectively deny service to a Customer for nonpayment. Where the Company(s) affected by the nonpayment is incapable of effecting discontinuance of service without cooperation from the other joint providers of Switched Access Service, such other Company(s) will, if technically feasible, assist in denying the joint service to the Customer. Service denial for such joint service will only include calls originating or terminating within, or transiting, the operating territory of the Companies initiating the service denial for nonpayment.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.10 Restoration of Service

If service has been discontinued for nonpayment or as otherwise provided herein and the Customer wishes it continued, service shall, at the Company's discretion, be restored when all past due amounts are paid or the event giving rise to the discontinuance (if other than nonpayment) is corrected.

If a service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.9 preceding and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

2.11 Changes in Equipment and Services

Upon receipt of a written request from Customer, Company will add, delete or change locations or features of specific circuits and/or equipment. Customer shall be liable for non-recurring charges for such change. If a request for deletion of a service represents a cancellation prior to the applicable term of service, Customer will be subject to Company's termination charges.

2.12 Use of Recording Devices

Customer and Authorized Users who use recording devices do so at their own risk. A Customer or Authorized User may only use a recording device if the Customer or Authorized User complies with the requirements of this section and only if the Customer or Authorized User is able to connect or disconnect the recording device, or turn the recording device on or off, at will.

- A. A Customer or Authorized User may record a conversation if the Customer or Authorized User obtains written or verbal consent to the recording of all parties to the conversation prior to or at the beginning of the conversation.
- B. A distinctive recorder tone must be repeated at intervals of approximately fifteen (15) seconds to alert all parties to the conversation that a recording device is being used.
- C. The requirements of paragraphs A. and B. are waived for Broadcast licensees who use a recording device to record a conversation for broadcast if all parties to the conversation are aware that the conversation will be broadcast.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.13 Assignment

- A. Company may, without obtaining any further consent from Customer, assign any of its rights, privileges or obligations under this Tariff to any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of Company; pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the business of Company; or pursuant to any financing, merger, merger or reorganization of Company.
- B. Customer may, upon prior written consent of Company, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, assign its rights, privileges or obligations under this Tariff to any subsidiary, parent Company or affiliate of Customer; pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the business of Customer; or pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of Customer. Any attempt of Customer to privileges or obligations under this Tariff without the consent of Company shall be null and void.

2.14 License, Agency or Partnership

No license, express or implied, is granted by Company to Customer by virtue of an agreement for the furnishing of service hereunder. Neither Customer nor any joint or Authorized Users shall represent or otherwise indicate to its customers or others that the Company jointly participates in the Customer's or joint user's services. The relationship between Company and Customer shall not be that of partners or agents for one or the other, and shall not be deemed to constitute a partnership or agency agreement, unless both Company and Customer expressly agree to such relationship or agreement in writing.

2.15 Proprietary Information

Neither Company nor Customer or any joint or authorized user shall disclose any plans, drawings, trade secrets or other proprietary information of the other party.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)

2.16 Company's Right to Assign, Designate, or Change Telephone Number

The Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate, or change telephone numbers, any other call number designation associated with Access Services, or the Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in conduct of its business.

2.17 Definitions

Certain terms used herein are defined as follows:

800 Series Service

800 Series Service is a generic term for access services associated with toll free numbers, which include 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833 and 822.

800 Series Data Base Access Service

800 Series Data Base Access Service is a generic term for data base access services associated with toll free numbers, which include 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833 and 822.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Access Code

The term “Access Code”, with the exception of Feature Group B (FGB) with an Abbreviated Dial Arrangement (ADA), denotes a uniform access code assigned by a Telephone Company to an individual Customer in the form of 10XXX or 101XXX X and 950-XXXX.

Access Minutes

For the purpose of calculating chargeable usage, the term “Access Minutes” denotes Customer usage of exchange facilities in the provision of Interstate or foreign service. On the originating end of an Interstate or foreign call, usage is measured from the time the originating end user's call is delivered by the Company to and acknowledged as received by the Customer's facilities connected with the originating exchange. On the terminating end of an Interstate or foreign call, usage is measured from the time the call is received by the end user in the terminating exchange. Timing of usage at both originating and terminating ends of an Interstate or foreign call shall terminate when the calling or called party disconnects, whichever event is recognized first in the originating and terminating exchanges, as applicable.

Access Tandem

The term “Access Tandem” denotes a Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between end offices and a Customer designated premise.

Aggregator

The term “Aggregator” denotes any entity that, in the ordinary course of its operations, makes telephones available to the public or to transient users of its premises, for Interstate telephone calls using a provider of operator services.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Answer/Disconnect Supervision

The term “Answer/Disconnect Supervision” denotes the transmission of the switch trunk equipment supervisory signal (off-hook or on-hook) to the Customer's point of termination as an indication that the called party has answered or disconnected.

Attenuation Distortion

The term “Attenuation Distortion” denotes the difference in loss at specified frequencies relative to the loss at 1004 Hz, unless otherwise specified.

Balance (100 Type) Test Line

The term “Balance (100 Type) Test Line” denotes an arrangement in an end office that provides for balance and noise testing.

Bit

The term “Bit” denotes the smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

Business Day

The term “Business Day” denotes the times of day that a company is open for business. Generally, in the business community, these are 8:00 or 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., respectively, with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, resulting in a standard forty (40) hour work week. However, Business Day hours for the Company may vary based on company policy, union contract and location. To determine such hours for an individual company, or company location, that company should be contacted at the address shown under the Issuing Carrier's name listed on the Title Pages of this Tariff.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

The term “Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)” denotes the Customer specified maximum amount of Switched Access Service and/or Directory Assistance Service access minutes the Customer expects to be handled in an end office switch during any hour in an 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. period for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered. This Customer specified BHMC quantity is the input data the Company uses to determine the number of transmission paths for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered.

Call

The term “Call” denotes a customer attempt for which complete address information (e.g., 0-, 911, or 10 digits) is provided to the serving dial tone office.

Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier.

CCS

The term “CCS” denotes a hundred call seconds, which is a standard unit of traffic load that is equal to 100 seconds of usage or capacity of a group of servers (e.g., trunks).

Central Office

See End Office.

Central Office Maintenance Technician

The term “Central Office Maintenance Technician” denotes a Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, within the Company Central Office.

Central Office Prefix

The term “Central Office Prefix” denotes the first three (3) digits (NXX) of the seven (7) digit telephone number assigned to an end user’s Telephone Exchange Service when dialed on a local basis.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Channel(s)

The term “Channel(s)” denotes an electrical or photonic, in the case of fiber optic-based transmission systems, communications path between two (2) or more points of termination.

Channel Service Unit

The term “Channel Service Unit” denotes equipment that performs one (1) or more of the following functions: termination of a digital facility, regeneration of digital signals, detection and/or correction of signal format error, and remote loop back.

Channelize

The term “Channelize” denotes the process of multiplexing- demultiplexing wider bandwidth or higher speed channels into narrower band-width or lower speed channels.

Clear Channel Capability

The term “Clear Channel Capability” denotes the ability to transport twenty-four (24) 64 Kbps over a DS1 Mbps High Capacity service via a B8ZS line code format.

C-Message Noise

The term “C-Message Noise” denotes the frequency weighted average noise within an idle voice channel. The frequency weighting, called C-message, is used to simulate the frequency characteristic of the 500-type telephone set and the hearing of the average subscriber.

C-Notched Noise

The term “C-Notched Noise” denotes the C-message frequency weighted noise on a voice channel with a holding tone, which is removed at the measuring end through a notch (very narrow band) filter.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Coin Station

See Pay Telephone.

Committed Information Rate

The term “Committed Information Rate” denotes the transmission speed specified by the Customer at which the Frame Relay Access Service network commits to transfer data between two (2) ports.

Common Line

The term “Common Line” denotes a line, trunk, pay telephone line or other facility provided under the general and/or local exchange service Tariffs of the Company, terminated on a central office switch. A common line-residence is a line or trunk provided under the residence regulations of the General and/or Local Exchange Service Tariffs. A common line-business is a line provided under the business regulations of the General and/or Local Exchange Service Tariffs.

Common Channel Signaling

The term “Common Channel Signaling” (CCS) denotes a high speed packet switched communications network that is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. Its purpose is to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between signaling points in the CCS network.

Communications System

The term “Communications System” denotes channels and other facilities that are capable of communications between terminal equipment provided by other than the Company.

Customer(s)

The term “Customer(s)” denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity that subscribe to the services offered under this Tariff, including both Interexchange Carriers (ICs) and End Users.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Customer Designated Premise

The term “Customer Designated Premise” denotes the premise specified by the Customer for the provision of Access Service.

Data Transmission (107 Type) Test Line

The term “Data Transmission (107 Type) Test Line” denotes an arrangement which provides for a connection to a signal source which provides test signals for one (1) way testing of data and voice transmission parameters.

Decibel

The term “Decibel” denotes a unit used to express relative difference in power, usually between acoustic or electric signals, equal to ten (10) times the common logarithm of the ratio of two (2) signal powers.

Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting

The term “Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting” denotes noise power measurements with C-Message Weighting in decibels relative to a reference 1000 Hz tone of 90 dB below 1 milliwatt.

Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Referenced to O

The term “Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Referenced to O” denotes noise power in “Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting” referred to or measured at a zero (0) transmission level point.

Detail Billing

The term “Detail Billing” denotes the listing of each message and/or rate element for which charges to a Customer are due on a bill prepared by the Company.

Digital Switched 56 Service

A switched access optional feature available with Feature Group D Access, which provides for data transmission at up to 56 Kilobits per second.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Direct-Trunked Transport

The term “Direct-Trunked Transport” denotes transport from the serving wire center to the end office or from the serving wire center to the access tandem on circuits dedicated to the use of a single Customer.

Directory Assistance (Interstate)

The term “Directory Assistance” denotes the provision of telephone numbers by an operator when the operator location is accessed by a Customer’s end user dialing NPA + 555-1212 or 555-1212.

Directory Assistance Location (Interstate)

The term “Directory Assistance Location” denotes a Telephone Company office where Telephone Company equipment first receives the Directory Assistance call from the Customer's end user and selects the first operator position to respond to the Directory Assistance call.

Dual Tone Multifrequency Address Signaling

The term “Dual Tone Multifrequency Address Signaling” denotes a type of signaling that is an optional feature of Switched Access Feature Group A. It may be utilized when Feature Group A is being used in the terminating direction (from the point of termination with the customer to the local exchange end office). An office arranged for Dual Tone Multifrequency Signaling would expect to receive address signals from the customer in the form of Dual Tone Multifrequency signals.

Echo Control

The term “Echo Control” denotes the control of reflected signals in a telephone transmission path.

Echo Path Loss

The term “Echo Path Loss” denotes the measure of reflected signal at a four (4) wire point of interface without regard to the send and receive Transmission Level Point.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Echo Return Loss

The term “Echo Return Loss” denotes a frequency weighted measure of return loss over the middle of the voiceband (approximately 500 to 2500 Hz), where talker echo is most annoying.

Effective Two (2) Wire

The term “Effective Two (2) Wire” denotes a condition which permits the simultaneous transmission in both directions over a channel, but it is not possible to insure independent information transmission in both directions. Effective two (2) wire channels may be terminated with two (2) wire or four (4) wire interfaces.

Effective Four (4) Wire

The term “Effective Four (4) Wire” denotes a condition that permits the simultaneous independent transmission of information in both directions over a channel. The method of implementing effective four (4) wire transmission is at the discretion of the Company (physical, time domain, frequency-domain separation or echo cancellation techniques). Effective four (4) wire channels may be terminated with a two (2) wire interface at the Customer's premise. However, when terminated two (2) wire, simultaneous independent transmission cannot be supported because the two (2) wire interface combines the transmission paths into a single path.

End Office

The term “End Office” denotes a local Company switching system where Telephone Exchange Service Customer station loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks. This term includes Remote Switching Modules/Systems served by a Host Central Office in a different wire center.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)End User

The term “End User” means any Customer of an Interstate or foreign telecommunications service that is not a Carrier, except that a Carrier other than a Telephone Company shall be deemed to be an “end user” when such Carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes, and a person or entity that offers telecommunications service exclusively as a reseller shall be deemed to be an “end user” if all resale transmissions offered by such reseller originate on the premise of such reseller.

Enhanced Service

The term “Enhanced Service”, as defined in Part 64 of the FCC’s Rules and Regulations, are services “...offered over common carrier transmission facilities used in Interstate communications, which employ computer processing applications that act on the format, content, code, protocol or similar aspects of the subscriber transmitted information; provide the subscriber additional, different, or restructured information; or involve subscriber interaction with stored information.”

Entrance Facility

The term “Entrance Facility” denotes a Switched Access Service dedicated local transport facility between the Customer's serving wire center and the Customer designated premise.

Entry Switch

See First Point of Switching.

Envelope Delay Distortion

The term “Envelope Delay Distortion” denotes a measure of the linearity of the phase versus frequency of a channel.

Equal Level Echo Path Loss

The term “Equal Level Echo Path Loss” (ELEPL) denotes the measure of Echo Path Loss (EPL) at a 4-wire interface which is corrected by the difference between the send and receive Transmission Level Point (TLP). [ELEPL = EPL - TLP (send) + TLP (receive)].

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Exchange

The term “Exchange” denotes a unit generally smaller than a Local Access and Transport Area, established by the Company for the administration of communications service in a specified area that usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one (1) or more central offices together with the associated facilities used in furnishing communications service within that area. The exchange includes any Extended Area Service area that is an enlargement of a Telephone Company's exchange area to include nearby exchanges.

Exit Message

The term “Exit Message” denotes an SS7 message sent to an end office by a Telephone Company's tandem switch to mark the Carrier Connect Time when a Telephone Company's tandem switch sends an Initial Address Message to an interexchange customer.

Expected Measured Loss

The term “Expected Measured Loss” denotes a calculated loss that specifies the end-to-end 1004-Hz loss on a terminated test connection between two (2) readily accessible manual or remote test points. It is the sum of the inserted connection loss and test access loss including any test pads.

Extended Area Service

See Exchange.

Extended PVC

The term “Extended PVC” denotes the interconnection of a port on a Telephone Company's frame relay switch with a port on another interconnected Telephone Company's frame relay switch.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)First Point of Switching

The term “First Point of Switching” denotes the first Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider location at which switching occurs on the terminating path of a call proceeding from the Customer designated premise to the terminating end office and, at the same time, the last Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider location at which switching occurs on the originating path of a call proceeding from the originating end office to the Customer designated premise.

Frame

The term “Frame” denotes a group of data bits in a specific format, which enables network equipment to recognize the meaning and purpose of the specific bits.

Frame Relay Access Customer Port

The term “Frame Relay Access Customer Port” denotes the physical location in a Telephone Company switching offices where the access Customer’s special access facility connects to a Telephone Company’s Frame Relay Access Service network. It specifies how a frame relay switch sends and receives data from a frame relay access Customer’s network.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Frame Relay Access Service

The term “Frame Relay Access Service” denotes a medium-speed, connection-oriented packet-switched data service that allows for the interconnection of Local Area Networks or other compatible end user Customer premise equipment for the purpose of connecting to an access Customer’s Interstate network.

Frame Relay End User Port

The term “Frame Relay End User Port” denotes the physical location in a Telephone Company switching office where the special access facility of the Customer connects to the Frame Relay Access Service Network. It receives the data frame from the end user Customer’s Local Area Network or other compatible CPE devices and verifies that the end user connection and the corresponding access Customer connection are valid before relaying the frame to the destination end point.

Frequency Shift

The term “Frequency Shift” denotes the change in the frequency of a tone as it is transmitted over a channel.

Host Central Office

The term “Host Central Office” denotes an electronic local Telephone Company End Office where Telephone Exchange Service Customer station loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks. Additionally, this type of End Office contains the central call processing functions that service itself and its Remote Switching Modules/Systems.

Hub

A wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed for Customers served out of any wire center.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Impedance Balance

The term “Impedance Balance” denotes the method of expressing Echo Return Loss and Singing Return Loss at a 4-wire interface whereby the gains and/or loss of the 4-wire portion of the transmission path, including the hybrid, are not included in the specification.

Impulse Noise

The term “Impulse Noise” denotes any momentary occurrence of the noise on a channel over a specified level threshold. It is evaluated by counting the number of occurrences that exceed the threshold.

Individual Case Basis

The term “Individual Case Basis” denotes a condition in which the regulations, if applicable, rates and charges for an offering under the provisions of this Tariff are developed based on the circumstances in each case.

Initial Address Message

The term “Initial Address Message” denotes an SS7 message sent in the forward direction to initiate trunk set up, reserve an outgoing trunk and process the information about that trunk along with other data relating to the routing and handling of the call to the next switch.

Inserted Connection Loss

The term “Inserted Connection Loss” denotes the 1004 Hz power difference (in dB) between the maximum power available at the originating end and the actual power reaching the terminating end through the inserted connection.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Installation and Repair Technician

The term “Installation and Repair Technician” denotes a Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, outside of the Company Central Office and generally at the Customer designated premise.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms “Interexchange Carrier” (IC) or “Interexchange Common Carrier” denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint- stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in Interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio, between two (2) or more exchanges.

Intermediate Hub

A wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for Customers served by that wire center and wire centers that subtend the hub.

Intermodulation Distortion

The term “Intermodulation Distortion” denotes a measure of the nonlinearity of a channel. It is measured using four tones, and evaluating the ratios (in dB) of the transmitted composite four-tone signal power to the second-order products of the tones (R2), and the third-order products of the tones (R3).

Interstate Communications

The term “Interstate Communications” denotes any communications outside a State subject to oversight by the Federal Communications Commission.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Legal Holiday

The term “Legal Holiday” denotes days other than Saturday or Sunday for which the Company is normally closed. These include New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and a day when Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day or Columbus Day is legally observed and other locally observed holidays when the Company is closed.

Line Side Connection

The term “Line Side Connection” denotes a connection of a transmission path to the line side of a local exchange switching system.

Local Access and Transport Area (LATA)

The term “Local Access and Transport Area” denotes a geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one (1) or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic and other purposes.

Local Area Network

The term “Local Area Network” denotes a network permitting the interconnection and intercommunication of a group of computers.

Loss Deviation

The term “Loss Deviation” denotes the variation of the actual loss from the designed value.

Major Fraction Thereof

The term “Major Fraction Thereof” denotes any period of time in excess of one half (1/2) of the stated amount of time. As an example, in considering a period of twenty-four (24) hours, a major fraction thereof would be any period of time in excess of twelve (12) hours exactly. Therefore, if a given service is interrupted for a period of thirty-six (36) hours and fifteen (15) minutes, the Customer would be given a credit allowance for two (2) twenty-four (24) hour periods for a total of forty eight (48) hours.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Message

The term “Message” denotes a “call” as defined preceding.

Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line

The term “Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line” denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides a 1004 Hz tone at 0 dBm0 for one (1) way transmission measurements towards the Customer’s premise from the Company end office.

Network Control Signaling

The term “Network Control Signaling” denotes the transmission of signals used in the telecommunications system which perform functions such as supervision (control, status, and charge signals), address signaling (e.g., dialing), calling and called number identifications, rate of flow, service selection error control and audible tone signals (call progress signals indicating re-order or busy conditions, alerting, coin denominations, coin collect and coin return tones) to control the operation of the telecommunications system.

Nonsynchronous Test Line

The term “Nonsynchronous Test Line” denotes an arrangement in step- by-step end offices which provides operational tests which are not as complete as those provided by the synchronous test lines, but can be made more rapidly.

North American Numbering Plan

The term “North American Numbering Plan” denotes a three(3) digit area code (Numbering Plan Area - NPA) and a seven (7) digit telephone number made up of a three (3) digit Central Office prefix plus a four (4) digit station number.

Off-hook

The term “Off-hook” denotes the active condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)On-hook

The term “On-hook” denotes the idle condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange

Open Circuit Test Line

The term “Open Circuit Test Line” denotes an arrangement in an end office that provides an ac open circuit termination of a trunk or line by means of an inductor of several Henries.

Originating Direction

The term “Originating Direction” denotes the use of access service for the origination of calls from an End User Premise to an IXC Premise.

Pay Telephone

The term “Pay Telephone” denotes a coin or coinless instrument provided in a public or semipublic place where Payphone Service Provider Customers can originate telephonic communications and pay the applicable charges by (1) inserting coins into the equipment, or (2) using a credit card, or (3) third party billing the call or (4) calling collect.

Payphone Service Provider

The term “Payphone Service Provider” denotes any entity that provides pay telephone service, which is the provision of public, semi-public or inmate pay telephone service.

Permanent Virtual Connection (PVC)

The term “PVC” denotes a software defined communications path between two (2) port connections within the Frame Relay Access Service network.

Point of Termination

The term “Point of Termination” denotes the point of demarcation within a Customer-designated premise at which the Company's responsibility for the provision of Access Service ends.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Premise

The term “Premise” denotes a building or buildings on continuous property (except Railroad right-of-way, etc.) not separated by a public highway.

Release Message

The term “Release Message” denotes an SS7 message sent in either direction to indicate that a specific circuit is being released.

Remote Switching Modules/Systems

The term “Remote Switching Modules/Systems” denotes small, remotely controlled electronic end office switches that obtain their call processing capability from an electronic Host Central Office. The Remote Switching Modules/Systems cannot accommodate direct trunks to an IXC.

Return Loss

The term “Return Loss” denotes a measure of the similarity between the two (2) impedances at the junction of two (2) transmission paths. The higher the return loss, the higher the similarity.

Registered Equipment

The term “Registered Equipment” denotes the Customer's premise equipment that complies with and has been approved within the Registration Provisions of Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations.

Service Access Code

The term “Service Access Code” (SAC) denotes a three (3) digit code in the NPA format which is used as the first three (3) digits of a ten (10) digit address and which is assigned for special network uses. Whereas NPA codes are normally used for identifying specific geographical areas, certain SAC's have been allocated in the North American Numbering Plan to identify generic services or to provide access capability. Examples of SAC's include the 800 and 900 codes.

Service Switching Point (SSP)

A Service Switching Point denotes an end office or tandem that, in addition to having SS7 and SP capabilities, is also equipped to query centralized data bases.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Serving Wire Center

The term “Serving Wire Center” denotes the wire center from which the Customer designated premise would normally obtain dial tone from the Company.

Seven Digit Manual Test Line

The term “Seven Digit Manual Test Line” denotes an arrangement that allows the Customer to select balance, milliwatt and synchronous test lines by manually dialing a seven (7) digit number over the associated access connection.

Short Circuit Test Line

The term “Short Circuit Test Line” denotes an arrangement in an end office that provides for an ac short circuit termination of a trunk or line by means of a capacitor of at least four (4) microfarads.

Signal-to-C-Notched Noise Ratio

The term “Signal-to-C-Notched Noise Ratio” denotes the ratio in dB of a test signal to the corresponding C-Notched Noise.

Signaling Point (SP)

The term “Signaling Point (SP)” denotes an SS7 network interface element capable of originating and terminating SS7 trunk signaling messages.

Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI)

The term “Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI)” denotes the Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

The term “Signaling System 7 (SS7)” denotes the layered protocol used for standardized common channel signaling in the United States and Puerto Rico.

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Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Signal Transfer Point (STP)

The term “Signal Transfer Point (STP)” denotes a packet switch that provides access to the Company's SS7 network and performs SS7 message signal routing and screening.

Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port

The term “Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port” denotes the point of termination and interconnection to the STP.

Signaling Return Loss

The term “Signaling Return Loss” denotes the frequency weighted measure of return loss at the edges of the voiceband (200 to 500 Hz and 2500 to 3200 Hz), where singing (instability) problems are most likely to occur.

Special Order

The term “Special Order” denotes an order for a Directory Assistance Service.

Standard PVC

The term “Standard PVC” denotes the interconnection of ports on the same frame relay switch.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

The term “Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem” denotes an end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

The term “Synchronous Test Line” denotes an arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Tandem Switched Transport

The term “Tandem Switched Transport” denotes transport from the serving wire center to the end office, or from the tandem to the end office that is switched at a tandem.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Terminating Direction

The term “Terminating Direction” denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from an IXC premise to an End User premise.

Terminus Hub

A wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for Customers served directly by the same wire center.

Throughput

The term “Throughput” denotes the number of data bits successfully transferred in one (1) direction per unit of time.

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

The term “Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder” denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a responder and permits two (2) way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

Transmission Path

The term “Transmission Path” denotes an electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.

Trunk

The term “Trunk” denotes a communications path connecting two (2) switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 2 – GENERAL REGULATIONS (cont'd)2.17 Definitions (cont'd)Trunk Group

The term “Trunk Group” denotes a set of trunks that are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

Trunk Side Connection

The term “Trunk Side Connection” denotes the connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system.

Two (2) Wire to Four (4) Wire Conversion

The term “Two (2) Wire to Four (4) Wire Conversion” denotes an arrangement that converts a four (4) wire transmission path to a two (2) wire transmission path to allow a four (4) wire facility to terminate in a two (2) wire entity (e.g., a central office switch).

V and H Coordinates Method

The term “V and H Coordinates Method” denotes a method of computing airline miles between two (2) points by utilizing an established formula that is based on the vertical and horizontal coordinates of the two (2) points.

WATS Serving Office

The term “WATS Serving Office” denotes a Telephone Company designated serving wire center where switching, screening and/or recording functions are performed in connection with the closed-end of WATS or WATS-type services.

Wireless Switching Center

The term “Wireless Switching Center” (WSC) denotes a Wireless Service Provider (WSP) switching system that is used to terminate wireless stations for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks interfacing with the public switched network.

Wire Center

The term “Wire Center” denotes a building in which one or more central offices, used for the provision of Telephone Exchange Services, are located.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING3.1 General Description

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

An Access Order is an order to provide the Customer with Switched and Special Access or Access Related Service or to provide changes to existing services.

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 access order. 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 address(es).
- B. Billing name and address (when different from Customer name and address).
- 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 is the date on which the Company receives a firm commitment and sufficient information from the Customer to allow processing of the ASR.

3.1.2 Service Installation

The Company will provide the Access Service in accordance with the Customer's requested service date, subject to the constraints established by the Company schedule of applicable service dates.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.1 General Description (cont'd)3.1.2 Service Installation (cont'd)

The Company shall make available to all Customers, upon request, a schedule of applicable service intervals for Switched and Special Access Services. The schedule shall specify the applicable service intervals for services and the quantities of services that can be provided by a requested service date. Any associated material will be provided upon request and within a reasonable period of time.

The Company at its option, may not accept orders for service dates that exceed the applicable service date by more than six (6) months.

Access Services will be installed during Company business days. If a Customer requests that installation be done outside of scheduled work hours, and the Company agrees to this request, the Customer will be subject to applicable Additional Labor Charges. This also applies to non-routine installation and special construction as set forth in Section 2.

3.1.3 Expedited Orders

When placing an access order, a Customer may request a service date that is prior to the assigned service date. A Customer may also request an earlier service date on a pending or negotiated access order. If the Company agrees to provide the service on an expedited basis, an Expedited Order Charge will apply in addition to the additional labor cost or extraordinary costs that are required to meet the requested service date. The Company will provide the Customer with an estimate of additional cost. Upon the Customer's agreement, the Company will proceed with the requested service date.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.1 General Description (cont'd)3.1.3 Expedited Orders (cont'd)

A Customer may request a change of end user premise within the same serving wire center. If the Customer requests an earlier service date, an Expedited Order Charge will apply.

When the request for expediting occurs subsequent to the issuance of the access order, a Service Date Change Charge as set forth in Section 17 following will also apply.

When an expedited service date is missed, the Expedited Order Charge will apply unless the missed service date is caused by the Company

3.1.4 Selection of Facilities for Access Orders

The option to request a specific transmission path or channel is only provided for High Capacity Facilities Special Access Service, or as provided for under special facilities routing as set forth in Section 17 following.

When there are high capacity facilities to a hub on order or in service for the Customer's use, the Customer may request a specific channel or transmission path be used to provide the Switched or Special Access Service requested in an access order. The Company will make a reasonable effort to accommodate the Customer request.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.2 Ordering Requirements

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

3.2.1 Switched Access Service

- A. When a Customer requests new or additional Switched Access Services, one (1) or more access orders may be required. The number of orders required is dependent on the type of services and/or facilities being requested.
- B. When placing an order for service, the Customer shall specify whether the service is to be provided as direct trunked transport or tandem switched transport.
- C. When all or a portion of service is ordered as direct trunked transport, the Customer must specify the type and quantity of direct trunked transport facility (e.g. voice grade or high capacity DS1 or DS3). The Customer must also specify the type of entrance facility to be used for Switched Access Service (e.g. voice grade or high capacity). For high capacity entrance facilities, the Customer must specify the facility assignment and the channel assignment for each trunk.
- D. When the Customer has both tandem switched transport and direct trunked transport at the same end office, the Customer will be provided Alternate Traffic Routing.
- E. When placing an order for Switched Access Service, the Customer shall provide:
 - 1. The number of trunks desired between Customer designated premise and an entry switch or Operator Transfer Service location;
 - 2. Optional Features
 - 3. A projected PIU as set forth in Section 2.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.2 Ordering Requirements (cont'd)3.2.1 Switched Access Service (cont'd)

- F. When ordering by trunk to an access tandem, the Customer must provide the Company with an estimate of the amount of traffic it will generate to and/or from each end office subtending the access tandem to assist the Company in its own efforts to project further facility requirements.
- G. When a customer orders Switched Access Service in trunks, the customer is responsible to assure that sufficient access facilities have been ordered to handle its traffic.

3.2.2 Operator Transfer Service Optional Feature

When FGD Switched Access Service is ordered with the Operator Transfer Service optional feature the Customer must specify the number of trunks desired between its premise and the Company operator services location. Operator Transfer Service is provided where available.

3.2.3 SS7 Optional Feature

When FGD Switched Access Service is ordered with the SS7 optional feature, the Customer shall specify a reference to existing signaling connections or reference a related SS7 signaling connection order. When ordering SS7 signaling, the Customer shall provide the Signaling Transfer Point (STP) codes, location identifier codes and circuit identifier codes. In addition, the Customer shall work cooperatively with the Company to determine the number of SS7 signaling connections required to handle its signaling traffic.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.2 Ordering Requirements (cont'd)3.2.4 800 Data Base Access Service

For 800 Data Base Access Service the Customer must order FGD to those access tandems or end offices designated as Service Switching Points (SSP) for 800 data base service or to those non-SSP equipped end offices that can accommodate direct trunking of originating 800 calls. All traffic originating from end offices not equipped to provide SS7 signaling and routing or not able to accommodate direct trunking of originating 800 calls require routing via an access tandem where SSP functionality is available.

3.2.5 Special Access Service

When placing an order for Special Access Service the Customer must specify:

- A. The Customer designated premise or hubs involved;
- B. Type of service (e.g. Voice Grade or High Capacity);
- C. The channel interface(s);
- D. For multipoint services, the channel interface at each Customer designated premise may, at the request of the Customer, be different but all such interfaces shall be compatible; and
- E. That the traffic consists of more than ten (10) percent Interstate traffic. When ordering bridging and/or multiplexing, the Customer must specify the Company hub(s) from which they desire service. The Customer must specify only those hubs that provide the type of service ordered and interconnect with the wire center(s) from which the Customer requires service.

3.2.6 Miscellaneous Services

Testing Service, Maintenance of Service, Telecommunications Service Priority and Additional Labor shall be ordered with an Access Order or may subsequently be added to a pending order at any time up to and including the service date for the Access Service, with the agreement of the Company.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.2 Ordering Requirements (cont'd)3.2.6 Miscellaneous Services (cont'd)

When added subsequently, a service date change maybe required. When a service date change is required, the Service Date Change Charge as set forth in Section 17 following will apply. When miscellaneous services are added to a pending order, a Design Change Charge as set forth in Section 17 will apply if 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 technical information included on the Design Layout Report. 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 engineering, 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.

3.3 Access Orders For Services Provided By More Than One Company

Access Services provided by more than one Company are services where one end of the local transport or channel mileage element is in the operating territory of one Company and the other end of the element is in the operating territory of a different Company.

The ordering procedure for this service is dependent upon the billing arrangement to be used by the Companies involved in providing the Access Service. The Company will notify the Customer which of the ordering procedures will apply.

Each Company will provide its portion of the Access Service within its operating territory to an interconnection point(s) with the other Companies. Billing Percentages (BP) will be determined in accordance with MECAB guidelines. Each Company will bill the Customer for its portion of the service provided.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.3 Access Orders For Services Provided By More Than One Company (cont'd)

For the service(s) ordered as set forth following, the Customer must also supply a copy of the order to the Company in whose operating territory a Customer designated premise is located and any other Company(s) involved in providing the service.

- A. For Feature Group D Switched Access Services, the Customer must place an order with the Company in whose territory the end office is located. Customers may, at their option, order FGD to the access tandem. When ordered to the access tandem, and the access tandem and the end office are not in the same Company operating territory, the Customer must also supply a copy of the order to each additional Company subtending the access tandem.
- B. Customers ordering Special Access Service to be interconnected with Switched Access Services at Company designated WATS Serving Offices for the provision of WATS or WATS-type Services must place an order with each Company in whose territory the end office and the WATS Serving Office are located, if they are not collocated.
- C. Except for Special Access Service as set forth in paragraph (B) above or as set forth in paragraph (D) below, the Customer may place the order for a Special Access Service with either Company.
- D. For Special Access Service involving a hub(s) the Customer must place the order with the Company(s) in whose territory the hub(s) is located.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering3.4.1 Access Order Charge

The Access Order Charge is applied to all Customer requests for new Special and Switched Access Service. In addition, the Access Order Charge is applicable to Customer requests for additions, changes or rearrangements to existing Special and Switched Access Service.

A. The Access Order Charge does not apply:

1. when a Service Date Change Charge is applicable;
2. when a Design Change Charge is applicable;
3. to administrative changes;
4. when a change to a pending order does not result in the cancellation of the pending order and the issuance of a new order;
5. when a Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is applicable;
6. when Company initiated network reconfiguration requires a Customer's existing access service to be reconfigured;
7. when a service with an ICB rate is converted to a similar service with a non-ICB Tariff rate prior to the expiration of the ICB rate;
8. when a Billing Name and Address Order Charge is applicable; or
9. when a Presubscription Charge is applicable.

B. The Access Order Charge will be applied on a per order basis to each order received by the Company or copy of an order received by the Company.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.4.2 Miscellaneous Service Order Charge

A Miscellaneous Service Order Charge applies to any service, or combination of services ordered simultaneously for which a service order is not already pending. The Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is an administrative charge designed to compensate for the expenses associated with service order issuance.

The charge applies to the following services:

1. Overtime Repair;
2. Testing and Maintenance with Other Companies other than when in conjunction with Acceptance Testing;
3. Other Labor; and
4. Maintenance of Service.

The Miscellaneous Service Order Charge will also apply to the following services if they are ordered subsequent to the initial installation of the associated access service, thereby necessitating the issuance of another service order:

Telecommunications Service Priority;

The charge does not apply to the following services since there would exist a pending service order:

1. Additional Engineering;
2. Overtime Installation;
3. Standby;
4. Additional Cooperative Acceptance Testing.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.4.3 Access Order Change Charges

Access Order changes involve service date changes and design changes. The Customer may request a change of its Access Order prior to the service date. The Company will make every effort to accommodate a requested change when it is able to do so with the normal work force assigned to the order and within normal business hours. If the change cannot be made with the normal work force during normal business hours, the Company will notify the Customer. If the customer still desires the Access Order change, the Company will schedule a new service date.

Any increase in the number of Special Access Service channels or Switched Access Service lines, trunks, or CCS/SS7 Port Terminations will be treated as a new Access Order (for the increased amount only).

If order changes are necessary to satisfy the transmission performance for a Special Access Service ordered by a Customer, these changes will be made without order change charges being incurred by the Customer.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.4.3 Access Order Change Charges (cont'd)

A. Service Date Change

The Customer may request a change of service date on a pending Access Order prior to the service date. A change of service date is a change of the scheduled service date by the Customer to either an earlier date or a later date that does not exceed thirty (30) calendar days from the original service date.

If the Company determines that the Customer's request can be accommodated without delaying the service dates for orders of other Customers, the service date will be changed and the Service Date Change Charge will be applied to the order.

If the service date is changed to an earlier date, and the Company determines additional labor or extraordinary costs are necessary to meet the earlier service date requested by the Customer, the customer will be notified by the Company that Expedited Order Charges as set forth in Section 3.1.3 following apply. Such charges will apply in addition to the Service Date Change Charge.

If the requested service date exceeds thirty (30) calendar days following the original service date, and the Company determines that the Customer's request can be accommodated, the Company will cancel the original order and apply the Cancellation Charges as set forth in Section 3.5.2 following. A new Access Order with a new service date will be issued. The Service Date Change Charge will not apply, however, the Access Order Charge will apply to the new order.

If the service date is changed due to a design change as set forth in paragraph B. following, the Service Date Change Charge will apply.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.4.3 Access Order Change Charges (cont'd)B. Design Change

The Customer may request a design change to the service ordered prior to the requested service date. A design change is any change to an Access Order that requires engineering review. An engineering review is a review by the Company personnel, of the service ordered and the requested changes to determine what changes in the design, if any, are necessary to meet the changes requested by the Customer. Design change include such things as the addition or deletion of optional features or functions or a change in the type of Transport Termination (Switched Access only), type of channel interface, type of Interface Group or technical specification package. Design changes do not include a change of Customer premise, end user premise to a different serving wire center or end office switch. Changes of this nature will require the issuance of a new order and the cancellation of the original order with appropriate cancellation charges applied.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.4.3 Access Order Change Charges (cont'd)B. Design Change (cont'd)

The Company will review the requested changes, notify the customer whether the change is a design change, if the change can be accommodated and if a new service date is required. If the Customer authorizes the Company to proceed with the design change, a Design Change Charge will apply in addition to the charge for Additional Engineering as set forth in Section 17. If a change of service date is required, the Service Date Change Charge will also apply.

A Design Change Charge will apply, on a per order, per occurrence basis.

3.5 Minimum Periods and Cancellations3.5.1 Minimum Periods

- A. Switched Access usage rate services (i.e. End Office Common Line, Tandem Switched Transport) have no minimum period.
- B. Special Access services are billed in advance with partial month charges calculated on a thirty (30) day month.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.5 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.5.1 Minimum Periods (cont'd)

- C. The following charges 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 Switched Access Service Interface (i.e. DS1 or DS3);
 5. A change in Switched Access Service Traffic Type;
 6. A change in type of Special Access Service Channel Termination;
 7. A change from two (2) point to multipoint Special Access Service.
- D. All applicable non-recurring charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.

3.5.2 Cancellation of an Access Order

- A. A Customer may cancel an Access Order for the installation of service on any date prior to the service date. 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. If a Customer or a Customer's end user is unable to accept Access Service within thirty (30) calendar days after the original service date, the Customer has the choice of the following options:
1. The Access Order shall be canceled and charges set forth in paragraph B. following will apply; or
 2. Billing for the service will commence. In such instances, the cancellation date or the billing date, depending on which option is selected by the Customer, shall be the thirty- first (31st) day beyond the original service date of the Access Order.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 3 – ACCESS ORDERING (cont'd)3.5 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (cont'd)3.5.2 Cancellation of an Access Order (cont'd)

- B. When a Customer cancels an Access Order for the installation of service, a Cancellation Charge will apply as follows:
1. Installation of Switched Access Service facilities is considered to have started when the Company incurs any cost in connection therewith or in preparation thereof which would not otherwise have been incurred.
 2. Where the Customer cancels an Access Order prior to the start of installation of access facilities, no charges shall apply.
 3. Where installation of access facilities has been started prior to the cancellation, the charges specified in paragraphs (a) or (b) following, whichever is lower, shall apply.
 - (a) A charge equal to the costs incurred in such installation, less estimated net salvage. Such costs include the non-recoverable cost of equipment and material ordered, provided or used, plus the non-recoverable cost of installation and removal including the costs of engineering, labor, supervision, transportation, rights-of-way and other associated costs; or
 - (b) The minimum period charges for Switched or Special Access Service ordered by the Customer.
- C. When a Customer cancels an order for the discontinuance of service, no charges apply for the cancellation.
- D. If the Company misses a service date by more than thirty (30) days and such delay is not requested or caused by the Customer (excluding those circumstances where the date is missed due to acts of God, governmental requirements, work stoppages and civil commotion), the Customer may cancel the Access Order without incurring cancellation charges

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 4 – RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE6.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point electrical communications path between a customer's premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, common switching, switched transport facilities, and common subscriber plant of the Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer's premises, and to terminate calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided.

Rates and charges for Switched Access Service depend generally on its use by the customer. Rates and charges for Switched Access Service are contained in the section 17. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in 6.4 following. Rates and charges for services other than Switched Access Service, e.g., a customer's interLATA and intraLATA toll message service, may also be applicable when Switched Access Service is used in conjunction with these other services.

6.1.1 Switched Access Service Arrangements and Manner of Provision

Switched Access Service is provided in various service categories of standard and optional features called Feature Group D, Toll Free Access Service, and 900 Access Service.

(A) Feature Group D (FGD)

FGD Access, which is available to all customers, provides trunk side access to Company end office switches. A more detailed description of FGD Access is provided in 6.2.1 following.

The provision of FGD Access is subject to local availability.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESection 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.1 Switched Access Service Arrangements and Manner of Provision (cont'd)(B) Toll Free Access Service (TFAS)

TFC Access Service is an originating service that is provided via TFC Access Service switched trunk groups, or may be provided in conjunction with FGD. The service provides for the forwarding of end user dialed TFAS calls to a Company Service Switching Point (SSP) that will initiate a query to the Company's TFAS database to perform the customer identification function. The call is forwarded to the appropriate customer based on the dialed TFAS number. The customer has the option of having the TFAS dialed number (e.g., 800-NXXXXXX) or, if the TFAS to Local Exchange Number Translation optional feature is specified, a translated ten-digit local exchange number (i.e., NPA-NXX-XXXX) delivered to the customer premises.

When TFC Access Service traffic is combined in the same trunk group arrangement with other traffic, usage for the TFC Access Service traffic will be aggregated with the other traffic for billing purposes. When separate trunk groups are provided for TFC Access Service, usage will be provided separately. A more detailed description of TFC Access Service is as set forth in 6.2.2.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.1 Switched Access Service Arrangements and Manner of Provision (cont'd)(C) 900 Access Service

900 Access Service is an originating service that is provided via 900 Access Service switched trunk groups, or may be provided in conjunction with FGD. The Service provides the customer identification function (900 NXX screening) based on the first six digits of the dialed 900 number. When a 1 + 900 + NXX + XXXX call is originated by an end user, a customer identification function determines the customer to which the call is to be routed based on the NXX dialed.

When a customer requests that the Company open a 900 NXX access code for exchanges served by the Company within a specified state, LATA or service area subtending an access tandem, the order must include the provisioning of all Company offices within that state, LATA or all offices subtending the specified access tandem.

When 900 Access Service traffic is combined in the same trunk group arrangement with other traffic, usage for the 900 Access Service traffic will be aggregated with the other traffic for billing purposes. When separate trunk groups are provided for 900 Access Service, usage will be provided separately. A more detailed description of 900 Access Service is as set forth in 6.2.3.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESection 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.1 Switched Access Service Arrangements and Manner of Provision (cont'd)(D) Manner of Provision

FGD is furnished on a per-trunk basis. Trunks are differentiated by type and directionality of traffic carried over a Switched Access Service arrangement. Differentiation of traffic is necessary for the Company to properly design Switched Access Service to meet the traffic carrying capacity requirement of the customer.

There are two major traffic types. These are: Originating and Terminating. Originating traffic type represents access capacity within a LATA for carrying traffic from the end user to the customer, while Terminating traffic type represents access capacity within a LATA for carrying traffic from the customer to the end user. When ordering capacity for FGD Access, the customer must at a minimum specify such access capacity in terms of Originating traffic type and/or Terminating traffic type.

6.1.2 Rate Categories

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

- Switched Transport
- Local Switching
- Common Line

In addition to these three rate categories, there are also charges that apply only to TFAS and 900 Access Services. The description and application of Toll Free Access Service is located in section 6.2.2 following. The description and application for 900 Access Service is located in section 6.2.3 following.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport

The Switched Transport rate category provides the transmission facilities between the customer's premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications.

Switched Transport provides a one-way or two-way voice frequency transmission path composed of facilities determined by the Company that permit the transport of calls in the originating direction and in the terminating direction, though not simultaneously.

Switched Transport is comprised of an Entrance Facility, Direct-Trunked Transport, Tandem-Switched Transport and various optional features and functions.

(1) Entrance Facility

An Entrance Facility provides the communication path between a customer's premises and the Company's serving wire center for that premises. The Entrance Facility is dedicated to the use of a single customer and is available for use with all line side and trunk side Switched Access services. An Entrance Facility is provided even if the customer's premises and the serving wire center are located in the same building. Entrance Facilities will be at the DS1 or mutually agreed upon level.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(1) Entrance Facility (cont'd)

(a) DS1 Entrance Facility

DS1 Entrance Facility provides 24 channels for the transmission of nominal 56kbps or 1.544 Mbps isochronous serial data. The actual bit rate and framing format is a function of the channel interface selected by the customer.

(b) DS3 Entrance Facility

DS3 Entrance Facility provides 28 DS1's or 672 channels for the transmission of nominal 44.736 Mbps isochronous serial data.

DS3 Entrance Facility rates may vary based on distance. The mileage used to determine the monthly rate for entrance facilities located outside a Company Central Office is the airline distance between the customer's designated premises and the Company serving wire center. The mileage measurement is determined by utilizing exchange maps and mileage tables located in designated Company offices for such purposes.

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Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(2) Direct-Trunked Transport

Direct-Trunked Transport provides the communication path between the serving wire center of a customer's premises and an end office or between the serving wire center and an access tandem when transport from the access tandem to the end office is routed on circuits used in common by multiple access customers. Direct-Trunked Transport is dedicated to the use of a single customer and does not require switching at an access tandem. Direct-Trunked Transport is available for use with all trunk side Switched Access services.

Direct-Trunked Transport is not available to end offices that lack recording and measuring capabilities needed to provide Direct-Trunked Transport. Direct-Trunked Transport is also not available for Toll Free Access Service when the required SSP function is located at the access tandem.

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Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(2) Direct-Trunked Transport (cont'd)

Direct-Trunked Transport provides for the transmission facilities between the Company's serving wire center and an end office when such facilities are not switched through an access tandem, or between the Company's serving wire center and the access tandem. This includes the transmission medium itself as well as certain circuit equipment that is used at the ends of the interoffice links and employed to provision the channels on the transmission medium and circuit equipment used within the network to manage the circuits at intermediate locations.

Direct-Trunked Transport also provides for the transmission facilities between the Company's serving wire center and a hub that interconnects facilities for both Tandem-Switched Transmission and Direct-Trunked Transport.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(3) Tandem-Switched Transport

Tandem-Switched Transport provides the communication path between the access tandem and an end office that subtends that tandem, and includes tandem switching functions. Tandem-Switched Transport is available for use with all trunk side Switched Access services.

Tandem-Switched Transport provides for the transmission facilities between the access tandem and an end office that subtends the tandem.

- (a) Tandem-Switched Transmission, which provides for the transmission facilities from the Company's access tandem switch to an end office subtending that tandem. This includes the transmission medium itself as well as certain circuit equipment that is used at the ends of the interoffice links and employed to derive the channels of the transmission medium, and circuit equipment used within the network to manage the circuits at intermediate locations.
- (b) Tandem Switching provides for the use of the Company's Access Tandem.

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Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(3) Tandem-Switched Transport (cont'd)

- (c) Common Transport Multiplexing provides for the use of the multiplexing equipment at the remote, the end office, and at the access tandem. The common transport multiplexing rate element is assessed on a per minute of use basis at both the end office and tandem.
- (d) Dedicated Transport Multiplexing provides for the use of multiplexing equipment at the end office and access tandem. The dedicated transport multiplexing rate element is a flat rated charge and is assessed at both the end office and tandem. Dedicated transport multiplexing is provided at the rates set forth in section 17 following for DS3 to DS1 multiplexing.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(3) Tandem-Switched Transport (cont'd)

(e) Tandem Trunk Port

The trunk port rate elements are defined as follows:

- Common Trunk Port

The Common Trunk Port provides for the use of shared end office trunk ports for the termination of common transport trunks for tandem or end office routed traffic.

- Dedicated Trunk Port

The Dedicated Trunk Port provides for termination of a dedicated trunk as a trunk side arrangement to an end office or provides access into the access tandem at the serving wire center side of the switch.

Switched Transport is provided at the rates and charges set forth in section 17 following.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESection 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(A) Switched Transport (cont'd)

(4) Chargeable Optional Features

(a) Multiplexing

Multiplexing provides for arrangements to convert a single higher capacity or bandwidth circuit for bulk transport to several lower capacity or bandwidth circuits. Multiplexing is only available at Company designated Hubs (end offices) arranged for multiplexing or at the access tandem trunk on the serving wire center side of the access tandem. All Types of multiplexing may not be available at each Hub location.

Listed below are the multiplexing arrangements offered with switched access.

(1) DS3 to DS1

An arrangement that multiplexes twenty-eight DS1 digital circuits to a single DS3 digital circuit at rate of 44.736 Mbps, or multiplexes a single DS3 digital circuit at a rate of 44.736 Mbps to twenty-eight DS1 digital circuits.

The rates and charges for multiplexing are located in section 17 following.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.1 General (cont'd)6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)(B) Local Switching

The Local Switching rate element provides for the use of end office switching equipment for the termination of end user lines in the local end office, and for the termination of a call at a Company operator or recording.

(C) 900 Access Service Nonrecurring Charges

The 900 Access Service nonrecurring charge is assessed depending upon how the service is ordered:

- (1) If the service is ordered to only one end office performing six digit screening, the customer charge for the assembly of route tables is assessed for each end office subtending the access tandem. A second nonrecurring charge element applies per NXX activated or deactivated, times the designated Company end office(s) modified to perform six digit screening for 900 Access Service. This option can be applied repetitively to different tandems to customize the intended offering area.

The route pattern nonrecurring charge applies only once, on the customer's initial request to the Company for 900 Access Service for each end office

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)

6.1 General (cont'd)

6.1.2 Rate Categories (cont'd)

(D) Toll Free Access Service (TFAS)

The TFC Access Service Data Base Query Charge will apply for each TFAS call query received at the Company's TFAS database. Per query charges will be accumulated over a monthly period and billed to the customer on a monthly basis.

6.1.3 Ordering Options and Conditions

Switched Access Service is ordered under the Access Order provisions set forth in 3 preceding. Also, included in that section are other charges that may be associated with ordering Switched Access Service (e.g., Service Date Change Charges, etc.).

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements

Switched Access Service is provided via Feature Group D arrangements and as TFAS and 900 Access Service. The provision of each service type requires Switched Transport facilities and the appropriate Local Switching functions.

Feature Group D is arranged for either originating, terminating or two-way calling, based on the customer end office switching capacity ordered, while TFC Access Service and 900 Access Service are arranged for originating calling only. Originating calling permits the delivery of calls from Telephone Exchange Service locations to the customer's premises.

Terminating calling permits the delivery of calls from the customer's premises to Telephone Exchange Service locations. Two-way calling permits the delivery of calls in both directions, but not simultaneously. The Company will determine the type of calling to be provided unless the customer requests that a different type of directional calling is to be provided. In such cases, the Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine the directionality.

There are various chargeable and non-chargeable optional features available with Switched Access Service. These additional optional features are provided as Switched Transport and Local Switching options.

Following are detailed descriptions of each of the available Switched Access Services. Each service is described in terms of its specific physical characteristics and calling capabilities and optional features available for use with it.

The Local Switching optional features, which are described in 6.3 following, unless specifically stated otherwise, are available at all suitably equipped Company end office switches.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)6.2.1 Feature Group D (FGD)(A) Description

- (1) FGD is provided at Company designated end office switches whether routed directly or via designated access tandem switches.
- (2) FGD is provided as trunk side switching through the use of end office trunk equipment. The switch trunk equipment is provided with wink start start-pulsing signals and answer and disconnect supervisory signaling.
- (3) FGD switching is provided with out of band SS7 signaling. With SS7 signaling, up to 12 digits of the called party number dialed by the customer's end user using dial pulse address signals will be provided by Company equipment to the customer's premises where the Switched Access Service terminates. Such address signals will be subject to the ordinary transmission capabilities of the Switched Transport provided.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)6.2.1 Feature Group D (FGD) (cont'd)(A) Description (cont'd)

- (4) FGD switching, when used in the terminating direction, may be used to access valid NXXs in the local exchange and other customers' services (by dialing the appropriate codes) when such services can be reached using valid NXX codes. When directly routed to an end office, only those valid NXX codes served by that office may be accessed. When routed through an access tandem, only those valid NXX codes served by end offices subtending the access tandem may be accessed.
- (5) The Company will establish a trunk group or groups for the customer at end office switches or access tandem switches where FGD switching is provided. When required by technical limitations, a separate trunk group will be established for each type of FGD switching arrangement provided.
- (6) Where no access code is required, the number dialed by the customer's end user shall be a seven or ten digit number for calls in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). For international calls outside the NANP, a twelve to fifteen digit number may be dialed. The form of the numbers dialed by the customer's end user is NXX-XXXX, 0 or 1 + NXX-XXXX, NPA + NXX-XXXX, 0 or 1 + NPA + NXX-XXXX, and, when the end office is equipped for International Direct Distance Dialing (IDDD), 01 + CC + NN or 011 + CC + NN.

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Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)

6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)

6.2.1 Feature Group D (FGD) (cont'd)

(B) Optional Features (where equipment is available)

(1) Local Switching Optional Features (where equipment is available)

- (a) Automatic Number Identification (ANI)
- (b) Flexible Automatic Number Identification (Flex ANI)
- (c) Common Channel Signaling/Signaling System 7 (CCS/SS7)
with optional features as follows:
 - (1) Charge Number (CN)

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Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)6.2.2 Toll Free Access Service (TFAS)(A) Description

Toll Free Access Service is an originating trunk side switched service that is available to the customer via Toll Free Access Service trunk groups, or may be provided in conjunction with FGD. The service provides for the forwarding of end user dialed TFAS calls to a designated Service Switching Point (SSP) that will initiate a TFAS data base query. The call is forwarded to the appropriate customer based on the dialed TFAS number. The customer has the option of having the TFAS dialed number (e.g., 800-NXX-XXXX) or, if the TFAS to Local Exchange Number Translation optional feature is specified, a translated ten digit local exchange number (i.e., NPA-NXX-XXXX), delivered to the customer premises.

No access code is required for Toll Free Access Service. When the TFAS call is originated by an end user, the Company will perform the TFAS data base query based on the dialed digits to determine the customer location to which the call is to be routed. TFAS database query charges will be applied for each completed customer identification query. A query is deemed completed when the signaling information enabling the call to be directed to the appropriate carrier is returned by the TFAS database to the switch that originated the query. The TFAS data base query will be performed from suitably equipped end offices or access tandems. If the call originates from an end office not equipped to perform the

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)6.2.2 Toll Free Access Service (cont'd)(A) Description (cont'd)

TFAS database query, the call will be routed to an access tandem at which the query function is available. Once customer identification has been established, the call will be routed to the customer. TFAS calls may be routed to multiple carriers based on the local access transport area in which the call originates, however, calls originating from an end office switch not included in the customer's area of service for Toll Free Access Service will not be completed.

The provision of Toll Free Access Service requires access to the TFAS Service Management System (TFAS SMS) by a Responsible Organization on behalf of the customer or through direct access by the customer to the TFAS SMS.

Unless prohibited by network considerations (e.g., different dialing plans), the customer's Toll Free Access Service traffic may, at the option of the customer, be combined in the same trunk group arrangement with the customer's non-TFAS switched access traffic except as follows. Combining Toll Free Access Service traffic with the customer's direct routed switched access traffic will be allowed only when the end office is equipped to perform the TFAS data base query. When required by network considerations, a separate trunk group must be established for Toll Free Access Service.

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Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)6.2.3 900 Access Service(A) Description

Originating 900 Access Service is a trunk side switched service that is available to the customer via 900 Access Service trunk groups, or can be provided to the customer in conjunction with FGD service. When combined with FGD, 900 Access Service traffic can, at the option of the customer, be carried on the same group with non-900 Access traffic. When an end user originates a 1+900+NXX+XXXX or 0+900+NXX+XXXX call, the Company will perform the customer identification function based on the dialed digits to determine the customer to which the call is to be routed. If the call originates from an end office not equipped to provide the customer identification function, the call will be routed to an office where the function is available. Once customer identification has been established, the call will be routed to the customer.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont'd)6.2.3 900 Access Service(A) Description (cont'd)

The manner in which 900 Access Service is provided depends on whether the end office from which the call originates has equal access capability and/or the customer identification function. In equal access end offices which have customer identification function capability, 900 Access Service is provided in accordance with technical characteristics available with FGD (however, ANI is required with 900 Access Service), either direct to the end office or via an equal access tandem on existing trunk groups. At the customer's option, 900 Access Service and Toll Free Access Service may be combined on the same trunk group. 900 Access Service calls that are routed through operator services will be delivered at the equal access tandem over FGD. At the customer's option, 900 Access Service can be provided from both equal access and non-equal access end office switches over a FGD trunk group from the access tandem to the customer's premises if the customer can accept, on that trunk group, both exchange access and conventional signaling.

900 Access Service originating from equal access end offices with the customer identification function will be provided using exchange access signaling with overlap out pulsing and ten digit ANI. 900 Access Service originating from equal access end offices without the customer identification function, or for calls routed through operator services, will be provided using conventional signaling. On traffic using conventional signaling, the customer's facilities shall provide off hook supervision upon receipt of the transmitted digits.

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.3 Optional Features6.3.1 Local Switching Optional Features(A) Automatic Number Identification (ANI)

This option provides the automatic transmission of a seven or ten digit number and information digits to the customer's premises for calls originating in the exchange, to identify the calling station. Customer use of the ANI feature is subject to the limitations. The ANI feature is an end office software function which is associated on a call-by-call basis with (1) all individual transmission paths in a trunk group routed directly between an end office and a customer's premises or, where technically feasible, with (2) all individual transmission paths in a trunk group between an end office and an access tandem, and trunk group between an access tandem and a customer's premises.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.3 Optional Features (cont'd)6.3.1 Local Switching Optional Features (cont'd)(B) Flexible Automatic Number Identification (Flex ANI)

The Flex ANI feature provides an enhancement to the existing ANI Information Indicator (ANI II) digits that are included in the ANI optional feature as described in 6.3(A) preceding. The Flex ANI feature provides additional values for the ANI II digits that are associated with various classes of service not available with the standard ANI digits. This feature is provided per host central office on a Carrier Identification Code (CIC) basis. Flex ANI is available with Feature Group D service in equal access end offices where technically feasible and must be provisioned with the ten digit ANI optional feature.

(C) Signaling System 7 (SS7) Signaling

This feature provides common channel out of band transmission of address and supervisory SS7 protocol signaling information between the end office switch or the tandem office switching system and the customer's designated premises.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)

6.3 Optional Features (cont'd)

6.3.1 Local Switching Optional Features (cont'd)

(D) Charge Number (CN)

This option provides for the automatic transmission of the ten digit billing number of the calling station number and originating line information. Customer use of the Charge Number feature is subject to the limitations. This feature is available only with Feature Group D when the SS7 signaling option is specified.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations

This section contains the specific regulations governing the rates and charges that apply for Switched Access Service.

6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service. These are monthly recurring rates, nonrecurring charges and usage rates. These rates and charges are applied differently to the various rate elements as set forth in (D) following.

(A) Monthly Rates

Monthly rates are flat recurring rates that apply each month or fraction thereof that a specific rate element is provided regardless of the amount of usage. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have 30 days.

(B) Usage Rates

Usage rates are rates that apply only when a specific rate element is used. These are applied on a per access minute basis or on a per query basis. Access minute charges are accumulated over a monthly period.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations (cont'd)6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges (cont'd)(C) Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring charges are one-time charges that apply for a specific work activity (i.e., installation or change to an existing service) and are developed at full cost recovery on a labor hours per labor time basis. Under the Multiple Bill Method, the nonrecurring charges reflect only the Company's costs and are applicable only when the nonrecurring function occurs within its territory. The types of nonrecurring charges that apply for Switched Access Service are: installation of service, installation of optional features and 900 Access Service.

(1) Installation of Service

Nonrecurring charges apply to each Switched Access Service installed. For FGD, TFAS and 900, the per trunk installation charge is applicable on a per end office or tandem basis.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations (cont'd)6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges (cont'd)(C) Nonrecurring Charges (cont'd)

(2) Service Rearrangements

Service rearrangements are changes to existing services installed which do not result in either a change in the minimum period requirements or a change in the physical location of the point of termination at the customer's premises or the customer's end user's premises. Changes that result in the establishment of new minimum period obligations are treated as disconnects and starts. Changes in the physical location of the point of termination are treated as moves.

(3) 900 Access Service

A nonrecurring charge applies each time a change is made which involves the addition or deletion of 900 NXX codes to be routed to the customer. The charge is assessed per 900 NXX code added or deleted for each Company end office switch or access tandem in which translation changes are required. This charge applies to the initial loading of one or more 900 NXX codes required to establish service for the customer, and to any subsequent changes (i.e., additions or deletions) to those codes. There is also an Assembly of Route Pattern nonrecurring charge which applies once for each Company end office, but only on the customer's initial request to the Company for 900 Access Service in each state, LATA, access tandem or end office.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations (cont'd)6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges (cont'd)(D) Application of Rates

Switched access usage rates apply to all access minutes that originate or terminate at end offices. Switched access usage rates also apply to all TFAS and 900 Access Service minutes that originate from end offices.

6.4.2 Minimum Periods

Feature Group D is provided for a minimum period of three months.

6.4.3 Minimum Monthly Charge

Switched Access Service is subject to a minimum monthly charge. The minimum charge applies for the total capacity provided. For usage rated Switched Access Services, the minimum monthly charge is the applicable usage charge for the month's usage. For flat rated Switched Access services, the minimum monthly charge is the applicable monthly rate for the service.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICE

Section 6 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)6.4 Rate Regulations (cont'd)6.4.4 Measuring Access Minutes

Customer traffic to end offices will be measured by the Company at end office switches or access tandem switches. Originating and terminating calls will be measured by the Company to determine the basis for computing chargeable access minutes. For terminating and originating calls over FGD, the measured minutes are the chargeable access minutes.

For FGD access minutes or fractions thereof, the exact value of the fraction being a function of the switch technology where the measurement is made, are accumulated over the billing period for each end office, and are then rounded up to the nearest access minute for each end office.

For originating calls over FGD with SS7 signaling, usage measurement begins with the transmission of the initial address message. The measurement of originating FGD call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

For terminating calls over FGD with SS7 signaling, usage measurement begins when the terminating recording switch receives answer supervision from the terminating end user. The Company switch receives answer supervision and sends the indication to the customer in the form of an answer message. The measurement of terminating FGD call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

6.5 Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges are included in section 17.

INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICES

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INTERSTATE ACCESS SERVICESSection 17 – RATES AND CHARGESSwitched Access Service17.1 Local Transport Rate

The recurring rate charged by the Company is the applicable current rate, based on the band with the highest rate at NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5. Section 17.2.2., Premium Access-Tandem Switched Transport for Switched Access and for Direct Trunk Transport level DS3 or DS1 with or without Mux capability, at NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5. Section 17.2.2., Premium Access-Direct Trunked Transport, Multiplexing.

17.2. End Office(A) Local Switching

Per Access Minute

The recurring rate charged by the Company is the current rate the highest rate band at NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5. Section 17.2.3(A), End Office, Local Switching.

(B) Information Surcharge

Per 100 Access Minutes

The recurring rate charged by the Company is the current rate the highest rate band at NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5. Section 17.2.3(B), Information Surcharge

17.3. 800 Database Access Service Queries

The recurring rate charged by the Company is the applicable Basic or Vertical Feature current rate at NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5. Section 17.2.2(B), 800 Data Base Access Service Queries.

17.4. Other Services

The Company will provide other services to carriers on an individual case basis negotiated at the time of ordering.