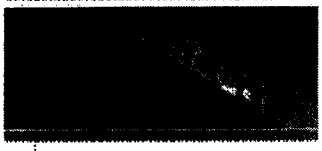

Business Home
Local and Long Distance
MCI Business Complete
Features & Benefits
FAQs
Message Center

For more information call
1-800-MCI-7766
(1-800-624-7766)

Add high speed Internet service to any MCI Business Complete calling plan for only $50 a month!

CLICK TO CHECK HIGH SPEED AVAILABILITY

MCI Business Complete
Unlimited Calls. One Price.

Get **unlimited local** and **long distance** calling and popular calling features plus **unlimited high speed Internet** for **one price** from **one company**. Call clients, vendors, or anyone in the country for one low monthly price.

MCI Business Complete Unlimited gives you the freedom of:

- Unlimited long distance calls
- Unlimited local toll calls
- Unlimited local calls
- Popular features at no extra charge
- Hunting/rollover for all your business lines
- Low rate calling cards
- One company for your communication needs

Plus, for an additional monthly fee, you can add any of the following services:

- Unlimited high speed Internet service (where available)
- Business enhanced voicemail
- MCI International Calling Plan
- Additional phone lines

Find the MCI Business Complete plan that works for you.

Enter your main telephone number below to check pricing and availability for MCI Business Complete.

( ) -

FIND YOUR PLAN

Where is MCI Business Complete available?
Pricing and availability vary by state.

Service cannot be used with autodialer, call center or certain automated switching equipment. Complete terms are provided when ordering.

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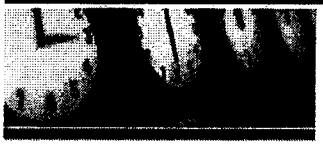

- Managed Services
- Voice
  - Local
    - Business Lines
    - Trunks
    - Full Service T1
    - Local ISDN PRI
  - Outbound Long Distance
  - Calling Cards
  - Toll Free
  - Conferencing
  - SkyTel Wireless Services
  - Contact Center Services
  - MCI Advantage
- Internet
- Data
- Satellite
- Government Services
- Wholesale Services
- All Products
- Partner Center
- Resource Center
- Manage My Account
- Customer Service
- Contact Us

Business Lines

Business Lines are often referred to as "Plain Old Telephone Service" (POTS) Lines. Business lines c communication circuits between the local end office and your telephone, key system, fax, or modem.

MCI Business Lines, as its simplest, are the ideal solution for all your routine business telecommunica applications. Whether you use your MCI business line to connect to a telephone, fax machine, moden system, you can be assured that you will have local service you can count on. Business lines allow su

- Make and receive calls
- Transmit faxes
- Gain access to the Internet

Which Businesses Can Use MCI Business Lines?

Business Lines are ideal for:

- Small Business customers
- Customers who do not currently require the feature functionality of a PBX
- Customers with fewer than 15 lines

Why MCI Business Lines?

MCI has an impressive array of local features that define and enhance the MCI Business Line offering features include:

- **Call Transfer or Three Way Conference Calling.** Permits station users to transfer any call c party to an established connection.
- **Call Forward Busy.** Redirects calls to another station when called station is busy.
- **Call Forward No Answer.** Redirects calls to another station when called station does not ans
- **Call Foward Variable.** Incoming calls are redirected to another station.
- **Speed Dial (8 or 30 codes).** Allows users to place calls to designated numbers by dialing on rather than the complete telephone number. Users can program up to 8 or 30 codes.
- **Call Waiting/Cancel Call Waiting.** With the sound of a beep, the user will be alerted that anc waiting to be answered. It is not necessary to terminate the original call to answer the call, wh
- **Caller ID w/Name.** Provides the MCI Local Customer the ability to identify the name of (or sta telephone number associated with the calling party. This feature requires a two-line minimum
- **Caller ID Blocking-Selective, -Complete.** The caller's number can be blocked from the dest on every call.
- **Voice Mail.** Voice Mail offers extensive voice messaging features, packaged in a way that ma to use. Simple prompts help with every step, giving you the option to review messages, recor and change passcodes by simply pressing numbers on your touch-tone keypad.

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International Search

Pro Tools
Find Similar Companies
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Build Company List (Hoover's In-Depth)
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Network Telephone Corp.

40 S. Palafox Pl.
Pensacola, FL 32501 (Map)

Phone: 850-432-4855
Fax: 850-470-9641
Toll Free: 888-432-4855

http://www.networktelephone.net

Covered by David Hamerly

Network Telephone is a facilities-based provider of advanced integrated telecommunications services, including local and long-distance voice access and broadband Internet, in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Tennessee. The company has more than 114,000 lines in service to 13,000 small business customers. Network Telephone also offers Web hosting and Web site development. Chairman Ray Russenberger founded Network Telephone in 1997. Russenberger also founded Network Paging in 1985 and Network USA (now Metrocall) in 1988.

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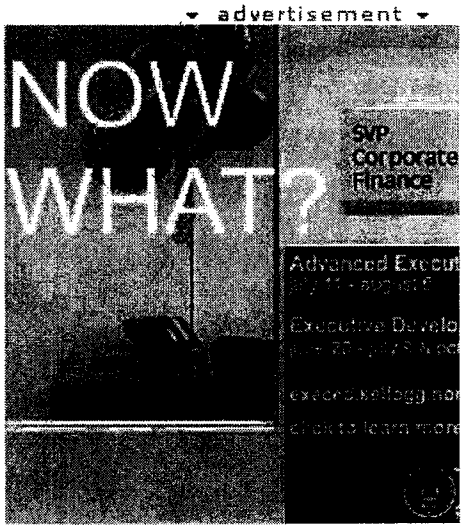

Key Numbers

Company Type	Private
D&B D-U-N-S Number	Subscribers Only
Fiscal Year-End	December
2002 Sales (mil.)	$44.9
1-Year Sales Growth	130.3%
2002 Employees	500

More Financials

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Key People

Chairman and CEO	Ray Russenberger
President, COO, and Director	Leo J. Cyr
CFO	Danyelle Kennedy
VP Corporate Services	Subscribers Only
CIO	Subscribers Only

More People

Job Ope

Print This Page

Industry Information

- Telecommunications Services
  - **Fixed-line Voice Services Providers (primary)**
    - Local Exchange Carriers
    - Long-distance Carriers
  - Data Services

Top Competitors

- ALLTEL
- BellSouth
- CenturyTel

6 Competitors Listed For Network Telephone

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- Data Processing Services Major Companies Report
  (Harris Industry Reports, Aug 12, 2003, Business Reports)
- Data Services: Financial Analysis Profiles
  (BizMiner, May 24, 2004, Business Reports)
- Wired Telecommunications Carriers in the US
  (IBISWorld, Jan 18, 2004, Business Reports)
- Plunkett's Telecommunications Industry Almanac 2003-2004
  (Plunkett Research, Ltd., Jul 15, 2002, Books)
- Audiotex Update: June 2003
  (Worldwide Videotex, Jun 1, 2003, Business Reports)
- Beyond the perimeter firewall
  (Datamonitor, Feb 24, 2003, Business Reports)
- ValuEngine Quantitative Industry Report for TELEPHONE UTILITIES
  (ValuEngine, Inc., Nov 1, 2002, Business Reports)

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NETWORK TELEPHONE

ABOUT NETWORK TELEPHONE CORPORATION

www.networktelephone.net

Overview

Headquartered in Pensacola, Fla., Network Telephone Corporation is a facilities-based, second generation, data-centric competitive exchange carrier providing high speed digital subscriber line (DSL), voice over DSL (VoDSL), local and long distance voice, internet and wireless data services throughout a nine-state southeastern US footprint.

Network Telephone secured government certification to provide local and long distance telecommunications exchange in the state of Florida in July 1998. Since then, the company has embraced forefront technology and enhanced product offerings, corporate and client architecture. Network Telephone is currently FCC certified to provide service to Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. In addition, more than 300 collocation agreements have been filed with BellSouth, Sprint and GTE and strategic plans include delivery of end-to-end DSL and voice choices to 60+ markets before year-end. Network Telephone concentrates primarily on servicing the small and medium sized business market.

Ray Russenberger founded Network Telephone in 1998, realizing the opportunities that deregulation presented for embracing dynamic technology. Network Telephone immediately began bundling local and long distance voice exchange with data transmission at considerable savings off of incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC's) rates.

After less than one year in existence, Network Telephone formed a partnership with California-based Copper Mountain Network®™ to deploy their CopperEdgeâä DSL concentrators and packet-based integrated access devices, securing delivery of DSL to all of Network Telephone's territories. The move presented full-service telecommunications solutions and advanced technological offerings from one powerhouse source.

Other benchmarks quickly followed. Lucent Technologies feature-rich voice over DSL (VoDSL) Pathstar™ technology joined the Network Telephone product delivery menu. Before year-end 1999, Network Telephone launched its Jackrabbit DSL product, with speeds 50 to 100 times greater than analog dial-up service and a dedicated connection at half the cost of former options, like T1 or ISDN usage-based charges. An aggressive sales team began pre-selling customers to Network Telephone's custom-designed fiber-optic circuitry in Pensacola, Fl. with a scheduled date to move to the network in the first quarter 2000.

In January 2000, Network Telephone successfully launched a new $8 million, customized SavillExpress CLEC and SavillCare comprehensive customer care back-office infrastructure, automating services and accounting, streamlining customer profiling and management.

Since inception, Network Telephone has assembled a senior management staff representing more than 100 years of telecom experience. To date Network Telephone circuits connect approximately 19,000 lines and 4,000 customers.

View Jobs for Network Telephone Corporation

COPPER MOUNTAIN NETWORKS, INC.

Press Release

Contacts:

Keith Higgins
Copper Mountain Networks, Inc.
1.650.687.3312
khiggins@coppermountain.com

Clare LaGrand
Network Telephone Corporation
1.850.432.4855, ext. 1505
clarel@networktelephone.net

Network Telephone Extends Reach of Free Powerline DSL™ Broadba Data and Voice Service for Business with T1 Solution from Copper Mountain

Copper Mountain Helps Southeast U.S. Integrated Communications Provider Deliv Affordable T1-Enabled High-Speed Internet Service Bundles to Business Custome Regardless of Distance from CO

PENSACOLA, Fla., July 31, 2001—Network Telephone, providing facilities-based broad voice and data telecommunications services to businesses, and Copper Mountain Netwo (Nasdaq: CMTN), a provider of copper-based broadband access solutions, today announ Network Telephone is utilizing T1 Line Cards from Copper Mountain to extend the reach affordable, business-class, bundled voice, digital subscriber line (DSL) Internet and Web services in the Southeastern U.S.

Network Telephone is installing Copper Mountain's CopperEdge® T1 Line Cards in Copp 200 Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Concentrators already activated in 175 sites throughou Southeastern states. The T1 capability of Copper Mountain's CopperEdge concentrators Network Telephone to offer concurrent high-speed Internet, multi-line voice services, and site development and hosting applications to business customers located almost anywhe the central office (CO) serving area. Network Telephone is providing the T1-enabled acce customers located behind digital loop carriers (DLCs) or beyond the distance that can be using SDSL access. Network Telephone's broadband service bundle is priced to include 160 Kbps Internet connection for businesses with five to 24 telephone lines, regardless o means that Network Telephone uses to reach the customer with the high speed Internet connection.

"Network Telephone has been an industry leader in providing affordable broadband data voice services over SDSL to small and mid-sized businesses throughout the Southeast L said Rick Gilbert, president and chief executive officer of Copper Mountain Networks. "Nc the addition of T1-based DSL access, Network Telephone is leading the way in making ir value-added solutions available to customers beyond the reach of traditional SDSL acces

"Access to affordable broadband service is increasingly vital to small and medium-sized t operations," said Network Telephone's chief executive officer and founder Ray Russenbe

"With Copper Mountain's T1 Line Card, Network Telephone can extend the DSL bundle c business-ready data and voice services to all interested customers in every metro marke serve. Distance from the CO is no longer an issue for Network Telephone or our prospec customers."

About the CopperEdge® T1 Line Card
Copper Mountain's 12-port CopperEdge T1 Line Card is hot-swappable in CopperEdge D concentrators, and can be deployed concurrently with Copper Mountain's CopperEdge F ADSL, G.lite, IDSL, and SDSL Line Cards. The CopperEdge T1 Line Card enables broad service providers to leverage CopperEdge concentrators' robust Internet Protocol (IP) se intelligence—Copper Mountain's IP IQ™—to deliver cost-effective broadband voice and I speed data services, even to customers located beyond the reach of conventional SDSL or who are served by Digital Loop Carrier (DLC) equipment. The CopperEdge T1 Line Ca interoperable with Copper Mountain's CopperRocket® 508T Integrated Access Device (I/ well as industry-standard T1 customer premise equipment (CPE).

About Network Telephone Corp.
Headquartered in Pensacola, Fla., Network Telephone Corp. is a facilities-based broadba Integrated Communications Provider (ICP) using voice over digital subscriber line (VoDS technology to deliver local and long-distance, high-speed Internet, Web site hosting, and site development services to small and medium-size businesses throughout the Southea The company employs almost 500 at its headquarters and 20 regional offices. More than lines are in service to date. For more information about Network Telephone, visit the com Web sites, http://www.networktelephone.net and http://www.powerlinedsl.com.

About Copper Mountain Networks
Copper Mountain Networks, Inc. (Nasdaq: CMTN) manufactures intelligent DSL and aggr equipment for central office, digital loop and multi-tenant unit (MTU) broadband networks worldwide. Its DSL solutions enable carriers and service providers to deliver cost-effectiv performance data and voice services over existing copper telephone wiring. Its CopperEd 200 DSL Concentrator is deployed in some of the world's largest public networks, and its environmentally hardened CopperEdge® RT (remote terminal) DSL Concentrator extend reach of DSL to the millions of customers served by digital loop carriers (DLCs). Copper Mountain's OnPrem™ MTU Concentrator offers a cost-effective and scalable platform for service providers. With IP IQ™, Copper Mountain's robust Internet Protocol (IP) service intelligence, service providers can maximize bandwidth utilization, support value-added broadband services, and scale to meet the demands of hundreds of thousands of subscri Copper Mountain's CopperRocket® CPE family and CopperCompatible® program ensur Copper Mountain DSL concentrators are interoperable with the broadest range of custom premise equipment (CPE). Customers wanting more information about Copper Mountain products or office locations worldwide can visit the company's World Wide Web site at http://www.coppermountain.com. For investor relations information, contact us at IR@coppermountain.com.

Safe Harbor Warning
Portions of this release contain forward-looking statements regarding future events basec current expectations, and are subject to risks and uncertainties, such as the rate of install the Copper Edge® T1 line cards in Network Telephone's CopperEdge® 200 DSL Concer Copper Mountain wishes to caution you that there are some factors that could cause actu results to differ materially from the results indicated by such statements. These factors in but are not limited to: the ability to expand addressable markets for high-value services lil quality and multi-line voice in the broadband industry; quarterly fluctuations in operating r attributable to the timing and amount of orders for our products; our ability to keep pace v rapidly changing product requirements of its customers; market acceptance of our produc concentration of our revenue in a small number of customers; factors and market conditic affecting the telecommunications market, the demand for DSL technologies, the market f service providers, and economic conditions generally which are beyond Copper Mountair to control. We refer you to the documents Copper Mountain files from time to time with th Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically the section titled Risk Factors in our A Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000 and other reports and filings

with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Copper Mountain and all Copper Mountain product names are trademarks of Copper Mountain Net Inc. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

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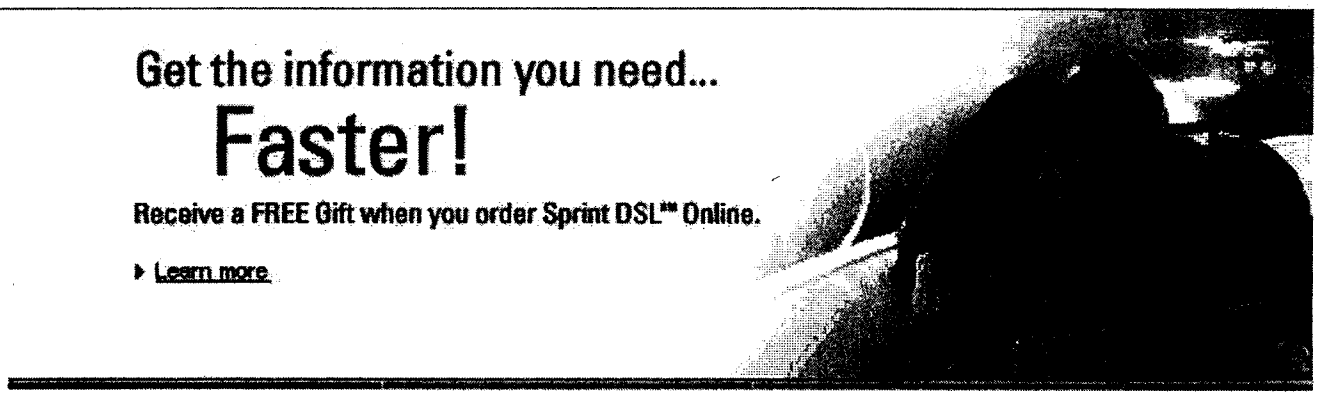

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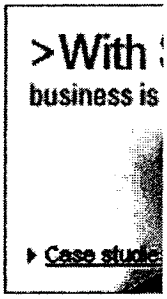

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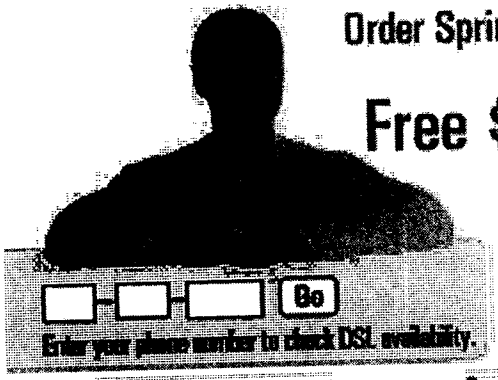

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- Vacation Service
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- Order Previous Bills
- Policies & Forms
- Contact Sprint

My Account

Sprint Local residential customers can **view and pay online**, review call detail, and download Adobe PDF last 18 bills.

Registered Users: Login

New Users: Register

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Other Monthly Charges

Local Co

In addition to the monthly fee for your basic phone line, the following fees and surcharges will appear on your local bill.

All states:

Interstate Access Surcharge- ($4.00-$9.20 Varies by state)
This charge covers the cost of connections to the local telephone network, allowing you to make both local and long distance calls. This fee covers the cost of telephone wires, poles and other facilities that connect long distance carriers to local telephone companies. Customers are charged a monthly fee for each telephone line they use.

Local Number Portability- ($.52 Local Number Portability surcharge will be eliminated during the beginning of February 2004)
Number portability allows you to move almost anywhere within your local calling area and keep the telephone number you have today. You can also keep your telephone number if you switch your local service provider. The local number portability surcharge allows telephone companies like Sprint to recover some of the costs for providing this service. All customers regardless of whether they move their telephone number or not must pay this FCC-approved surcharge.

Universal Service Fund- (varies by community)
This surcharge recovers some of the costs Sprint incurs to keep basic telephone service affordable in rural and high cost areas. This fund also makes it possible for telephone companies like Sprint to assist low-income customers that qualify, through lifeline assistance programs. It also provides support for telecommunications services used by schools, libraries and rural health care providers. In some areas, state governments may also require a similar surcharge for special programs within their communities.

Florida:

Touch-tone Service- Touch Tone Service was included in the access line in Florida as of 03/01/2003
Touch-tone service allows you to use Sprint network calling features as well as the interactive customer service features of other companies like banks, airlines, etc. With touch-tone service a phone emits signals or tones (instead of clicks) that automated service systems are able to interpret and process.

Hearing Speech Surcharge- ($.13)
This fee provides funding for telecommunications devices and relay service to be furnished to hearing and speech impaired individuals. The relay service is the service of relaying messages from a hearing impaired customer with a TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) to someone else who does not have a TDD and/or vice-versa. The surcharge applies to all residential and business phone lines.

Indiana:

Hearing Speech Surcharge- ($.06)
This fee provides funding for telecommunications devices and relay service to be furnished to hearing and speech impaired individuals. The relay service is the service of relaying messages from a hearing impaired customer with a TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) to someone else who does not have a TDD and/or vice-versa. The surcharge applies to all residential and business phone lines.

Kansas:

No additional

Minnesota:
No additional

Missouri:
Extended Local Calling Charge
This charge reflects the additional cost of expanding your local calling area to include former long distance or local toll destinations. These charges vary by community and apply only in areas where local calling has been expanded.

Relay Surcharge-($.10)
This fee provides funding for telecommunications devices and relay service to be furnished to hearing and speech impaired individuals. The relay service is the service of relaying messages from a hearing impaired customer with a TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) to someone else who does not have a TDD and/or vice-versa. The surcharge applies to all residential and business phone lines.

North Carolina:
Touch-tone Service- Touch Tone is included in the access line in North Carolina
Touch-tone service allows you to use Sprint network calling features as well as the interactive customer service features of other companies like banks, airlines, etc. With touch-tone service a phone emits signals or tones (instead of clicks) that automated service systems are able to interpret and process.

Nebraska:
Hearing Speech Surcharge-($.07)
This fee provides funding for telecommunications devices and relay service to be furnished to hearing and speech impaired individuals. The relay service is the service of relaying messages from a hearing impaired customer with a TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) to someone else who does not have a TDD and/or vice-versa. The surcharge applies to all residential and business phone lines.

Extended Local Calling Charge
This charge reflects the additional cost of expanding your local calling area to include former long distance or local toll destinations. These charges vary by community and apply only in areas where local calling has been expanded.

New Jersey:
Touch-tone Service-($.75)
Touch-tone service allows you to use Sprint network calling features as well as the interactive customer service features of other companies like banks, airlines, etc. With touch-tone service a phone emits signals or tones (instead of clicks) that automated service systems are able to interpret and process.

Nevada:
No additional.

Ohio:
Intrastate Access Fee
The Intrastate Access Fee was added to customer invoices on July 3, 2001. This fee is simply a more direct method of billing for charges that were formally included in customer long distance charges. Customers have been paying this fee all along, but the charge was included in their long distance rates before July 3, 2001. To help as many customers as we can offset this fee, Sprint eliminated Local Toll and Usage Charges on more than 500 calling routes throughout the state."

Oregon:
Residential Service Protection Fund-($.13)
This fee provides funding for telecommunications devices and relay service to be furnished to hearing and speech impaired individuals. The relay service is the service of relaying messages from a hearing impaired customer with a TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) to someone else who does not have a TDD and/or vice-versa. The surcharge applies to all residential and business phone lines.

Extended Local Calling Charge
This charge reflects the additional cost of expanding your local calling area to include former long distance or local toll destinations. These charges vary by community and apply only in areas where local calling has been expanded.

Pennsylvania:
No additional.

South Carolina:
No additional

Tennessee:
Touch-tone Service-($1.00)
Touch-tone service allows you to use Sprint network calling features as well as the interactive customer service features of other companies like banks, airlines, etc. With touch-tone service a phone emits signals or tones (instead of clicks) that automated service systems are able to interpret and process.

Texas:
Extended Local Calling Charge
This charge reflects the additional cost of expanding your local calling area to include former long distance or local toll destinations. These charges vary by community and apply only in areas where local calling has been expanded.

Virginia:
No additional.

Washington:
Extended Local Calling Charge
This charge reflects the additional cost of expanding your local calling area to include former long distance or local toll destinations. These charges vary by community and apply only in areas where local calling has been expanded.

Wyoming:
Hearing Speech Surcharge-($.10)
This fee provides funding for telecommunications devices and relay service to be furnished to hearing and speech impaired individuals. The relay service is the service of relaying messages from a hearing impaired customer with a TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) to someone else who does not have a TDD and/or vice-versa. The surcharge applies to all residential and business phone lines. This charge appears on the bill as "Relay/TAP Surchagre".

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Sprint Local

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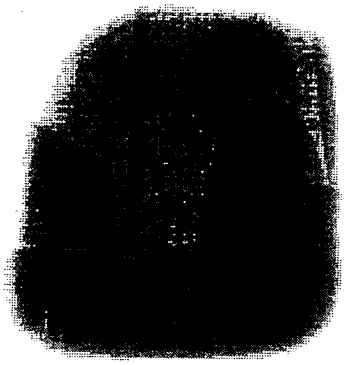

IS YOUR ENTRY CORRECT?

You entered the Zip Code below for your new residence.
If this is correct, please click "continue":

ZIP CODE

ZIP Code Continue

If incorrect, please re-enter your Zip Code and click "continue".

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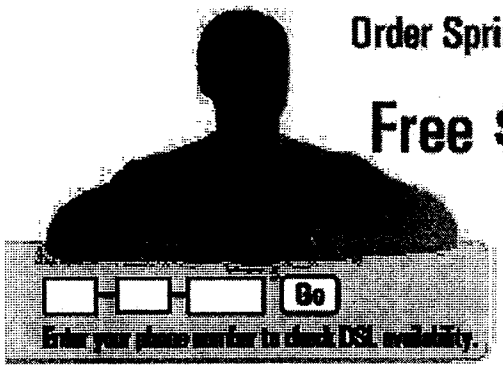

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- EarthLink Dialup Internet
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- Calling Features
- Long Distance
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- PCS Wireless Phones

Customer Service

- Questions & Answers
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- Vacation Service
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- Order Previous Bills
- Policies & Forms
- Contact Sprint

My Account

Sprint Local residential customers can **view and pay online**, review call detail, and download Adobe PDF last 18 bills.

Registered Users: Login

New Users: Register

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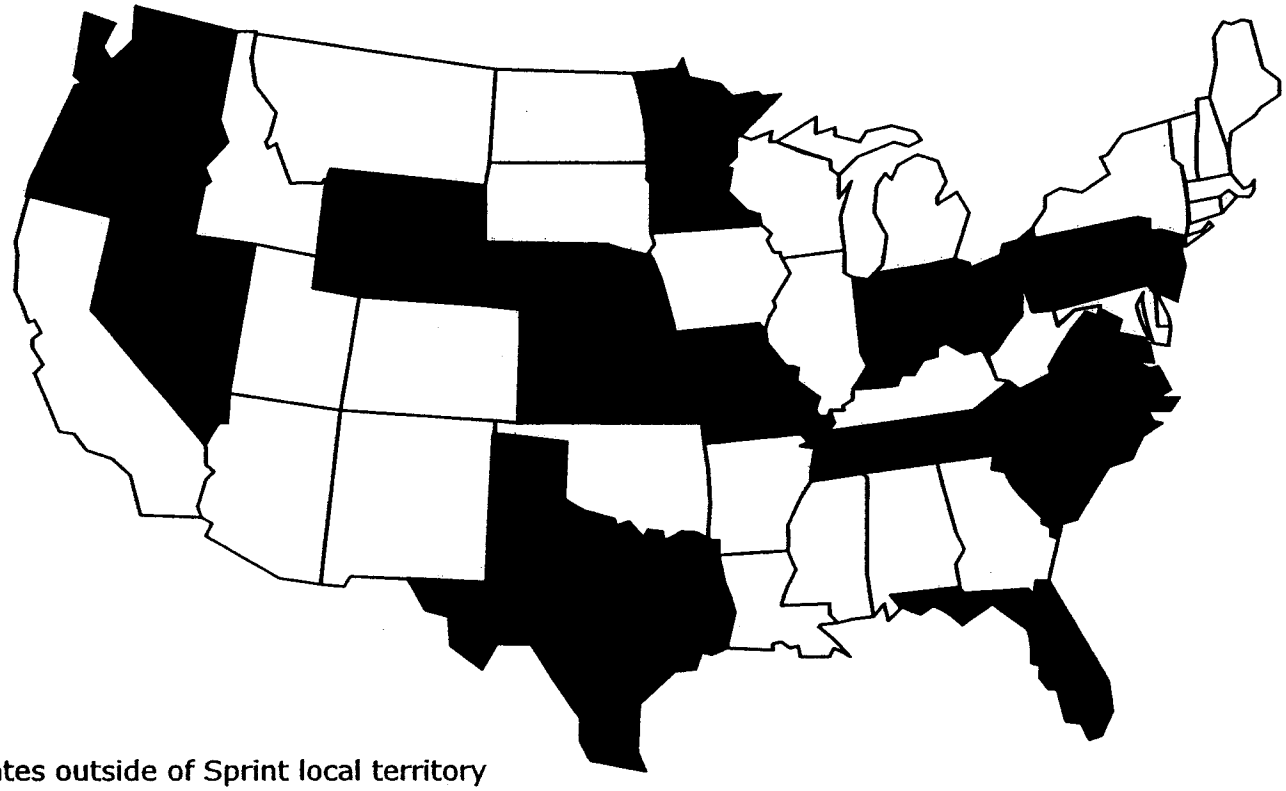
[+] FEEDBACK

Check For Sprint Local Residential Service



States outside of Sprint local territory

States where Sprint provides local telephone service

US LEC
voice / data / Internet

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- Service Level Agreem
- PowerVIEW
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- Dynamic T
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  - **Local**
  - Long Distance
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- Internet
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- US LEC.net

Local

Since early 1997, US LEC has provided its business clients with competitive, reliable local phone service. We continue to enter new markets so more businesses can take advantage of the reliability and quality of the US LEC network.

- Local Network Access (Dial-Tone)
- Local calling
- Line features
- Enhanced local services

Local Network Access (Dial-Tone)

Our local network access provides a high-quality, clear voice or data business line, and allows businesses to secure the minimum number of lines necessary as well as the capacity to expand service and add features as they grow. Customers can keep their existing telephone numbers when they switch to US LEC. Local network access facilities are available in four types:

- T-1 access
- Channel access (DS0)
- ISDN PRI (primary rate interface)
- Advantage T

Multiple local access services are available for above facilities:

- Business lines
- Data lines
- Key system lines
- PBX trunks
- Foreign exchange

The US LEC network comprises a variety of trunking configurations, enabling single and multiple voice and data transmissions between two network elements. Our local trunks offer connectivity flexibility so customers can customize specific traffic patterns based on their needs, such as one-way outbound calling only or two-way calling.

Local calling

US LEC completes local calls over its all-digital network. US LEC local service provides:

- Local calling area coverage at least the size of the incumbent telephone company.
- 411
- 911
- Operator assistance
- Directory listing
- White-page listing
- Yellow-page listing

Line features

- Call forwarding
- Call forward busy
- Call forwarding trunks to POTS
- Call forward no answer
- Remote access to call forwarding
- Call transfer
- 3-way calling
- Call waiting
- Toll denial
- Call hold
- Caller ID
- Caller ID with name

Enhanced local services

- DID - US LEC's DID trunks provide greater user productivity by eliminating the need for assistance, reducing incoming call "traffic jams" and offering the caller a speedy connection to the desired party.
- EAS (Expanded Area Service) - This service provides a greater free local calling area than the ILEC, and an extended local calling area.
- ANI - Automatic number identification is used to identify the responsible party to be billed for the call.
- Foreign exchange - This service involves an inbound-only call, toll-free to the calling party, which is paid for by the called party. If desired, the service includes a listing in the "foreign" white and yellow pages of the ILEC directory.
- Co-location - US LEC's co-location packages provide the placement of the customer's equipment and connectivity to telecom services. As part of the placement agreement, US LEC also provides access to the physical space, utility support such as power and temperature/humidity control and security, among other benefits.

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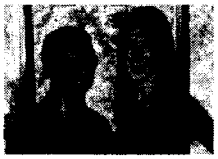

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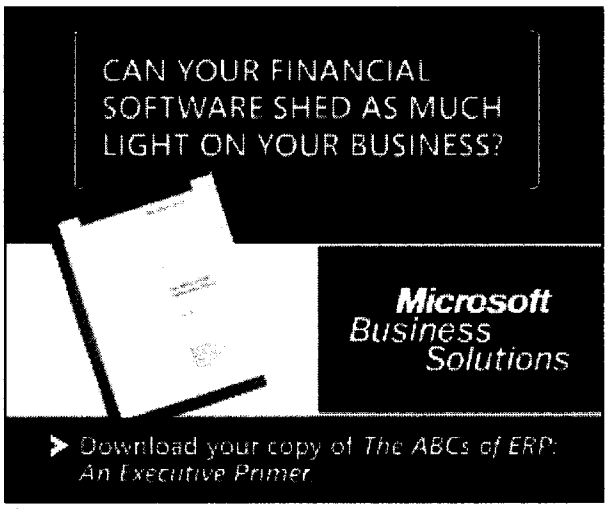
EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the October 22, 2004 print edition

Memphis Networx, US LEC ink deal for network service

Michael Sheffield

Memphis Networx and Charlotte-based US LEC are partnering to provide US LEC's Memphis customer base with an alternative network to BellSouth.



US LEC offers voice and data service to business clients in 15 eastern states, as well as in Memphis and Jackson, including Gossett Motors and Sneed Cos.

Networx, which has a fiber network throughout the city, and US LEC have been working together for nearly six months on a smaller scale. Typically, Networx provides collocation services for clients in its local headquarters, but Networx is leasing its fiber network to service US LEC clients at locations throughout the city.

The partnership is important to both companies due to the potential elimination of the Telecom Act of 1996, which was designed to "create more competition in the telecommunications industry" by helping CLECs -- like US LEC -- come into new markets and establish service. The act might be eliminated by the FCC by 2005.

BellSouth's smaller competitors say the death of the telecom act will result in less competition, but companies like Networx make it possible for US LEC and other companies to bypass BellSouth.

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Typically in other cities US LEC has to partner with BellSouth, Verizon or Time Warner and use either fiber or copper lines provided by those companies. The use of Networx by US LEC offers the company a local option that is not affiliated with the larger corporations. Networx can keep their prices competitive because they use their own fiber network.

Kathy Birdsong, director of sales for US LEC in Memphis, says US LEC looks at multiple providers in different cities and the company enjoys having the option of a company like Networx in Memphis.

"We evaluate all of our providers on the cost structure, response time, service level and guarantees to make sure we provide the highest level of service to our customers, because it's invisible to them, but we have to make sure everything works well," she says.

Charles Elliott, director of service operations for Memphis Networx, says the services Networx provides to US LEC is the core of their business.

"That's why we're here, to help customers like US LEC be competitive and enhance the telecommunications landscape of Memphis," he says.

Elliott says Networx is at an advantage because they offer fiber instead of copper lines. Fiber lends itself easier to upgrade and increased bandwidth.

» **Continued**
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