

CASE

NUMBER:

99 - 488

PRD-410
4-83

CASE NUMBER:

99-488

V-E-308; Box 59

HISTORY INDEX FOR CASE: 1999-48
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
Interconnection Agreements
WITH VBI 2000, L.L.C.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION
AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
AND VBI 2000, L.L.C., PURSUANT TO SECTION 251, 252 AND 271
OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

SEQ NBR	ENTRY DATE	REMARKS
0001	12/08/1999	Application.
0002	12/09/1999	Acknowledgement letter.
M0001	12/22/1999	RANDY JAMES VBI 2000 LLC-NOTIFICATION OF ADDRESS
0003	01/05/2000	Final Order approving the negotiated agreement.
M0002	02/08/2000	CREIGHTON MERSHON BELLSOUTH-CORRECTION FOR ADDRESS IN FILING ON DEC 8,99

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 502 582-8219
P. O. Box 32410 Fax 502 582-1573
Louisville, Kentucky 40232 Internet
or Creighton.E.Mershon@bridge.bellsouth.com

Creigh
Genera

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
601 West Chestnut Street, Room 407
Louisville, Kentucky 40203

February 4, 2000

RECEIVED

FEB 08 2000

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Mr. Martin J. Huelsmann, Jr.
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
P. O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

Re: Approval of the Interconnection Agreement and Collocation
Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
("BellSouth") and VBI 2000, L.L.C. pursuant to Sections 251,
252 and 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996
PSC 99-488

Dear Mr. Huelsmann:

On December 8, 1999, BellSouth filed the above-referenced
Interconnection Agreement with the Commission. In the cover letter,
BellSouth listed the mailing address of VBI 2000, L.L.C. We have
since been advised that this address was incorrect. The correct
mailing address is: VBI 2000, L.L.C., P. O. Box 2667, Ridgeland, MS
39157. We would appreciate it if you could correct this address in
your files. ✓

Sincerely,

Creighton Mershon
Creighton E. Mershon, Sr. *of*

cc: Randy James, VBI 2000, L.L.C.

195753

HISTORY INDEX FOR CASE: 1999-488
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
Interconnection Agreements
WITH VBI 2000, L.L.C.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION
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VBI 2000, LLC
834 WILSON STREET, SUITE D
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI 39157
TELEPHONE: 601.956.1901
FACSIMILE: 601.956.1929

RECEIVED

DEC 22 1999

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

December 16, 1999

Stephanie Bell
Secretary of the Commission
Commonwealth of Kentucky
Public Service Commission
730 Schenkel Lane
Post Office Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Dear Stephanie:

I am in receipt of your correspondence dated December 9, 1999 regarding Case No. 1999-488, BellSouth Telecommunications Interconnection Agreement with VBI 2000, LLC. The address listed for VBI 2000, LLC in your correspondence should be 834 Wilson Street, Suite D, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157 or P.O. Box 2667, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39158. ✓

I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Randy James
Owner

RJ:sp



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

730 SCHENKEL LANE
POST OFFICE BOX 615
FRANKFORT, KY. 40602
(502) 564-3940

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

RE: Case No. 1999-488
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.


I, Stephanie Bell, Secretary of the Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case was served upon the following by U.S. Mail on January 5, 2000.

Parties of Record:

Honorable Creighton E. Mershon
General Counsel - Kentucky
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
P. O. Box 32410
Louisville, KY. 40232

CLEC Account Team
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
9th Floor
600 North 19th Street
Birmingham, AL. 35203

Randy James
VBI 2000, L.L.C.
P. O. Box 12270
Jackson, MS. 39236


Secretary of the Commission

SB/hv
Enclosure

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPROVAL OF THE)
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT)
NEGOTIATED BY BELLSOUTH)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND) CASE NO. 99-488
VBI 2000, L.L.C. PURSUANT TO)
SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)

O R D E R

On December 8, 1999, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and VBI 2000, L.L.C. ("VBI") submitted to the Commission their negotiated agreement for interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements, and the resale of BellSouth's services. The agreement was negotiated pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act"), 47 U.S.C. Sections 251 and 252. Section 252(e) of the 1996 Act requires the parties to an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation to submit the agreement for approval to the Commission.

The Commission has reviewed the agreement and finds that no portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement. The Commission also finds that the implementation of this agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

VBI must comply with all relevant Commission mandates for serving in this Commonwealth.

The Commission, having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS
that:

1. The negotiated agreement between BellSouth and VBI is approved.
2. VBI shall file a tariff for local service prior to providing local service giving 30 days' notice to the Commission and shall comply with all Commission regulations and orders as directed.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 5th day of January, 2000.

By the Commission

ATTEST:


Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

730 SCHENKEL LANE
POST OFFICE BOX 615
FRANKFORT, KY. 40602
(502) 564-3940

December 9, 1999

Honorable Creighton E. Mershon
General Counsel - Kentucky
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
P. O. Box 32410
Louisville, KY. 40232

CLEC Account Team
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
9th Floor
600 North 19th Street
Birmingham, AL. 35203

Randy James
VBI 2000, L.L.C.
P. O. Box 12270
Jackson, MS. 39236

RE: Case No. 1999-488
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
(Interconnection Agreements) WITH VBI 2000, L.L.C.

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of initial application in the above case. The application was date-stamped received December 8, 1999 and has been assigned Case No. 1999-488. In all future correspondence or filings in connection with this case, please reference the above case number.

If you need further assistance, please contact my staff at 502/564-3940.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Bell

Stephanie Bell
Secretary of the Commission

SB/jc

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
P. O. Box 32410
Louisville, Kentucky 40232
or

502 582-8219
Fax 502 582-1573
Internet
Creighton.E.Mershon@bridge.bellsouth.com

Creighton E. Mershon, Sr.
General Counsel - Kentucky

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
601 West Chestnut Street, Room 407
Louisville, Kentucky 40203

December 6, 1999

Helen C. Helton
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
730 Schenkel Lane
P. O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

RECEIVED
DEC 08 1999
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

CASE 99-488

Re: Approval of the Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and VBI 2000, L.L.C., pursuant to Sections 251, 252 and 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dear Helen:

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, BellSouth and VBI 2000, L.L.C. are submitting to the Kentucky Public Service Commission their negotiated agreement for the interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements, and the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services to VBI 2000, L.L.C. The Agreement was negotiated pursuant to sections 251, 252 and 271 of the Act.

Six copies of the agreement and eight copies of the transmittal letter are filed. The two extra copies of the letter are provided for Amanda Hale and Becky Dotson.

Please add the following to the service list for this matter: Creighton E. Mershon, Sr., BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., P. O. Box 32410, Louisville, KY 40232; BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., CLEC Account Team, 9th Floor, 600 N. 19th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203; VBI 2000, L.L.C., Randy James, P. O. Box 12270, Jackson, MS 39236.

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Act, the Commission is charged with approving or rejecting the negotiated agreement between BellSouth and VBI 2000, L.L.C. within 90 days of its submission. The Commission may only reject such an agreement if it finds that the agreement or any portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or the implementation of the agreement or any portion of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Both parties represent that neither of these reasons exist as to the agreement they have negotiated and that the Commission should approve their agreement.

Sincerely,



Creighton E. Mershon, Sr.

Enclosure

cc: Randy James, VBI 2000, L.L.C. (letter only)

ATTACHMENT TO TRANSMITTAL LETTER

The Agreement entered into by and between VBI 2000, L.L.C. and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., dated , for the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee consists of the following:

ITEM	NO. PAGES
Title Page	1
Table of Contents	1
General Terms and Conditions	20
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Attachment 7	20
Attachment 8	2
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**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS INC.
AND
VBI 2000, L.L.C.**

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AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., (“BellSouth”), a Georgia corporation, and VBI 2000, L.L.C. (“VBI 2000”) a Mississippi corporation, and shall be deemed effective as of November 22, 1999. This Agreement may refer to either BellSouth or VBI 2000 or both as a “Party” or “Parties.”

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, BellSouth is a local exchange telecommunications company authorized to provide telecommunications services in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, VBI 2000 is an alternative local exchange telecommunications company (“CLEC”) authorized to provide telecommunications services in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to resell BellSouth’s telecommunications services and/or interconnect their facilities, purchase network elements and other services, and exchange traffic specifically for the purposes of fulfilling their obligations pursuant to sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (“the Act”).

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein, BellSouth and VBI 2000 agree as follows:

1. **Purpose**

The Parties agree that the rates, terms and conditions contained within this Agreement, including all Attachments, comply and conform with each Parties' obligations under sections 251 and 252 of the Act. The resale, access and interconnection obligations contained herein enable VBI 2000 to provide competing telephone exchange service to residential and business subscribers within the territory of BellSouth. The Parties agree that VBI 2000 will not be considered to have offered telecommunications services to the public in any state within BellSouth’s region until such time as it has ordered services for resale or interconnection facilities for the purposes of providing business and/or residential local exchange service to customers.

2. Term of the Agreement

- 2.1 The term of this Agreement shall be two years, beginning November 22, 1999 and shall apply to the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. If as of the expiration of this Agreement, a Subsequent Agreement (as defined in Section 2.2 below) has not been executed by the Parties, this Agreement shall continue on a month-to-month basis while a Subsequent Agreement is being negotiated. The Parties' rights and obligations with respect to this Agreement after expiration shall be as set forth in Section 2.4 below.
- 2.2 The Parties agree that by no later than one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of this Agreement, they shall commence negotiations with regard to the terms, conditions and prices of resale and/or local interconnection to be effective beginning on the expiration date of this Agreement ("Subsequent Agreement").
- 2.3 If, within one hundred and thirty-five (135) days of commencing the negotiation referred to in Section 2.2, above, the Parties are unable to satisfactorily negotiate new resale and/or local interconnection terms, conditions and prices, either Party may petition the Commission to establish appropriate local interconnection and/or resale arrangements pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 252. The Parties agree that, in such event, they shall encourage the Commission to issue its order regarding the appropriate local interconnection and/or resale arrangements no later than the expiration date of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that in the event the Commission does not issue its order prior to the expiration date of this Agreement, or if the Parties continue beyond the expiration date of this Agreement to negotiate the local interconnection and/or resale arrangements without Commission intervention, the terms, conditions and prices ultimately ordered by the Commission, or negotiated by the Parties, will be effective retroactive to the day following the expiration date of this Agreement.
- 2.4 Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that as of the date of expiration of this Agreement and conversion of this Agreement to a month-to-month term, the Parties have not entered into a Subsequent Agreement and either no arbitration proceeding has been filed in accordance with Section 2.3 above, or the Parties have not mutually agreed (where permissible) to extend the arbitration window for petitioning the applicable Commission(s) for resolution of those terms upon which the Parties have not agreed, then either Party may terminate this Agreement upon sixty (60) days notice to the other Party. In the event that BellSouth terminates this Agreement as provided above, BellSouth shall continue to offer services to VBI 2000 pursuant to the terms, conditions and rates set forth in BellSouth's Statement of Generally Available Terms (SGAT) to the extent an SGAT has been approved by the applicable Commission(s). If any state Commission has not approved a BellSouth SGAT, then upon BellSouth's termination of this Agreement as provided herein, BellSouth will continue to provide services to VBI 2000

provide services to VBI 2000 pursuant to BellSouth's then current standard interconnection agreement. In the event that the SGAT or BellSouth's standard interconnection agreement becomes effective as between the Parties, the Parties may continue to negotiate a Subsequent Agreement, and the terms of such Subsequent Agreement shall be effective retroactive to the day following expiration of this Agreement.

3. **Ordering Procedures**

3.1 VBI 2000 shall provide BellSouth its Carrier Identification Code (CIC), Operating Company Number (OCN), Group Access Code (GAC) and Access Customer Name and Address (ACNA) code as applicable prior to placing its first order.

3.2 The Parties agree to adhere to the BellSouth Local Interconnection and Facility Based Ordering Guide and Resale Ordering Guide, as appropriate for the services ordered.

3.3 VBI 2000 shall pay charges for Operational Support Systems (OSS) as set forth in this Agreement in Attachment 1 and/or in Attachment 2, 3, 5 and 7 as applicable.

4. **Parity**

When VBI 2000 purchases, pursuant to Attachment 1 of this Agreement, telecommunications services from BellSouth for the purposes of resale to end users, BellSouth shall provide said services so that the services are equal in quality, subject to the same conditions, and provided within the same provisioning time intervals that BellSouth provides to its affiliates, subsidiaries and end users. To the extent technically feasible, the quality of a Network Element, as well as the quality of the access to such Network Element provided by BellSouth to VBI 2000 shall be at least equal in quality to that which BellSouth provides to itself. The quality of the interconnection between the networks of BellSouth and the network of VBI 2000 shall be at a level that is equal to that which BellSouth provides itself, a subsidiary, an Affiliate, or any other party. The interconnection facilities shall be designed to meet the same technical criteria and service standards that are used within BellSouth's network and shall extend to a consideration of service quality as perceived by end users and service quality as perceived by VBI 2000.

5. **White Pages Listings**

BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 and their customers access to white pages directory listings under the following terms:

- 5.1 Listings. BellSouth or its agent will include VBI 2000 residential and business customer listings in the appropriate White Pages (residential and business) or alphabetical directories. Directory listings will make no distinction between VBI 2000 and BellSouth subscribers.
- 5.2 Rates. Subscriber primary listing information in the White Pages shall be provided at no charge to VBI 2000 or its subscribers provided that VBI 2000 provides subscriber listing information to BellSouth at no charge.
- 5.3 Procedures for Submitting VBI 2000 Subscriber Information. BellSouth will provide to VBI 2000 a magnetic tape or computer disk containing the proper format for submitting subscriber listings. VBI 2000 will be required to provide BellSouth with directory listings and daily updates to those listings, including new, changed, and deleted listings, in an industry-accepted format. These procedures are detailed in BellSouth's Local Interconnection and Facility Based Ordering Guide.
- 5.4 Unlisted/Non-Published Subscribers. VBI 2000 will be required to provide to BellSouth the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all VBI 2000 customers that wish to be omitted from directories.
- 5.5 Inclusion of VBI 2000 Customers in Directory Assistance Database. BellSouth will include and maintain VBI 2000 subscriber listings in BellSouth's directory assistance databases at no charge. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will formulate appropriate procedures regarding lead time, timeliness, format and content of listing information.
- 5.6 Listing Information Confidentiality. BellSouth will accord VBI 2000's directory listing information the same level of confidentiality that BellSouth accords its own directory listing information, and BellSouth shall limit access to VBI 2000's customer proprietary confidential directory information to those BellSouth employees who are involved in the preparation of listings.
- 5.7 Optional Listings. Additional listings and optional listings will be offered by BellSouth at tariffed rates as set forth in the General Subscriber Services Tariff.
- 5.8 Delivery. BellSouth or its agent shall deliver White Pages directories to VBI 2000 subscribers at no charge.

6. **Bona Fide Request/New Business Request Process for Further Unbundling**

If VBI 2000 is a facilities based provider or a facilities based and resale provider, this section shall apply. BellSouth shall, upon request of VBI 2000, provide to VBI 2000 access to its network elements at any technically feasible point for the provision of VBI 2000's telecommunications service where such access is necessary and failure to provide access would impair the ability of VBI 2000 to provide services that it seeks to offer. Any request by VBI 2000 for access to a network element, interconnection option, or for the provisioning of any service or product that is not already available shall be treated as a Bona Fide Request/New Business Request, and shall be submitted to BellSouth pursuant to the Bona Fide Request/New Business Request process set forth following.

- 6.1 A Bona Fide Request/New Business Request shall be submitted in writing to VBI 2000's Account Manager by VBI 2000 and shall specifically identify the requested service date, technical requirements, space requirements and/or such specifications that clearly define the request such that BellSouth has sufficient information to analyze and prepare a response. Such a request also shall include a VBI 2000's designation of the request as being (i) pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 or (ii) pursuant to the needs of the business.

7. **Court Ordered Requests for Call Detail Records and Other Subscriber Information.**

To the extent technically feasible, BellSouth maintains call detail records for VBI 2000 end users for limited time periods and can respond to subpoenas and court ordered requests for this information. BellSouth shall maintain such information for VBI 2000 end users for the same length of time it maintains such information for its own end users.

- 7.1 VBI 2000 agrees that BellSouth will respond to subpoenas and court ordered requests delivered directly to BellSouth for the purpose of providing call detail records when the targeted telephone numbers belong to VBI 2000 end users. Billing for such requests will be generated by BellSouth and directed to the law enforcement agency initiating the request.
- 7.2 VBI 2000 agrees that in cases where VBI 2000 receives subpoenas or court ordered requests for call detail records for targeted telephone numbers belonging to VBI 2000 end users, VBI 2000 will advise the law enforcement agency initiating the request to redirect the subpoena or court ordered request to BellSouth. Billing for call detail information will be generated by BellSouth and directed to the law enforcement agency initiating the request.
- 7.3 In cases where the timing of the response to the law enforcement agency prohibits VBI 2000 from having the subpoena or court ordered request redirected to

BellSouth by the law enforcement agency, VBI 2000 will furnish the official request to BellSouth for providing the call detail information. BellSouth will provide the call detail records to VBI 2000 and bill VBI 2000 for the information. VBI 2000 agrees to reimburse BellSouth for the call detail information provided.

- 7.4 VBI 2000 will provide VBI 2000 end user and/or other customer information that is available to VBI 2000 in response to subpoenas and court orders for their own customer records. BellSouth will redirect subpoenas and court ordered requests for VBI 2000 end user and/or other customer information to VBI 2000 for the purpose of providing this information to the law enforcement agency.

8. Liability and Indemnification

- 8.1 BellSouth Liability. BellSouth shall take financial responsibility for its own actions in causing, or its lack of action in preventing, unbillable or uncollectible VBI 2000 revenues.

- 8.2 VBI 2000 Liability. In the event that VBI 2000 consists of two (2) or more separate entities as set forth in the preamble to this Agreement, all such entities shall be jointly and severally liable for the obligations of VBI 2000 under this Agreement.

- 8.3 Liability for Acts or Omissions of Third Parties. Neither BellSouth nor VBI 2000 shall be liable for any act or omission of another telecommunications company providing a portion of the services provided under this Agreement.

8.4 Limitation of Liability.

- 8.4.1 Each Party's liability to the other for any loss, cost, claim, injury or liability or expense, including reasonable attorney's fees relating to or arising out of any negligent act or omission in its performance of this Agreement whether in contract or in tort, shall be limited to a credit for the actual cost of the services or functions not performed or improperly performed.

- 8.4.2 Limitations in Tariffs. A Party may, in its sole discretion, provide in its tariffs and contracts with its Customer and third parties that relate to any service, product or function provided or contemplated under this Agreement, that to the maximum extent permitted by Applicable Law, such Party shall not be liable to Customer or third Party for (i) any Loss relating to or arising out of this Agreement, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, that exceeds the amount such Party would have charged that applicable person for the service, product or function that gave rise to such Loss and (ii) Consequential Damages. To the extent that a Party elects not to place in its tariffs or contracts such limitations of liability, and the other Party incurs a Loss as a result thereof, such Party shall indemnify and reimburse the other Party for that portion of the Loss that would have been limited had the first

Party included in its tariffs and contracts the limitations of liability that such other Party included in its own tariffs at the time of such Loss.

8.4.3 Neither BellSouth nor VBI 2000 shall be liable for damages to the other's terminal location, POI or other company's customers' premises resulting from the furnishing of a service, including, but not limited to, the installation and removal of equipment or associated wiring, except to the extent caused by a company's negligence or willful misconduct or by a company's failure to properly ground a local loop after disconnection.

8.4.4 Under no circumstance shall a Party be responsible or liable for indirect, incidental, or consequential damages, including, but not limited to, economic loss or lost business or profits, damages arising from the use or performance of equipment or software, or the loss of use of software or equipment, or accessories attached thereto, delay, error, or loss of data. In connection with this limitation of liability, each Party recognizes that the other Party may, from time to time, provide advice, make recommendations, or supply other analyses related to the Services, or facilities described in this Agreement, and, while each Party shall use diligent efforts in this regard, the Parties acknowledge and agree that this limitation of liability shall apply to provision of such advice, recommendations, and analyses.

8.5 Indemnification for Certain Claims. The Party providing services hereunder, its affiliates and its parent company, shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Party receiving services hereunder against any claim, loss or damage arising from the receiving company's use of the services provided under this Agreement pertaining to (1) claims for libel, slander or invasion of privacy arising from the content of the receiving company's own communications, or (2) any claim, loss or damage claimed by the customer of the Party receiving services arising from such company's use or reliance on the providing company's services, actions, duties, or obligations arising out of this Agreement.

8.6 Disclaimer. EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED TO THE CONTRARY IN THIS AGREEMENT, NEITHER PARTY MAKES ANY REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES TO THE OTHER PARTY CONCERNING THE SPECIFIC QUALITY OF ANY SERVICES, OR FACILITIES PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. THE PARTIES DISCLAIM, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARISING FROM COURSE OF PERFORMANCE, COURSE OF DEALING, OR FROM USAGES OF TRADE.

9. **Intellectual Property Rights and Indemnification**

9.1 No License. No patent, copyright, trademark or other proprietary right is licensed, granted or otherwise transferred by this Agreement. VBI 2000 is strictly

prohibited from any use, including but not limited to in sales, in marketing or advertising of telecommunications services, of any BellSouth name, service mark or trademark.

- 9.2 Ownership of Intellectual Property. Any intellectual property which originates from or is developed by a Party shall remain in the exclusive ownership of that Party. Except for a limited license to use patents or copyrights to the extent necessary for the Parties to use any facilities or equipment (including software) or to receive any service solely as provided under this Agreement, no license in patent, copyright, trademark or trade secret, or other proprietary or intellectual property right now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by a Party, is granted to the other Party or shall be implied or arise by estoppel. It is the responsibility of each Party to ensure at no additional cost to the other Party that it has obtained any necessary licenses in relation to intellectual property of third Parties used in its network that may be required to enable the other Party to use any facilities or equipment (including software), to receive any service, or to perform its respective obligations under this Agreement.
- 9.3 Indemnification. The Party providing a service pursuant to this Agreement will defend the Party receiving such service or data provided as a result of such service against claims of infringement arising solely from the use by the receiving Party of such service and will indemnify the receiving Party for any damages awarded based solely on such claims in accordance with Section 8 of this Agreement.
- 9.4 Claim of Infringement. In the event that use of any facilities or equipment (including software), becomes, or in reasonable judgment of the Party who owns the affected network is likely to become, the subject of a claim, action, suit, or proceeding based on intellectual property infringement, then said Party shall promptly and at its sole expense, but subject to the limitations of liability set forth below:
- 9.4.1 modify or replace the applicable facilities or equipment (including software) while maintaining form and function, or
- 9.4.2 obtain a license sufficient to allow such use to continue.
- 9.4.3 In the event 9.4.1 or 9.4.2 are commercially unreasonable, then said Party may, terminate, upon reasonable notice, this contract with respect to use of, or services provided through use of, the affected facilities or equipment (including software), but solely to the extent required to avoid the infringement claim.
- 9.5 Exception to Obligations. Neither Party's obligations under this Section shall apply to the extent the infringement is caused by: (i) modification of the facilities or equipment (including software) by the indemnitee; (ii) use by the indemnitee of the facilities or equipment (including software) in combination with equipment or facilities (including software) not provided or authorized by the indemnitor

provided the facilities or equipment (including software) would not be infringing if used alone; (iii) conformance to specifications of the indemnitee which would necessarily result in infringement; or (iv) continued use by the indemnitee of the affected facilities or equipment (including software) after being placed on notice to discontinue use as set forth herein.

- 9.6 Exclusive Remedy. The foregoing shall constitute the Parties' sole and exclusive remedies and obligations with respect to a third party claim of intellectual property infringement arising out of the conduct of business under this Agreement.

10. **Treatment of Proprietary and Confidential Information**

- 10.1 Confidential Information. It may be necessary for BellSouth and VBI 2000 to provide each other with certain confidential information, including trade secret information, including but not limited to, technical and business plans, technical information, proposals, specifications, drawings, procedures, customer account data, call detail records and like information (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Information"). All Information shall be in writing or other tangible form and clearly marked with a confidential, private or proprietary legend and that the Information will be returned to the owner within a reasonable time. The Information shall not be copied or reproduced in any form. BellSouth and VBI 2000 shall receive such Information and not disclose such Information. BellSouth and VBI 2000 shall protect the Information received from distribution, disclosure or dissemination to anyone except employees of BellSouth and VBI 2000 with a need to know such Information and which employees agree to be bound by the terms of this Section. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will use the same standard of care to protect Information received as they would use to protect their own confidential and proprietary Information.

- 10.2 Exception to Obligation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there will be no obligation on BellSouth or VBI 2000 to protect any portion of the Information that is: (1) made publicly available by the owner of the Information or lawfully disclosed by a Party other than BellSouth or VBI 2000; (2) lawfully obtained from any source other than the owner of the Information; or (3) previously known to the receiving Party without an obligation to keep it confidential.

11. **Assignments**

Any assignment by either Party to any non-affiliated entity of any right, obligation or duty, or of any other interest hereunder, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the other Party shall be void. A Party may assign this Agreement or any right, obligation, duty or other interest hereunder to an Affiliate company of the Party without the consent of the other Party. All obligations and duties of any Party under this Agreement shall be binding on all successors in interest and assigns of such Party. No assignment or delegation hereof shall relieve the assignor of its obligations under this Agreement in the event that the assignee fails to perform such obligations.

12. **Resolution of Disputes**

Except as otherwise stated in this Agreement, the Parties agree that if any dispute arises as to the interpretation of any provision of this Agreement or as to the proper implementation of this Agreement, either Party may petition the Commission for a resolution of the dispute. However, each Party reserves any rights it may have to seek judicial review of any ruling made by the Commission concerning this Agreement.

13. **Taxes**

13.1 **Definition.** For purposes of this Section, the terms “taxes” and “fees” shall include but not limited to federal, state or local sales, use, excise, gross receipts or other taxes or tax-like fees of whatever nature and however designated (including tariff surcharges and any fees, charges or other payments, contractual or otherwise, for the use of public streets or rights of way, whether designated as franchise fees or otherwise) imposed, or sought to be imposed, on or with respect to the services furnished hereunder or measured by the charges or payments therefore, excluding any taxes levied on income.

13.2 **Taxes and Fees Imposed Directly On Either Providing Party or Purchasing Party.**

13.2.1 Taxes and fees imposed on the providing Party, which are not permitted or required to be passed on by the providing Party to its customer, shall be borne and paid by the providing Party.

13.2.2 Taxes and fees imposed on the purchasing Party, which are not required to be collected and/or remitted by the providing Party, shall be borne and paid by the purchasing Party.

13.3 **Taxes and Fees Imposed on Purchasing Party But Collected And Remitted By Providing Party.**

- 13.3.1 Taxes and fees imposed on the purchasing Party shall be borne by the purchasing Party, even if the obligation to collect and/or remit such taxes or fees is placed on the providing Party.
- 13.3.2 To the extent permitted by applicable law, any such taxes and/or fees shall be shown as separate items on applicable billing documents between the Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the purchasing Party shall remain liable for any such taxes and fees regardless of whether they are actually billed by the providing Party at the time that the respective service is billed.
- 13.3.3 If the purchasing Party determines that in its opinion any such taxes or fees are not payable, the providing Party shall not bill such taxes or fees to the purchasing Party if the purchasing Party provides written certification, reasonably satisfactory to the providing Party, stating that it is exempt or otherwise not subject to the tax or fee, setting forth the basis therefor, and satisfying any other requirements under applicable law. If any authority seeks to collect any such tax or fee that the purchasing Party has determined and certified not to be payable, or any such tax or fee that was not billed by the providing Party, the purchasing Party may contest the same in good faith, at its own expense. In any such contest, the purchasing Party shall promptly furnish the providing Party with copies of all filings in any proceeding, protest, or legal challenge, all rulings issued in connection therewith, and all correspondence between the purchasing Party and the taxing authority.
- 13.3.4 In the event that all or any portion of an amount sought to be collected must be paid in order to contest the imposition of any such tax or fee, or to avoid the existence of a lien on the assets of the providing Party during the pendency of such contest, the purchasing Party shall be responsible for such payment and shall be entitled to the benefit of any refund or recovery.
- 13.3.5 If it is ultimately determined that any additional amount of such a tax or fee is due to the imposing authority, the purchasing Party shall pay such additional amount, including any interest and penalties thereon.
- 13.3.6 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the purchasing Party shall protect, indemnify and hold harmless (and defend at the purchasing Party's expense) the providing Party from and against any such tax or fee, interest or penalties thereon, or other charges or payable expenses (including reasonable attorney fees) with respect thereto, which are incurred by the providing Party in connection with any claim for or contest of any such tax or fee.
- 13.3.7 Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing of any assessment, proposed assessment or other claim for any additional amount of such a tax or fee by a taxing authority; such notice to be provided, if possible, at least ten (10) days prior to the date by which a response, protest or other appeal must be filed, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after receipt of such assessment, proposed assessment or claim.

- 13.4 Taxes and Fees Imposed on Providing Party But Passed On To Purchasing Party.
- 13.4.1 Taxes and fees imposed on the providing Party, which are permitted or required to be passed on by the providing Party to its customer, shall be borne by the purchasing Party.
- 13.4.2 To the extent permitted by applicable law, any such taxes and/or fees shall be shown as separate items on applicable billing documents between the Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the purchasing Party shall remain liable for any such taxes and fees regardless of whether they are actually billed by the providing Party at the time that the respective service is billed.
- 13.4.3 If the purchasing Party disagrees with the providing Party's determination as to the application or basis for any such tax or fee, the Parties shall consult with respect to the imposition and billing of such tax or fee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the providing Party shall retain ultimate responsibility for determining whether and to what extent any such taxes or fees are applicable, and the purchasing Party shall abide by such determination and pay such taxes or fees to the providing Party. The providing Party shall further retain ultimate responsibility for determining whether and how to contest the imposition of such taxes and fees; provided, however, that any such contest undertaken at the request of the purchasing Party shall be at the purchasing Party's expense.
- 13.4.4 In the event that all or any portion of an amount sought to be collected must be paid in order to contest the imposition of any such tax or fee, or to avoid the existence of a lien on the assets of the providing Party during the pendency of such contest, the purchasing Party shall be responsible for such payment and shall be entitled to the benefit of any refund or recovery.
- 13.4.5 If it is ultimately determined that any additional amount of such a tax or fee is due to the imposing authority, the purchasing Party shall pay such additional amount, including any interest and penalties thereon.
- 13.4.6 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the purchasing Party shall protect indemnify and hold harmless (and defend at the purchasing Party's expense) the providing Party from and against any such tax or fee, interest or penalties thereon, or other reasonable charges or payable expenses (including reasonable attorney fees) with respect thereto, which are incurred by the providing Party in connection with any claim for or contest of any such tax or fee.
- 13.4.7 Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing of any assessment, proposed assessment or other claim for any additional amount of such a tax or fee by a taxing authority; such notice to be provided, if possible, at least ten (10) days prior to the date by which a response, protest or other appeal must be filed, but in no

event later than thirty (30) days after receipt of such assessment, proposed assessment or claim.

- 13.5 **Mutual Cooperation.** In any contest of a tax or fee by one Party, the other Party shall cooperate fully by providing records, testimony and such additional information or assistance as may reasonably be necessary to pursue the contest. Further, the other Party shall be reimbursed for any reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket copying and travel expenses incurred in assisting in such contest.

14. **Force Majeure**

In the event performance of this Agreement, or any obligation hereunder, is either directly or indirectly prevented, restricted, or interfered with by reason of fire, flood, earthquake or like acts of God, wars, revolution, civil commotion, explosion, acts of public enemy, embargo, acts of the government in its sovereign capacity, labor difficulties, including without limitation, strikes, slowdowns, picketing, or boycotts, unavailability of equipment from vendor, changes requested by Customer, or any other circumstances beyond the reasonable control and without the fault or negligence of the Party affected, the Party affected, upon giving prompt notice to the other Party, shall be excused from such performance on a day-to-day basis to the extent of such prevention, restriction, or interference (and the other Party shall likewise be excused from performance of its obligations on a day-to-day basis until the delay, restriction or interference has ceased); provided however, that the Party so affected shall use diligent efforts to avoid or remove such causes of non-performance and both Parties shall proceed whenever such causes are removed or cease.

15. **Year 2000 Compliance**

Each Party warrants that it has implemented a program the goal of which is to ensure that all software, hardware and related materials (collectively called "Systems") delivered, connected with BellSouth or supplied in the furtherance of the terms and conditions specified in this Agreement: (i) will record, store, process and display calendar dates falling on or after January 1, 2000, in the same manner, and with the same functionality as such software records, stores, processes and calendar dates falling on or before December 31, 1999; and (ii) shall include without limitation date data century recognition, calculations that accommodate same century and multcentury formulas and date values, and date data interface values that reflect the century.

16. **Modification of Agreement**

- 16.1 BellSouth shall make available, pursuant to 47 USC § 252 and the FCC rules and regulations regarding such availability, to VBI 2000 any interconnection, service, or network element provided under any other agreement filed and approved pursuant to 47 USC § 252. The Parties shall adopt all rates, terms and conditions concerning

such other interconnection, service or network element and any other rates, terms and conditions that are interrelated or were negotiated in exchange for or in conjunction with the interconnection, service or network element being adopted. The adopted interconnection, service, or network element and agreement shall apply to the same states as such other agreement and for the identical term of such other agreement.

- 16.2 If VBI 2000 changes its name or makes changes to its company structure or identity due to a merger, acquisition, transfer or any other reason, it is the responsibility of VBI 2000 to notify BellSouth of said change and request that an amendment to this Agreement, if necessary, be executed to reflect said change.
- 16.3 No modification, amendment, supplement to, or waiver of the Agreement or any of its provisions shall be effective and binding upon the Parties unless it is made in writing and duly signed by the Parties.
- 16.4 Execution of this Agreement by either Party does not confirm or infer that the executing Party agrees with any decision(s) issued pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the consequences of those decisions on specific language in this Agreement. Neither Party waives its rights to appeal or otherwise challenge any such decision(s) and each Party reserves all of its rights to pursue any and all legal and/or equitable remedies, including appeals of any such decision(s).
- 16.5 In the event that any final and nonappealable legislative, regulatory, judicial or other legal action materially affects any material terms of this Agreement, or the ability of VBI 2000 or BellSouth to perform any material terms of this Agreement, VBI 2000 or BellSouth may, on thirty (30) days' written notice require that such terms be renegotiated, and the Parties shall renegotiate in good faith such mutually acceptable new terms as may be required. In the event that such new terms are not renegotiated within ninety (90) days after such notice, the Dispute shall be referred to the Dispute Resolution procedure set forth in Section 12.
- 16.6 If any provision of this Agreement, or the application of such provision to either Party or circumstance, shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Agreement, or the application of any such provision to the Parties or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid, shall not be effective thereby, provided that the Parties shall attempt to reformulate such invalid provision to give effect to such portions thereof as may be valid without defeating the intent of such provision.

17. **Waivers**

A failure or delay of either Party to enforce any of the provisions hereof, to exercise any option which is herein provided, or to require performance of any of the provisions hereof shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions or options, and each Party, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter

to insist upon the specific performance of any and all of the provisions of this Agreement.

18. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Georgia, without regard to its conflict of laws principles.

19. Arm's Length Negotiations

This Agreement was executed after arm's length negotiations between the undersigned Parties and reflects the conclusion of the undersigned that this Agreement is in the best interests of all Parties.

20. Notices

20.1 Every notice, consent, approval, or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person or given by postage prepaid mail, address to:

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

CLEC Account Team
9th Floor
600 North 19th Street
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

and

General Attorney - COU
Suite 4300
675 W. Peachtree St.
Atlanta, GA 30375

VBI 2000, L.L.C.

Attn: Randy James
P.O. Box 12270
Jackson, MS 39236

or at such other address as the intended recipient previously shall have designated by written notice to the other Party.

20.2 Where specifically required, notices shall be by certified or registered mail. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, notice by mail shall be effective on

the date it is officially recorded as delivered by return receipt or equivalent, and in the absence of such record of delivery, it shall be presumed to have been delivered the fifth day, or next business day after the fifth day, after it was deposited in the mails.

- 20.3 BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 notice via Internet posting of price changes and of changes to the terms and conditions of services available for resale.

21. **Rule of Construction**

No rule of construction requiring interpretation against the drafting Party hereof shall apply in the interpretation of this Agreement.

22. **Headings of No Force or Effect**

The headings of Articles and Sections of this Agreement are for convenience of reference only, and shall in no way define, modify or restrict the meaning or interpretation of the terms or provisions of this Agreement.

23. **Multiple Counterparts**

This Agreement may be executed multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall together constitute but one and the same document.

24. **Implementation of Agreement**

If VBI 2000 is a facilities based provider or a facilities based and resale provider, this section shall apply. Within 60 days of the execution of this Agreement, the Parties will adopt a schedule for the implementation of the Agreement. The schedule shall state with specificity time frames for submission of including but not limited to, network design, interconnection points, collocation arrangement requests, pre-sales testing and full operational time frames for the business and residential markets. An implementation template to be used for the implementation schedule is contained in Attachment 10 of this Agreement.

25. **Filing of Agreement**

Upon execution of this Agreement it shall be filed with the appropriate state regulatory agency pursuant to the requirements of Section 252 of the Act. If the regulatory agency imposes any filing or public interest notice fees regarding the filing or approval of the Agreement, VBI 2000 shall be responsible for publishing the required notice and the publication and/or notice costs shall be borne by VBI 2000.

26. **Entire Agreement**

This Agreement and its Attachments, incorporated herein by this reference, sets forth the entire understanding and supersedes prior Agreements between the Parties relating to the subject matter contained herein and merges all prior discussions between them, and neither Party shall be bound by any definition, condition, provision, representation, warranty, covenant or promise other than as expressly stated in this Agreement or as is contemporaneously or subsequently set forth in writing and executed by a duly authorized officer or representative of the Party to be bound thereby.

This Agreement may include attachments with provisions for the following services:

Network Elements and Other Services
Local Interconnection
Resale
Collocation

The following services are included as options for purchase by VBI 2000. VBI 2000 shall elect said services by written request to its Account Manager if applicable.

Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF)
Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File (EODUF)
Access Daily Usage File (ADUF)
Line Information Database (LIDB) Storage
Centralized Message Distribution Service (CMDS)
Calling Name (CNAM)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement the day and year above first written.

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.



Signature

Jerry D. Hendrix

Name


Sr. Director

Title

11/22/99

Date

VBI 2000, L.L.C.



Signature

RANDY JAMES

Name

V. PRESIDENT

Title

11.15.99

Date

Definitions

Affiliate is defined as a person that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “own” means to own an equity interest (or equivalent thereof) of more than 10 percent.

Centralized Message Distribution System is the Telcordia (formerly BellCore) administered national system, based in Kansas City, Missouri, used to exchange Exchange Message Interface (EMI) formatted data among host companies.

Commission is defined as the appropriate regulatory agency in each of BellSouth’s nine state region, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Daily Usage File is the compilation of messages or copies of messages in standard Exchange Message Interface (EMI) format exchanged from BellSouth to an CLEC.

Exchange Message Interface is the nationally administered standard format for the exchange of data among the Exchange Carriers within the telecommunications industry.

Information Service means the offering of a capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information via telecommunications, and includes electronic publishing, but does not include any use of any such capability for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or the management of a telecommunications service.

Intercompany Settlements (ICS) is the revenue associated with charges billed by a company other than the company in whose service area such charges were incurred. ICS on a national level includes third number and credit card calls and is administered by Telcordia (formerly BellCore)’s Calling Card and Third Number Settlement System (CATS). Included is traffic that originates in one Regional Bell Operating Company’s (RBOC) territory and bills in another RBOC’s territory.

Intermediary function is defined as the delivery of traffic from VBI 2000; a CLEC other than VBI 2000 or another telecommunications carrier through the network of BellSouth or VBI 2000 to an end user of VBI 2000; a CLEC other than VBI 2000 or another telecommunications carrier.

Local Interconnection is defined as 1) the delivery of local traffic to be terminated on each Party’s local network so that end users of either Party have the ability to reach end users of the other Party without the use of any access code or substantial delay in the processing of the call; 2) the LEC network features, functions, and capabilities set forth in this Agreement; and 3) Service Provider Number Portability sometimes referred to as temporary telephone number portability to be implemented pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

Local Traffic is defined as any telephone call that originates in one exchange and terminates in either the same exchange, or other local calling area associated with the originating exchange as defined and specified in Section A3 of BellSouth's General Subscriber Service Tariff. As clarification of this definition and for reciprocal compensation, Local Traffic does not include traffic that originates from or terminates to or through an enhanced service provider or information service provider. As further clarification, Local Traffic does not include calls that do not transmit information of the user's choosing. In any event, neither Party will pay reciprocal compensation to the other if the "traffic" to which such reciprocal compensation would otherwise apply was generated, in whole or in part, for the purpose of creating an obligation on the part of the originating carrier to pay reciprocal compensation for such traffic.

Message Distribution is routing determination and subsequent delivery of message data from one company to another. Also included is the interface function with CMDS, where appropriate.

Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing ("MECAB") means the document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum ("OBF"), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions ("ATIS") and by Telcordia (formerly BellCore) as Special Report SR-BDS-000983, Containing the recommended guidelines for the billing of Exchange Service access provided by two or more LECs and/or CLECs or by one LEC in two or more states within a single LATA.

Network Element is defined to mean a facility or equipment used in the provision of a telecommunications service. Such term may include, but is not limited to, features, functions, and capabilities that are provided by means of such facility or equipment, including but not limited to, subscriber numbers, databases, signaling systems, and information sufficient for billing and collection or used in the transmission, routing, or other provision of a telecommunications service. BellSouth offers access to the Network Elements, unbundled loops; network interface device; sub-loop elements; local switching; transport; tandem switching; operator systems; signaling; access to call-related databases; dark fiber as set forth in Attachment 2 of this Agreement.

Non-Intercompany Settlement System (NICS) is the Telcordia (formerly BellCore) system that calculates non-intercompany settlements amounts due from one company to another within the same RBOC region. It includes credit card, third number and collect messages.

Percent of Interstate Usage (PIU) is defined as a factor to be applied to terminating access services minutes of use to obtain those minutes that should be rated as interstate access services minutes of use. The numerator includes all interstate "non-intermediary" minutes of use, including interstate minutes of use that are forwarded due to service provider number portability less any interstate minutes of use for Terminating Party Pays services, such as 800 Services. The denominator includes all "non-intermediary", local, interstate, intrastate, toll and access minutes of use adjusted for service provider number portability less all minutes attributable to terminating Party pays services.

Percent Local Usage (PLU) is defined as a factor to be applied to intrastate terminating minutes of use. The numerator shall include all “non-intermediary” local minutes of use adjusted for those minutes of use that only apply local due to Service Provider Number Portability. The denominator is the total intrastate minutes of use including local, intrastate toll, and access, adjusted for Service Provider Number Portability less intrastate terminating Party pays minutes of use.

Revenue Accounting Office (RAO) Status Company is a local exchange company/alternate local exchange company that has been assigned a unique RAO code. Message data exchanged among RAO status companies is grouped (i.e. packed) according to From/To/Bill RAO combinations.

Service Control Points (“SCPs”) are defined as databases that store information and have the ability to manipulate data required to offer particular services.

Signal Transfer Points (“STPs”) are signaling message switches that interconnect Signaling Links to route signaling messages between switches and databases. STPs enable the exchange of Signaling System 7 (“SS7”) messages between switching elements, database elements and STPs. STPs provide access to various BellSouth and third party network elements such as local switching and databases.

Signaling links are dedicated transmission paths carrying signaling messages between carrier switches and signaling networks. Signal Link Transport is a set of two or four dedicated 56 kbps transmission paths between VBI 2000 designated Signaling Points of Interconnection that provide a diverse transmission path and cross connect to a BellSouth Signal Transfer Point.

Telecommunications means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user’s choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received.

Telecommunications Service means the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

Telecommunications Act of 1996 (“Act”) means Public Law 104-104 of the United States Congress effective February 8, 1996. The Act amended the Communications Act of 1934 (47, U.S.C. Section 1 et. seq.).

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RESALE

1. Discount Rates

The rates pursuant by which VBI 2000 is to purchase services from BellSouth for resale shall be at a discount rate off of the retail rate for the telecommunications service. The discount rates shall be as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. Such discount shall reflect the costs avoided by BellSouth when selling a service for wholesale purposes.

2. Definition of Terms

- 2.1 **CUSTOMER OF RECORD** means the entity responsible for placing application for service; requesting additions, rearrangements, maintenance or discontinuance of service; payment in full of charges incurred such as non-recurring, monthly recurring, toll, directory assistance, etc.
- 2.2 **DEPOSIT** means assurance provided by a customer in the form of cash, surety bond or bank letter of credit to be held by BellSouth.
- 2.3 **END USER** means the ultimate user of the telecommunications services.
- 2.4 **END USER CUSTOMER LOCATION** means the physical location of the premises where an end user makes use of the telecommunications services.
- 2.5 **NEW SERVICES** means functions, features or capabilities that are not currently offered by BellSouth. This includes packaging of existing services or combining a new function, feature or capability with an existing service.
- 2.6 **OTHER/COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANY (OLEC/CLEC)** means a telephone company certificated by the public service commissions of BellSouth's franchised area to provide local exchange service within BellSouth's franchised area.
- 2.7 **RESALE** means an activity wherein a certificated CLEC, such as VBI 2000 subscribes to the telecommunications services of BellSouth and then reoffers those telecommunications services to the public (with or without "adding value").
- 2.8 **RESALE SERVICE AREA** means the area, as defined in a public service commission approved certificate of operation, within which an CLEC, such as VBI 2000, may offer resold local exchange telecommunications service.

3. General Provisions

- 3.1 VBI 2000 may resell the tariffed local exchange and toll telecommunications services of BellSouth contained in the General Subscriber Service Tariff and Private Line Service Tariff subject to the terms, and conditions specifically set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the exclusions

and limitations on services available for resale will be as set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

All of the negotiated rates, terms and conditions set forth in this Attachment pertain to the resale of BellSouth's retail telecommunications services and other services specified in this Attachment. BellSouth shall make available telecommunications services for resale at the rates set forth in Exhibit A to this Agreement and subject to the exclusions and limitations set forth in Exhibit B to this Agreement. BellSouth does not however waive its rights to appeal or otherwise challenge any decision regarding resale that resulted in the discount rates contained in Exhibit A or the exclusions and limitations contained in Exhibit B. BellSouth reserves the right to pursue any and all legal and/or equitable remedies, including appeals of any decisions. If such appeals or challenges result in changes in the discount rates or exclusions and limitations, the parties agree that appropriate modifications to this Agreement will be made promptly to make its terms consistent with the outcome of the appeal.

- 3.2 VBI 2000 may purchase resale services from BellSouth for their own use in operating their business. The resale discount will apply to those services under the following conditions:
 - 3.2.1 VBI 2000 must resell services to other end users.
 - 3.2.2 VBI 2000 must order services through resale interfaces, i. e., the Local Carrier Service Center (LCSC) and/or appropriate Resale Account Teams pursuant to Section 3 of the General Terms and Conditions.
 - 3.2.3 VBI 2000 cannot be an alternative local exchange telecommunications company for the single purpose of selling to themselves.
- 3.3 The provision of services by BellSouth to VBI 2000 does not constitute a joint undertaking for the furnishing of any service.
- 3.4 VBI 2000 will be the customer of record for all services purchased from BellSouth. Except as specified herein, BellSouth will take orders from, bill and expect payment from VBI 2000 for all services.
- 3.5 VBI 2000 will be BellSouth's single point of contact for all services purchased pursuant to this Agreement. BellSouth shall have no contact with the end user except to the extent provided for herein.
- 3.6 BellSouth will continue to bill the end user for any services that the end user specifies it wishes to receive directly from BellSouth.
- 3.7 BellSouth maintains the right to serve directly any end user within the service area of VBI 2000. BellSouth will continue to directly market its own telecommunications products and services and in doing so may establish independent relationships with end users of VBI 2000.
- 3.8 Neither Party shall interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the other Party.
- 3.9 Current telephone numbers may normally be retained by the end user. However, telephone numbers are the property of BellSouth and are assigned to the service furnished. VBI 2000 has no property right to the telephone number or any other call number designation associated with services furnished by BellSouth, and no right to the continuance of service through any particular central office. BellSouth reserves the right to change such numbers, or the central office

designation associated with such numbers, or both, whenever BellSouth deems it necessary to do so in the conduct of its business.

- 3.10 For the purpose of the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services by VBI 2000, BellSouth will provide VBI 2000 with an on line access to telephone numbers for reservation on a first come first serve basis. Such reservations of telephone numbers, on a pre-ordering basis shall be for a period of nine (9) days. VBI 2000 acknowledges that there may be instances where there is a shortage of telephone numbers in a particular Common Language Location Identifier Code (CLLIC) and in such instances BellSouth may request that VBI 2000 cancel its reservations of numbers. VBI 2000 shall comply with such request.

Further, upon VBI 2000's request, and for the purpose of the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services by VBI 2000, BellSouth will reserve up to 100 telephone numbers per CLLIC, for VBI 2000's sole use. Such telephone number reservations shall be valid for ninety (90) days from the reservation date. VBI 2000 acknowledges that there may be instances where there is a shortage of telephone numbers in a particular CLLIC and in such instances BellSouth shall use its best efforts to reserve for a ninety (90) day period a sufficient quantity of VBI 2000's reasonable need in that particular CLLIC.

- 3.11 BellSouth may provide any service or facility for which a charge is not established herein, as long as it is offered on the same terms to VBI 2000.
- 3.12 Service is furnished subject to the condition that it will not be used for any unlawful purpose.
- 3.13 Service will be discontinued if any law enforcement agency advises that the service being used is in violation of the law.
- 3.14 BellSouth can refuse service when it has grounds to believe that service will be used in violation of the law.
- 3.15 BellSouth accepts no responsibility to any person for any unlawful act committed by VBI 2000 or its end users as part of providing service to VBI 2000 for purposes of resale or otherwise.
- 3.16 BellSouth will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies with subpoenas and court orders for assistance with BellSouth's end users. Law enforcement agency subpoenas and court orders regarding end users of VBI 2000 will be directed to VBI 2000. BellSouth will bill VBI 2000 for implementing any requests by law enforcement agencies regarding VBI 2000 end users.
- 3.17 The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment provided by any person or entity other than BellSouth shall not:
- 3.17.1 Interfere with or impair service over any facilities of BellSouth, its affiliates, or its connecting and concurring carriers involved in its service;
 - 3.17.2 Cause damage to BellSouth's plant;
 - 3.17.3 Impair the privacy of any communications; or
 - 3.17.4 Create hazards to any BellSouth employees or the public.
- 3.18 VBI 2000 assumes the responsibility of notifying BellSouth regarding less than standard operations with respect to services provided by VBI 2000.

- 3.19 Facilities and/or equipment utilized by BellSouth to provide service to VBI 2000 remain the property of BellSouth.
- 3.20 White page directory listings will be provided in accordance with regulations set forth in Section A6 of the General Subscriber Services Tariff and will be available for resale.
- 3.21 BellSouth provides electronic access to customer record information. Access is provided through the Local Exchange Navigation System (LENS) and the Telecommunications Access Gateway (TAG). Customer Record Information includes but is not limited to, customer specific information in CRIS and RSAG. VBI 2000 agrees not to view, copy, or otherwise obtain access to the customer record information of any customer without that customer's permission, and further agrees that VBI 2000 will obtain access to customer record information only in strict compliance with applicable laws, rules, or regulations of the State in which the service is provided.
- 3.22 All costs incurred by BellSouth to develop and implement operational interfaces shall be recovered from Resellers who utilize the services. Charges for use of Operational Support Systems (OSS) shall be as set forth in Exhibit A of this attachment.
- 3.23 Where available to BellSouth's end users, BellSouth shall provide the following telecommunications services at a discount to allow for voice mail services:
- Simplified Message Desk Interface - Enhanced ("SMDI-E")
 - Simplified Message Desk Interface ("SMDI") Message Waiting Indicator ("MWI") stutter dialtone and message waiting light feature capabilities
 - Call Forward on Busy/Don't Answer ("CF-B/DA")
 - Call Forward on Busy ("CF/B")
 - Call Forward Don't Answer ("CF/DA")
- Further, BellSouth messaging services set forth in BellSouth's Messaging Service Information Package shall be made available for resale without the wholesale discount.
- 3.24 BellSouth's Inside Wire Maintenance Service Plans may be made available for resale at rates, terms and conditions as set forth by BellSouth and without the wholesale discount.
- 3.25 All costs incurred by BellSouth for providing services requested by VBI 2000 that are not covered in the BellSouth tariffs shall be recovered from the VBI 2000(s) who utilize those services.
- 3.26 Recovery of charges associated with implementing Number Portability through monthly charges assessed to end users has been authorized by the FCC. This end user line charge will be billed to Resellers of BellSouth's telecommunications services and will be as filed in FCC No. 1. This charge will not be discounted.

4. BellSouth's Provision of Services to VBI 2000

- 4.1 VBI 2000 agrees that its resale of BellSouth services shall be as follows:

- 4.1.1 The resale of telecommunications services shall be limited to users and uses conforming to the class of service restrictions.
- 4.1.2 Hotel and Hospital PBX services are the only telecommunications services available for resale to Hotel/Motel and Hospital end users, respectively. Similarly, Access Line Service for Customer Provided Coin Telephones is the only local service available for resale to Independent Payphone Provider (IPP) customers. Shared Tenant Service customers can only be sold those local exchange access services available in BellSouth's A23 Shared Tenant Service Tariff in the states of Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina, and in A27 in the states of Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.
- 4.1.3 BellSouth reserves the right to periodically audit services purchased by VBI 2000 to establish authenticity of use. Such audit shall not occur more than once in a calendar year. VBI 2000 shall make any and all records and data available to BellSouth or BellSouth's auditors on a reasonable basis. BellSouth shall bear the cost of said audit.
- 4.2 Resold services can only be used in the same manner as specified in BellSouth's Tariffs. Resold services are subject to the same terms and conditions as are specified for such services when furnished to an individual end user of BellSouth in the appropriate section of BellSouth's Tariffs. Specific tariff features, e.g. a usage allowance per month, shall not be aggregated across multiple resold services.
- 4.3 VBI 2000 may resell services only within the specific resale service area as defined in its certificate.
- 4.4 Telephone numbers transmitted via any resold service feature are intended solely for the use of the end user of the feature. Resale of this information is prohibited.

5. Maintenance of Services

- 5.1 VBI 2000 will adopt and adhere to the standards contained in the applicable CLEC Work Center Operational Understanding Agreement regarding maintenance and installation of service.
- 5.2 Services resold under BellSouth's Tariffs and facilities and equipment provided by BellSouth shall be maintained by BellSouth.
- 5.3 VBI 2000 or its end users may not rearrange, move, disconnect, remove or attempt to repair any facilities owned by BellSouth, other than by connection or disconnection to any interface means used, except with the written consent of BellSouth.
- 5.4 VBI 2000 accepts responsibility to notify BellSouth of situations that arise that may result in a service problem.
- 5.5 VBI 2000 will be BellSouth's single point of contact for all repair calls on behalf of VBI 2000's end users. The parties agree to provide one another with toll-free contact numbers for such purposes.
- 5.6 VBI 2000 will contact the appropriate repair centers in accordance with procedures established by BellSouth.
- 5.7 For all repair requests, VBI 2000 accepts responsibility for adhering to BellSouth's prescreening guidelines prior to referring the trouble to BellSouth.

- 5.8 BellSouth will bill VBI 2000 for handling troubles that are found not to be in BellSouth's network pursuant to its standard time and material charges. The standard time and material charges will be no more than what BellSouth charges to its retail customers for the same services.
- 5.9 BellSouth reserves the right to contact VBI 2000's end users, if deemed necessary, for maintenance purposes.

6. Establishment of Service

- 6.1 After receiving certification as a local exchange company from the appropriate regulatory agency, VBI 2000 will provide the appropriate BellSouth service center the necessary documentation to enable BellSouth to establish a master account for VBI 2000's resold services. Such documentation shall include the Application for Master Account, proof of authority to provide telecommunications services, an Operating Company Number ("OCN") assigned by the National Exchange Carriers Association ("NECA") and a tax exemption certificate, if applicable. When necessary deposit requirements are met, BellSouth will begin taking orders for the resale of service.
- 6.2 Service orders will be in a standard format designated by BellSouth.
- 6.3 When notification is received from VBI 2000 that a current end user of BellSouth will subscribe to VBI 2000's service, standard service order intervals for the appropriate class of service will apply.
- 6.4 BellSouth will not require end user confirmation prior to establishing service for VBI 2000's end user customer. VBI 2000 must, however, be able to demonstrate end user authorization upon request.
- 6.5 VBI 2000 will be the single point of contact with BellSouth for all subsequent ordering activity resulting in additions or changes to resold services except that BellSouth will accept a request directly from the end user for conversion of the end user's service from VBI 2000 to BellSouth or will accept a request from another CLEC for conversion of the end user's service from VBI 2000 to the other LEC. BellSouth will notify VBI 2000 that such a request has been processed.
- 6.6 If BellSouth determines that an unauthorized change in local service to VBI 2000 has occurred, BellSouth will reestablish service with the appropriate local service provider and will assess VBI 2000 as the CLEC initiating the unauthorized change, the unauthorized change charge described in F.C.C. Tariff No. 1, Section 13 or applicable state tariff. Appropriate nonrecurring charges, as set forth in Section A4. of the General Subscriber Service Tariff, will also be assessed to VBI 2000. These charges can be adjusted if VBI 2000 provides satisfactory proof of authorization.
- 6.7 In order to safeguard its interest, BellSouth reserves the right to secure the account with a suitable form of security deposit, unless satisfactory credit has already been established.
 - 6.7.1 Such security deposit shall take the form of an irrevocable Letter of Credit or other forms of security acceptable to BellSouth. Any such security deposit may be held during the continuance of the service as security for the payment of any and all amounts accruing for the service.
 - 6.7.2 If a security deposit is required, such security deposit shall be made prior to the inauguration of service.
 - 6.7.3 Such security deposit may not exceed two months' estimated billing.

- 6.7.4 The fact that a security deposit has been made in no way relieves VBI 2000 from complying with BellSouth's regulations as to advance payments and the prompt payment of bills on presentation nor does it constitute a waiver or modification of the regular practices of BellSouth providing for the discontinuance of service for non-payment of any sums due BellSouth.
- 6.7.5 BellSouth reserves the right to increase the security deposit requirements when, in its sole judgment, circumstances so warrant and/or gross monthly billing has increased beyond the level initially used to determine the security deposit.
- 6.7.6 In the event that VBI 2000 defaults on its account, service to VBI 2000 will be terminated and any security deposits held will be applied to its account.
- 6.7.7 Interest on a security deposit shall accrue and be paid in accordance with the terms in the appropriate BellSouth tariff.

7. Payment And Billing Arrangements

- 7.1 Prior to submitting orders to BellSouth for local service, a master account must be established for VBI 2000. The VBI 2000 is required to provide the following before a master account is established: proof of PSC/PUC certification, the Application for Master Account, an Operating Company Number ("OCN") assigned by the National Exchange Carriers Association ("NECA") and a tax exemption certificate, if applicable.
- 7.2 BellSouth shall bill VBI 2000 on a current basis all applicable charges and credits.
- 7.3 Payment of all charges will be the responsibility of VBI 2000. VBI 2000 shall make payment to BellSouth for all services billed. BellSouth is not responsible for payments not received by VBI 2000 from VBI 2000's end user. BellSouth will not become involved in billing disputes that may arise between VBI 2000 and its end user. Payments made to BellSouth as payment on account will be credited to an accounts receivable master account and not to an end user's account.
- 7.4 BellSouth will render bills each month on established bill days for each of VBI 2000's accounts.
- 7.5 BellSouth will bill VBI 2000 in advance charges for all services to be provided during the ensuing billing period except charges associated with service usage, which will be billed in arrears. Charges will be calculated on an individual end user account level, including, if applicable, any charge for usage or usage allowances. BellSouth will also bill VBI 2000, and VBI 2000 will be responsible for and remit to BellSouth, all charges applicable to resold services including but not limited to 911 and E911 charges, telecommunications relay charges (TRS), and franchise fees.
- 7.6 The payment will be due by the next bill date (i.e., same date in the following month as the bill date) and is payable in immediately available funds. Payment is considered to have been made when received by BellSouth.
 - 7.6.1 If the payment due date falls on a Sunday or on a Holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment due date shall be the first non-Holiday day following such Sunday or Holiday. If the payment due date falls on a Saturday or on a Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, the payment due date shall be the last non-Holiday day preceding such Saturday or Holiday. If payment is not received by the payment due date, a late payment penalty, as set forth in section 7.8 following, shall apply.

- 7.6.2 If VBI 2000 requests multiple billing media or additional copies of bills, BellSouth will provide these at an appropriate charge to VBI 2000.
- 7.6.3 Billing Disputes
- 7.6.3.1 Each Party agrees to notify the other Party upon the discovery of a billing dispute. In the event of a billing dispute, the Parties will endeavor to resolve the dispute within sixty (60) calendar days of the Bill Date on which such disputed charges appear. Resolution of the dispute is expected to occur at the first level of management resulting in a recommendation for settlement of the dispute and closure of a specific billing period. If the issues are not resolved within the allotted time frame, the following resolution procedure will begin:
- 7.6.3.2 If the dispute is not resolved within sixty (60) days of the Bill Date, the dispute will be escalated to the second level of management for each of the respective Parties for resolution. If the dispute is not resolved within ninety (90) days of the Bill Date, the dispute will be escalated to the third level of management for each of the respective Parties for resolution
- 7.6.3.3 If the dispute is not resolved within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the Bill Date, the dispute will be escalated to the fourth level of management for each of the respective Parties for resolution.
- 7.6.3.4 If a Party disputes a charge and does not pay such charge by the payment due date, such charges shall be subject to late payment charges as set forth in the Late Payment Charges provision of this Attachment. If a Party disputes charges and the dispute is resolved in favor of such Party, the other Party shall credit the bill of the disputing Party for the amount of the disputed charges along with any late payment charges assessed no later than the second Bill Date after the resolution of the dispute. Accordingly, if a Party disputes charges and the dispute is resolved in favor of the other Party, the disputing Party shall pay the other Party the amount of the disputed charges and any associated late payment charges assessed no later than the second bill payment due date after the resolution of the dispute. BellSouth shall only assess interest on previously assessed late payment charges in a state where it has authority pursuant to its tariffs.
- 7.7 Upon proof of tax exempt certification from VBI 2000, the total amount billed to VBI 2000 will not include any taxes due from the end user to reflect the tax exempt certification and local tax laws. VBI 2000 will be solely responsible for the computation, tracking, reporting, and payment of taxes applicable to VBI 2000's end user.
- 7.8 If any portion of the payment is received by BellSouth after the payment due date as set forth preceding, or if any portion of the payment is received by BellSouth in funds that are not immediately available to BellSouth, then a late payment penalty shall be due to BellSouth. The late payment penalty shall be the portion of the payment not received by the payment due date times a late factor and will be applied on a per bill basis. The late factor shall be as set forth in Section A2 of the General Subscriber Services Tariff and Section B2 of the Private Line Service Tariff.

- 7.9 Any switched access charges associated with interexchange carrier access to the resold local exchange lines will be billed by, and due to, BellSouth. No additional charges are to be assessed to VBI 2000
- 7.10 BellSouth will not perform billing and collection services for VBI 2000 as a result of the execution of this Agreement. All requests for billing services should be referred to the appropriate entity or operational group within BellSouth.
- 7.11 Pursuant to 47 CFR Section 51.617, BellSouth will bill VBI 2000 end user common line charges identical to the end user common line charges BellSouth bills its end users.
- 7.12 In general, BellSouth will not become involved in disputes between VBI 2000 and VBI 2000's end user customers over resold services. If a dispute does arise that cannot be settled without the involvement of BellSouth, VBI 2000 shall contact the designated Service Center for resolution. BellSouth will make every effort to assist in the resolution of the dispute and will work with VBI 2000 to resolve the matter in as timely a manner as possible. VBI 2000 may be required to submit documentation to substantiate the claim.

8. Discontinuance of Service

- 8.1 The procedures for discontinuing service to an end user are as follows:
- 8.1.1 Where possible, BellSouth will deny service to VBI 2000's end user on behalf of, and at the request of, VBI 2000. Upon restoration of the end user's service, restoral charges will apply and will be the responsibility of VBI 2000.
- 8.1.2 At the request of VBI 2000, BellSouth will disconnect a VBI 2000 end user customer.
- 8.1.3 All requests by VBI 2000 for denial or disconnection of an end user for nonpayment must be in writing.
- 8.1.4 VBI 2000 will be made solely responsible for notifying the end user of the proposed disconnection of the service.
- 8.1.5 BellSouth will continue to process calls made to the Annoyance Call Center and will advise VBI 2000 when it is determined that annoyance calls are originated from one of their end user's locations. BellSouth shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by VBI 2000 and/or the end user against any claim, loss or damage arising from providing this information to VBI 2000. It is the responsibility of VBI 2000 to take the corrective action necessary with its end users who make annoying calls. Failure to do so will result in BellSouth's disconnecting the end user's service.
- 8.1.6 BellSouth may disconnect and reuse facilities when the facility is in a denied state and BellSouth has received an order to establish new service or transfer of service from an end user or an end user's CLEC at the same address served by the denied facility.
- 8.2 The procedures for discontinuing service to VBI 2000 are as follows:
- 8.2.1 BellSouth reserves the right to suspend or terminate service for nonpayment or in the event of prohibited, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service, abuse of the facilities, or any other violation or noncompliance by VBI 2000 of the rules and regulations of BellSouth's Tariffs.

- 8.2.2 If payment of account is not received by the bill day in the month after the original bill day, BellSouth may provide written notice to VBI 2000, that additional applications for service will be refused and that any pending orders for service will not be completed if payment is not received by the fifteenth day following the date of the notice. In addition BellSouth may, at the same time, give thirty days notice to the person designated by VBI 2000 to receive notices of noncompliance, and discontinue the provision of existing services to VBI 2000 at any time thereafter.
- 8.2.3 In the case of such discontinuance, all billed charges, as well as applicable termination charges, shall become due.
- 8.2.4 If BellSouth does not discontinue the provision of the services involved on the date specified in the thirty days notice and VBI 2000's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude BellSouth's right to discontinue the provision of the services to VBI 2000 without further notice.
- 8.2.5 If payment is not received or arrangements made for payment by the date given in the written notification, VBI 2000's services will be discontinued. Upon discontinuance of service on a VBI 2000's account, service to VBI 2000's end users will be denied. BellSouth will also reestablish service at the request of the end user or VBI 2000 upon payment of the appropriate connection fee and subject to BellSouth's normal application procedures. VBI 2000 is solely responsible for notifying the end user of the proposed disconnection of the service.
- 8.2.6 If within fifteen days after an end user's service has been denied no contact has been made in reference to restoring service, the end user's service will be disconnected.

9. Line Information Database (LIDB)

- 9.1 BellSouth will store in its Line Information Database (LIDB) records relating to service only in the BellSouth region. The LIDB Storage Agreement is included in this Attachment as Exhibit C.
- 9.2 BellSouth will provide LIDB Storage upon written request to VBI 2000 Account Manager stating requested activation date.

10. RAO Hosting

- 10.1 The RAO Hosting Agreement is included in this Attachment as Exhibit D. Rates for BellSouth's Centralized Message Distribution System (CMDS) are as set forth in Exhibit H of this Attachment.
- 10.2 BellSouth will provide RAO Hosting upon written request to its Account Manager stating requested activation date.

11. Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF)

- 11.1 The Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF) Agreement with terms and conditions is included in this Attachment as Exhibit E. Rates for ODUF are as set forth in Exhibit H of this Attachment.
- 11.2 BellSouth will provide Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF) service upon written request to its Account Manager stating requested activation date.

12. Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File (EODUF)

- 12.1 The Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File (EODUF) service Agreement with terms and conditions is included in this Attachment as Exhibit F. Rates for EODUF are as set forth in Exhibit H of this Attachment.
- 12.2 BellSouth will provide Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File (EODUF) service upon written request to its Account Manager stating requested activation date.

13. Calling Name Delivery (CNAM) Database Service

- 13.1 Calling Name Delivery (CNAM) Database Service Agreement is included in this Attachment as Exhibit G. Rates for CNAM are as set forth in Exhibit H of this Attachment.
- 13.2 BellSouth will provide Calling Name Delivery (CNAM) Database service upon written request to its Account Manager stating requested activation date.

EXHIBIT A

APPLICABLE DISCOUNTS

The telecommunications services available for purchase by VBI 2000 for the purposes of resale to VBI 2000 end users shall be available at the following discount off of the retail rate.

DISCOUNT*			
STATE	RESIDENCE	BUSINESS	CSAs***
ALABAMA	16.3%	16.3%	
FLORIDA	21.83%	16.81%	
GEORGIA	20.3%	17.3%	
KENTUCKY	16.79%	15.54%	
LOUISIANA	20.72%	20.72%	9.05%
MISSISSIPPI	15.75%	15.75%	
NORTH CAROLINA	21.5%	17.6%	
SOUTH CAROLINA	14.8%	14.8%	8.98%
TENNESSEE**	16%	16%	

* When a CLEC provides Resale service in a cross boundary area (areas that are part of the local serving area of another state's exchange) the rates, regulations and discounts for the tariffing state will apply. Billing will be from the serving state.

** In Tennessee, if CLEC provides its own operator services and directory services, the discount shall be 21.56%. CLEC must provide written notification to BellSouth within 30 days prior to providing its own operator services and directory services to qualify for the higher discount rate of 21.56%.

*** Unless noted in this column, the discount for Business will be the applicable discount rate for CSAs.

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS (OSS) RATES

BellSouth has developed and made available the following mechanized systems by which VBI 2000 may submit LSRs electronically.

LENS	Local Exchange Navigation System
EDI	Electronic Data Interface
EDI-PC	Electronic Data Interface – Personal Computer
TAG	Telecommunications Access Gateway

LSRs submitted by means of one of these interactive interfaces will incur an OSS electronic ordering charge as specified in the Table below. An individual LSR will be identified for billing purposes by its Purchase Order Number (PON). LSRs submitted by means other than one of these interactive interfaces (mail, fax, courier, etc.) will incur a manual order charge as specified in the table below:

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS (OSS) RATES	Electronic Per LSR received from the CLEC by one of the OSS interactive interfaces	Manual Per LSR received from the CLEC by means other than one of the OSS interactive interfaces
OSS LSR Charge	\$3.50	\$19.99
USOC	SOME C	SOMAN

Note: In addition to the OSS charges, applicable discounted service order and related discounted charges apply per the tariff.

DENIAL/RESTORAL OSS CHARGE

In the event VBI 2000 provides a list of customers to be denied and restored, rather than an LSR, each location on the list will require a separate PON and, therefore will be billed as one LSR per location.

CANCELLATION OSS CHARGE

VBI 2000 will incur an OSS charge for an accepted LSR that is later canceled by VBI 2000.

Note: Supplements or clarifications to a previously billed LSR will not incur another OSS charge.

THRESHOLD BILLING PLAN

The Parties agree that VBI 2000 will incur the mechanized rate for all LSRs, both mechanized and manual, if the percentage of mechanized LSRs to total LSRs meets or exceeds the threshold percentages shown below:

Year	Ratio: Mechanized/Total LSRs
1999	70%
2000	80%
2001	90%

The threshold plan will be discontinued in 2002.

BellSouth will track the total LSR volume for each CLEC for each quarter. At the end of that time period, a Percent Electronic LSR calculation will be made for that quarter based on the LSR data tracked in the LCSC. If this percentage exceeds the threshold volume, all of that CLECs' future manual LSRs will be billed at the mechanized

LSR rate. To allow time for obtaining and analyzing the data and updating the billing system, this billing change will take place on the first day of the second month following the end of the quarter (e.g. May 1 for 1Q, Aug 1 for 2Q, etc.). There will be no adjustments to the amount billed for previously billed LSRs.

The Parties agree that any charges BellSouth is unable to bill on April 15, 1999 will be trued up on or about July 1, 1999.

**EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS
ON SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR RESALE**

Type of Service	AL		FL		GA		KY		LA	
	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?
1 Grandfathered Services (Note 1)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Contract Service Arrangements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3 Promotions - > 90 Days(Note 2)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4 Promotions - < 90 Days (Note 2)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
5 Lifeline/Link Up Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Note 4	Note 4	Yes	Yes
6 911/E911 Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
7 N11 Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
8 AdWatch SM Svc (See Note 6)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
9 MemoryCall [®] Service	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
10 Mobile Services	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
11 Federal Subscriber Line Charges	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
12 Non-Recurring Charges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
13 End User Line Charge – Number Portability	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

Type of Service	MS		NC		SC		TN	
	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?
1 Grandfathered Services (Note 1)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Contract Service Arrangements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3 Promotions - > 90 Days(Note 2)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Note 3
4 Promotions - < 90 Days (Note 2)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
5 Lifeline/Link Up Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Note 4
6 911/E911 Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7 N11 Services	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8 AdWatch SM Svc (See Note 6)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
9 MemoryCall [®] Service	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
10 Mobile Services	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
11 Federal Subscriber Line Charges	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
12 Non-Recurring Charges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
13 End User Line Charge – Number Portability	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

Applicable Notes:

- 1 Grandfathered services can be resold only to existing subscribers of the grandfathered service.
- 2 Where available for resale, promotions will be made available only to end users who would have qualified for the promotion had it been provided by BellSouth directly.
- 3 In Tennessee, long-term promotions (offered for more than ninety (90) days) may be obtained at one of the following rates:
 - (a) the stated tariff rate, less the wholesale discount;
 - (b) the promotional rate (the promotional rate offered by BellSouth will not be discounted further by the wholesale discount rate)

4. **Lifeline/Link Up** services may be offered only to those subscribers who meet the criteria that BellSouth currently applies to subscribers of these services. In Kentucky, the VBI 2000 is responsible for funding its own Lifeline and Link Up benefit. In Tennessee, VBI 2000 shall purchase BellSouth's Message Rate Service at the stated tariff rate, less the wholesale discount. VBI 2000 must further discount the wholesale Message Rate Service to Lifeline customers with a discount which is no less than the minimum discount that BellSouth now provides. VBI 2000 is responsible for recovering the Subscriber Line Charge from the National Exchange Carriers Association interstate toll settlement pool just as BellSouth does today. The maximum rate that VBI 2000 may charge for Lifeline Service shall be capped at the flat retail rate offered by BellSouth.
- 5 Some of BellSouth's local exchange and toll telecommunications services are not available in certain central offices and areas.
- 6 AdWatchSM Service is tariffed as BellSouth[®] AIN Virtual Number Call Detail Service.

LINE INFORMATION DATA BASE (LIDB) STORAGE AGREEMENT

I. SCOPE

A. This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which BST agrees to store in its LIDB certain information at the request of the Local Exchange Company and pursuant to which BST, its LIDB customers and Local Exchange Carrier shall have access to such information. Local Exchange Carrier understands that BST provides access to information in its LIDB to various telecommunications service providers pursuant to applicable tariffs and agrees that information stored at the request of Local Exchange Carrier, pursuant to this Agreement, shall be available to those telecommunications service providers. The terms and conditions contained in the attached Addendum(s) are hereby made a part of this Agreement as if fully incorporated herein.

B. LIDB is accessed for the following purposes:

1. Billed Number Screening
2. Calling Card Validation
3. Fraud Control

C. BST will provide seven days per week, 24-hours per day, fraud monitoring on Calling Cards, bill-to-third and collect calls made to numbers in BST's LIDB, provided that such information is included in the LIDB query. BST will establish fraud alert thresholds and will notify the Local Exchange Company of fraud alerts so that the Local Exchange Company may take action it deems appropriate. Local Exchange Company understands and agrees BST will administer all data stored in the LIDB, including the data provided by Local Exchange Company pursuant to this Agreement, in the same manner as BST's data for BST's end user customers. BST shall not be responsible to Local Exchange Company for any lost revenue which may result from BST's administration of the LIDB pursuant to its established practices and procedures as they exist and as they may be changed by BST in its sole discretion from time to time.

Local Exchange Company understands that BST currently has in effect numerous billing and collection agreements with various interexchange carriers and billing clearing houses. Local Exchange Company further understands that these billing and collection customers of BST query BST's LIDB to determine whether to accept various billing options from end users. Additionally, Local Exchange Company understands that presently BST has no method to differentiate between BST's own billing and line data in the LIDB and such data which it includes in the LIDB on Local Exchange Company's behalf pursuant to this Agreement. Therefore, until such time as BST can and does implement in its LIDB and its supporting systems the means to differentiate Local Exchange Company's data from BST's data and the parties to this Agreement execute appropriate amendments hereto, the following terms and conditions shall apply:

(a) The Local Exchange Company agrees that it will accept responsibility for telecommunications services billed by BST for its billing and collection customers for Local Exchange Customer's end user accounts which are resident in LIDB pursuant to this Agreement. Local Exchange Company authorizes BST to place such charges on Local Exchange Company's bill from BST and agrees that it shall pay all such charges. Charges for which Local Exchange Company hereby takes responsibility include, but are not limited to, collect and third number calls.

(b) Charges for such services shall appear on a separate BST bill page identified with the name of the entity for which BST is billing the charge.

(c) Local Exchange Company shall have the responsibility to render a billing statement to its end users for these charges, but Local Exchange Company's obligation to pay BST for the charges billed shall be independent of whether Local Exchange Company is able or not to collect from the Local Exchange Company's end users.

(d) BST shall not become involved in any disputes between Local Exchange Company and the entities for which BST performs billing and collection. BellSouth will not issue adjustments for charges billed on behalf of an entity to Local Exchange Company. It shall be the responsibility of the Local Exchange Company and the other entity to negotiate and

arrange for any appropriate adjustments.

II. TERM

This Agreement will be effective as of _____, 1999, and will continue in effect for one year, and thereafter may be continued until terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.

III. FEES FOR SERVICE AND TAXES

A. The Local Exchange Company will not be charged a fee for storage services provided by BST to the Local Exchange Company, as described in Section I of this Agreement.

B. Sales, use and all other taxes (excluding taxes on BST's income) determined by BST or any taxing authority to be due to any federal, state or local taxing jurisdiction with respect to the provision of the service set forth herein will be paid by the Local Exchange Company. The Local Exchange Company shall have the right to have BST contest with the imposing jurisdiction, at the Local Exchange Company's expense, any such taxes that the Local Exchange Company deems are improperly levied.

IV. INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent not prohibited by law, each party will indemnify the other and hold the other harmless against any loss, cost, claim, injury, or liability relating to or arising out of negligence or willful misconduct by the indemnifying party or its agents or contractors in connection with the indemnifying party's provision of services, provided, however, that any indemnity for any loss, cost, claim, injury or liability arising out of or relating to errors or omissions in the provision of services under this Agreement shall be limited as otherwise specified in this Agreement. The indemnifying party under this Section agrees to defend any suit brought against the other party for any such loss, cost, claim, injury or liability. The indemnified party agrees to notify the other party promptly, in writing, of any written claims, lawsuits, or demands for which the other party is responsible under this Section and to cooperate in every reasonable way to facilitate defense or settlement of claims. The indemnifying party shall not be liable under this Section for settlement by the indemnified party of any claim,

lawsuit, or demand unless the defense of the claim, lawsuit, or demand has been tendered to it in writing and the indemnifying party has unreasonably failed to assume such defense.

V. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Neither party shall be liable to the other party for any lost profits or revenues or for any indirect, incidental or consequential damages incurred by the other party arising from this Agreement or the services performed or not performed hereunder, regardless of the cause of such loss or damage.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

A. It is understood and agreed to by the parties that BST may provide similar services to other companies.

B. All terms, conditions and operations under this Agreement shall be performed in accordance with, and subject to, all applicable local, state or federal legal and regulatory tariffs, rulings, and other requirements of the federal courts, the U. S. Department of Justice and state and federal regulatory agencies. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to cause either party to violate any such legal or regulatory requirement and either party's obligation to perform shall be subject to all such requirements.

C. The Local Exchange Company agrees to submit to BST all advertising, sales promotion, press releases, and other publicity matters relating to this Agreement wherein BST's corporate or trade names, logos, trademarks or service marks or those of BST's affiliated companies are mentioned or language from which the connection of said names or trademarks therewith may be inferred or implied; and the Local Exchange Company further agrees not to publish or use advertising, sales promotions, press releases; or publicity matters without BST's prior written approval.

D. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Local Exchange Company and BST which supersedes all prior agreements or contracts, oral or written representations, statements, negotiations, understandings, proposals and undertakings with respect to the subject matter hereof.

E. Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, if any part of this Agreement is held or construed to be invalid or unenforceable, the validity of any other Section of this Agreement shall remain in full

force and effect to the extent permissible or appropriate in furtherance of the intent of this Agreement.

F. Neither party shall be held liable for any delay or failure in performance of any part of this Agreement for any cause beyond its control and without its fault or negligence, such as acts of God, acts of civil or military authority, government regulations, embargoes, epidemics, war, terrorist acts, riots, insurrections, fires, explosions, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, floods, strikes, power blackouts, volcanic action, other major environmental disturbances, unusually severe weather conditions, inability to secure products or services of other persons or transportation facilities, or acts or omissions of transportation common carriers.

G. This Agreement shall be deemed to be a contract made under the laws of the State of Georgia, and the construction, interpretation and performance of this Agreement and all transactions hereunder shall be governed by the domestic law of such State.

**RESALE ADDENDUM
TO LINE INFORMATION DATA BASE (LIDB)
STORAGE AGREEMENT**

This is a Resale Addendum to the Line Information Data Base Storage Agreement dated _____, 1999, between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BST"), and Local Exchange Company ("Local Exchange Company"), effective the ____ day of _____, 1999.

I. GENERAL

This Addendum sets forth the terms and conditions for Local Exchange Company's provision of billing number information to BST for inclusion in BST's LIDB. BST will store in its LIDB the billing number information provided by Local Exchange Company, and BST will provide responses to on-line, call-by-call queries to this information for purposes specified in Section I.B. of the Agreement.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. Billing number - a number used by BST for the purpose of identifying an account liable for

charges. This number may be a line or a special billing number.

B. Line number - a ten digit number assigned by BST that identifies a telephone line associated with a resold local exchange service, or with a SPNP arrangement.

C. Special billing number - a ten digit number that identifies a billing account established by BST in connection with a resold local exchange service or with a SPNP arrangement.

D. Calling Card number - a billing number plus PIN number assigned by BST.

E. PIN number - a four digit security code assigned by BST which is added to a billing number to compose a fourteen digit calling card number.

F. Toll billing exception indicator - associated with a billing number to indicate that it is considered invalid for billing of collect calls or third number calls or both, by the Local Exchange Company.

G. Billed Number Screening - refers to the activity of determining whether a toll billing exception indicator is present for a particular billing number.

H. Calling Card Validation - refers to the activity of determining whether a particular calling card number exists as stated or otherwise provided by a caller.

I. Billing number information - information about billing number or Calling Card number as assigned by BST and toll billing exception indicator provided to BST by the Local Exchange Company.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

A. BST will include billing number information associated with resold exchange lines or SPNP arrangements in its LIDB. The Local Exchange Company will request any toll billing exceptions via the Local Service Request (LSR) form used to order resold exchange lines, or the SPNP service request form used to order SPNP arrangements.

B. Under normal operating conditions, BST shall include the billing number information in its LIDB upon completion of the service order establishing either the resold local exchange service or the SPNP arrangement, provided that BST shall not be held responsible for any delay or failure in performance to the extent such delay or failure is caused by circumstances or conditions beyond BST's reasonable control. BST will

store in its LIDB an unlimited volume of the working telephone numbers associated with either the resold local exchange lines or the SPNP arrangements. For resold local exchange lines or for SPNP arrangements, BST will issue line-based calling cards only in the name of Local Exchange Company. BST will not issue line-based calling cards in the name of Local Exchange Company's individual end users. In the event that Local Exchange Company wants to include calling card numbers assigned by the Local Exchange Company in the BST LIDB, a separate agreement is required.

C. BST will provide responses to on-line, call-by-call queries to the stored information for the specific purposes listed in the next paragraph.

D. BST is authorized to use the billing number information to perform the following functions for authorized users on an on-line basis:

1. Validate a 14 digit Calling Card number where the first 10 digits are a line number or special billing number assigned by BST, and where the last four digits (PIN) are a security code assigned by BST.
2. Determine whether the Local Exchange Company has identified the billing number as one which should not be billed for collect or third number calls, or both.

RAO Hosting

- 1 RAO Hosting, Calling Card and Third Number Settlement System (CATS) and Non-Intercompany Settlement System (NICS) services provided to VBI 2000 by BellSouth will be in accordance with the methods and practices regularly adopted and applied by BellSouth to its own operations during the term of this Agreement, including such revisions as may be made from time to time by BellSouth.
- 2 VBI 2000 shall furnish all relevant information required by BellSouth for the provision of RAO Hosting, CATS and NICS.
- 3 Applicable compensation amounts will be billed by BellSouth to VBI 2000 on a monthly basis in arrears. Amounts due from one Party to the other (excluding adjustments) are payable within thirty (30) days of receipt of the billing statement.
- 4 VBI 2000 must have its own unique RAO code. Requests for establishment of RAO status where BellSouth is the selected Centralized Message Distribution System (CMDS) interfacing host, require written notification from VBI 2000 to the BellSouth RAO Hosting coordinator at least eight (8) weeks prior to the proposed effective date. The proposed effective date will be mutually agreed upon between the Parties with consideration given to time necessary for the completion of required Telcordia (formerly BellCore) functions. BellSouth will request the assignment of an RAO code from its connecting contractor, currently Telcordia (formerly BellCore), on behalf of VBI 2000 and will coordinate all associated conversion activities.
- 5 BellSouth will receive messages from VBI 2000 that are to be processed by BellSouth, another LEC or CLEC in the BellSouth region or a LEC outside the BellSouth region.
- 6 BellSouth will perform invoice sequence checking, standard EMI format editing, and balancing of message data with the EMI trailer record counts on all data received from VBI 2000.
- 7 All data received from VBI 2000 that is to be processed or billed by another LEC or CLEC within the BellSouth region will be distributed to that LEC or CLEC in accordance with the agreement(s) which may be in effect between BellSouth and the involved LEC or CLEC.
- 8 All data received from VBI 2000 that is to be placed on the CMDS network for distribution outside the BellSouth region will be handled in accordance with the agreement(s) which may be in effect between BellSouth and its connecting contractor (currently Telcordia (formerly BellCore)).
- 9 BellSouth will receive messages from the CMDS network that are destined to be processed by VBI 2000 and will forward them to VBI 2000 on a daily basis.
- 10 Transmission of message data between BellSouth and VBI 2000 will be via CONNECT:Direct.
- 11 All messages and related data exchanged between BellSouth and VBI 2000 will be formatted in accordance with accepted industry standards for EMI formatted records and packed between appropriate EMI header and trailer records, also in accordance with accepted industry standards.
- 12 VBI 2000 will ensure that the recorded message detail necessary to recreate files provided to BellSouth will be maintained for back-up purposes for a period of three (3) calendar months beyond the related message dates.

- 13 Should it become necessary for VBI 2000 to send data to BellSouth more than sixty (60) days past the message date(s), VBI 2000 will notify BellSouth in advance of the transmission of the data. If there will be impacts outside the BellSouth region, BellSouth will work with its connecting contractor and VBI 2000 to notify all affected Parties.
- 14 In the event that data to be exchanged between the two Parties should become lost or destroyed, both Parties will work together to determine the source of the problem. Once the cause of the problem has been jointly determined and the responsible Party (BellSouth or VBI 2000) identified and agreed to, the company responsible for creating the data (BellSouth or VBI 2000) will make every effort to have the affected data restored and retransmitted. If the data cannot be retrieved, the responsible Party will be liable to the other Party for any resulting lost revenue. Lost revenue may be a combination of revenues that could not be billed to the end users and associated access revenues. Both Parties will work together to estimate the revenue amount based upon historical data through a method mutually agreed upon. The resulting estimated revenue loss will be paid by the responsible Party to the other Party within three (3) calendar months of the date of problem resolution, or as mutually agreed upon by the Parties.
- 15 Should an error be detected by the EMI format edits performed by BellSouth on data received from VBI 2000, the entire pack containing the affected data will not be processed by BellSouth. BellSouth will notify VBI 2000 of the error condition. VBI 2000 will correct the error(s) and will resend the entire pack to BellSouth for processing. In the event that an out-of-sequence condition occurs on subsequent packs, VBI 2000 will resend these packs to BellSouth after the pack containing the error has been successfully reprocessed by BellSouth.
- 16 In association with message distribution service, BellSouth will provide VBI 2000 with associated intercompany settlements reports (CATS and NICS) as appropriate.
- 17 In no case shall either Party be liable to the other for any direct or consequential damages incurred as a result of the obligations set out in this agreement.
- 18 RAO Compensation
- 18.1 Rates for message distribution service provided by BellSouth for VBI 2000 are as set forth in Exhibit A to this Attachment.
- 18.2 Rates for data transmission associated with message distribution service are as set forth in Exhibit A to this Attachment .
- 18.3 Data circuits (private line or dial-up) will be required between BellSouth and VBI 2000 for the purpose of data transmission. Where a dedicated line is required, VBI 2000 will be responsible for ordering the circuit, overseeing its installation and coordinating the installation with BellSouth. VBI 2000 will also be responsible for any charges associated with this line. Equipment required on the BellSouth end to attach the line to the mainframe computer and to transmit successfully ongoing will be negotiated on a case by case basis. Where a dial-up facility is required, dial circuits will be installed in the BellSouth data center by BellSouth and the associated charges assessed to VBI 2000. Additionally, all message toll charges associated with the use of the dial circuit by VBI 2000 will be the responsibility of VBI 2000. Associated equipment on the BellSouth end, including a modem, will be negotiated on a case by case basis between the Parties.
- 18.4 All equipment, including modems and software, that is required on the VBI 2000 end for the purpose of data transmission will be the responsibility of VBI 2000.

19 Intercompany Settlements Messages

- 19.1 This Section addresses the settlement of revenues associated with traffic originated from or billed by VBI 2000 as a facilities based provider of local exchange telecommunications services outside the BellSouth region. Only traffic that originates in one Bell operating territory and bills in another Bell operating territory is included. Traffic that originates and bills within the same Bell operating territory will be settled on a local basis between VBI 2000 and the involved company(ies), unless that company is participating in NICS.
- 19.2 Both traffic that originates outside the BellSouth region by VBI 2000 and is billed within the BellSouth region, and traffic that originates within the BellSouth region and is billed outside the BellSouth region by VBI 2000, is covered by this Agreement (CATS). Also covered is traffic that either is originated by or billed by VBI 2000, involves a company other than VBI 2000, qualifies for inclusion in the CATS settlement, and is not originated or billed within the BellSouth region (NICS).
- 19.3 Once VBI 2000 is operating within the BellSouth territory, revenues associated with calls originated and billed within the BellSouth region will be settled via Telcordia (formerly BellCore)'s, its successor or assign, NICS system.
- 19.4 BellSouth will receive the monthly NICS reports from Telcordia (formerly BellCore), its successor or assign, on behalf of VBI 2000. BellSouth will distribute copies of these reports to VBI 2000 on a monthly basis.
- 19.5 BellSouth will receive the monthly Calling Card and Third Number Settlement System (CATS) reports from Telcordia (formerly BellCore), its successor or assign, on behalf of VBI 2000. BellSouth will distribute copies of these reports to VBI 2000 on a monthly basis.
- 19.6 BellSouth will collect the revenue earned by VBI 2000 from the Bell operating company in whose territory the messages are billed (CATS), less a per message billing and collection fee of five cents (\$0.05), on behalf of VBI 2000. BellSouth will remit the revenue billed by VBI 2000 to the Bell operating company in whose territory the messages originated, less a per message billing and collection fee of five cents (\$0.05), on behalf on VBI 2000. These two amounts will be netted together by BellSouth and the resulting charge or credit issued to VBI 2000 via a monthly Carrier Access Billing System (CABS) miscellaneous bill.
- 19.7 BellSouth will collect the revenue earned by VBI 2000 within the BellSouth territory from another CLEC also within the BellSouth territory (NICS) where the messages are billed, less a per message billing and collection fee of five cents (\$0.05), on behalf of VBI 2000. BellSouth will remit the revenue billed by VBI 2000 within the BellSouth region to the CLEC also within the BellSouth region, where the messages originated, less a per message billing and collection fee of five cents (\$0.05). These two amounts will be netted together by BellSouth and the resulting charge or credit issued to VBI 2000 via a monthly Carrier Access Billing System (CABS) miscellaneous bill.

BellSouth and VBI 2000 agree that monthly netted amounts of less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) will not be settled.

Optional Daily Usage File

1 Upon written request from VBI 2000, BellSouth will provide the Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF) service to VBI 2000 pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in this section.

2 The VBI 2000 shall furnish all relevant information required by BellSouth for the provision of the Optional Daily Usage File.

3 The Optional Daily Usage Feed will contain billable messages that were carried over the BellSouth Network and processed in the BellSouth Billing System, but billed to a VBI 2000 customer.

Charges for delivery of the Optional Daily Usage File will appear on the VBI 2000s' monthly bills. The charges are as set forth in Exhibit A to this Attachment.

4 The Optional Daily Usage Feed will contain both rated and unrated messages. All messages will be in the standard Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) EMI record format.

5 Messages that error in the billing system of the VBI 2000 will be the responsibility of the VBI 2000. If, however, the VBI 2000 should encounter significant volumes of errored messages that prevent processing by the VBI 2000 within its systems, BellSouth will work with the VBI 2000 to determine the source of the errors and the appropriate resolution.

6 The following specifications shall apply to the Optional Daily Usage Feed.

6.1 Usage To Be Transmitted

6.1.1 The following messages recorded by BellSouth will be transmitted to the VBI 2000:

- message recording for per use/per activation type services (examples: Three Way Calling, Verify, Interrupt, Call Return, ETC.)
- measured billable Local
- Directory Assistance messages
- intraLATA Toll
- WATS & 800 Service
- N11
- Information Service Provider Messages
- Operator Services Messages
- Operator Services Message Attempted Calls (UNE only)
- Credit/Cancel Records
- Usage for Voice Mail Message Service

- 6.1.2 Rated Incollects (originated in BellSouth and from other companies) can also be on Optional Daily Usage File. Rated Incollects will be intermingled with BellSouth recorded rated and unrated usage. Rated Incollects will not be packed separately.
- 6.1.3 BellSouth will perform duplicate record checks on records processed to Optional Daily Usage File. Any duplicate messages detected will be deleted and not sent to VBI 2000.
- 6.1.4 In the event that VBI 2000 detects a duplicate on Optional Daily Usage File they receive from BellSouth, VBI 2000 will drop the duplicate message (VBI 2000 will not return the duplicate to BellSouth).

6.2 *Physical File Characteristics*

- 6.2.1 The Optional Daily Usage File will be distributed to VBI 2000 via an agreed medium with CONNECT:Direct being the preferred transport method. The Daily Usage Feed will be a variable block format (2476) with an LRECL of 2472. The data on the Daily Usage Feed will be in a non-compacted EMI format (175 byte format plus modules). It will be created on a daily basis (Monday through Friday except holidays). Details such as dataset name and delivery schedule will be addressed during negotiations of the distribution medium. There will be a maximum of one dataset per workday per OCN.
- 6.2.2 Data circuits (private line or dial-up) may be required between BellSouth and VBI 2000 for the purpose of data transmission. Where a dedicated line is required, VBI 2000 will be responsible for ordering the circuit, overseeing its installation and coordinating the installation with BellSouth. VBI 2000 will also be responsible for any charges associated with this line. Equipment required on the BellSouth end to attach the line to the mainframe computer and to transmit successfully ongoing will be negotiated on a case by case basis. Where a dial-up facility is required, dial circuits will be installed in the BellSouth data center by BellSouth and the associated charges assessed to VBI 2000. Additionally, all message toll charges associated with the use of the dial circuit by VBI 2000 will be the responsibility of VBI 2000. Associated equipment on the BellSouth end, including a modem, will be negotiated on a case by case basis between the parties. All equipment, including modems and software, that is required on VBI 2000 end for the purpose of data transmission will be the responsibility of VBI 2000.

6.3 **Packing Specifications**

- 6.3.1 A pack will contain a minimum of one message record or a maximum of 99,999 message records plus a pack header record and a pack trailer record. One transmission can contain a maximum of 99 packs and a minimum of one pack.
- 6.3.2 The OCN, From RAO, and Invoice Number will control the invoice sequencing. The From RAO will be used to identify to VBI 2000 which BellSouth RAO that is sending the message. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will use the invoice sequencing to control data exchange. BellSouth will be notified of sequence failures identified by VBI 2000 and resend the data as appropriate.

THE DATA WILL BE PACKED USING ATIS EMI RECORDS.

6.4 **Pack Rejection**

- 6.4.1 VBI 2000 will notify BellSouth within one business day of rejected packs (via the mutually agreed medium). Packs could be rejected because of pack sequencing discrepancies or a critical edit failure on the Pack Header or Pack Trailer records (i.e. out-of-balance condition on grand totals, invalid data populated). Standard ATIS EMI Error Codes will be used. VBI 2000 will not be required to return the actual rejected data to BellSouth. Rejected packs will be corrected and retransmitted to VBI 2000 by BellSouth.

6.5 Control Data

VBI 2000 will send one confirmation record per pack that is received from BellSouth. This confirmation record will indicate VBI 2000 received the pack and the acceptance or rejection of the pack. Pack Status Code(s) will be populated using standard ATIS EMI error codes for packs that were rejected by VBI 2000 for reasons stated in the above section.

6.6 Testing

- 6.6.1 Upon request from VBI 2000, BellSouth shall send test files to VBI 2000 for the Optional Daily Usage File. The parties agree to review and discuss the file's content and/or format. For testing of usage results, BellSouth shall request that VBI 2000 set up a production (LIVE) file. The live test may consist of VBI 2000's employees making test calls for the types of services VBI 2000 requests on the Optional Daily Usage File. These test calls are logged by VBI 2000, and the logs are provided to BellSouth. These logs will be used to verify the files. Testing will be completed within 30 calendar days from the date on which the initial test file was sent.

Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File

1 Upon written request from VBI 2000, BellSouth will provide the Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File (EODUF) service to VBI 2000 pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in this section. EODUF will only be sent to existing ODUF subscribers who request the EODUF option.

2 The VBI 2000 shall furnish all relevant information required by BellSouth for the provision of the Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File.

3 The Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File (EODUF) will provide usage data for local calls originating from resold Flat Rate Business and Residential Lines.

Charges for delivery of the Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File will appear on the VBI 2000s' monthly bills. The charges are as set forth in Exhibit A to this Attachment.

4 All messages will be in the standard Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) EMI record format.

5 Messages that error in the billing system of the VBI 2000 will be the responsibility of the VBI 2000. If, however, the VBI 2000 should encounter significant volumes of errored messages that prevent processing by the VBI 2000 within its systems, BellSouth will work with the VBI 2000 to determine the source of the errors and the appropriate resolution.

6 The following specifications shall apply to the Optional Daily Usage Feed.

6.1 Usage To Be Transmitted

6.1.1 The following messages recorded by BellSouth will be transmitted to VBI 2000:

Customer usage data for flat rated local call originating from CLEC end user lines (1FB or 1FR).
The EODUF record for flat rate messages will include:

Date of Call
From Number
To Number
Connect Time
Conversation Time
Method of Recording
From RAO
Rate Class
Message Type
Billing Indicators
Bill to Number

6.1.2 BellSouth will perform duplicate record checks on EODUF records processed to Optional Daily Usage File. Any duplicate messages detected will be deleted and not sent to VBI 2000.

- 6.1.3 In the event that VBI 2000 detects a duplicate on Enhanced Optional Daily Usage File they receive from BellSouth, VBI 2000 will drop the duplicate message (VBI 2000 will not return the duplicate to BellSouth).

6.2 *Physical File Characteristics*

- 6.2.1 The Enhanced Optional Daily Usage Feed will be distributed to VBI 2000 over their existing Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF) feed. The EODUF messages will be intermingled among VBI 2000's Optional Daily Usage File (ODUF) messages. The EODUF will be a variable block format (2476) with an LRECL of 2472. The data on the EODUF will be in a non-compacted EMI format (175 byte format plus modules). It will be created on a daily basis (Monday through Friday except holidays).
- 6.2.2 Data circuits (private line or dial-up) may be required between BellSouth and VBI 2000 for the purpose of data transmission. Where a dedicated line is required, VBI 2000 will be responsible for ordering the circuit, overseeing its installation and coordinating the installation with BellSouth. VBI 2000 will also be responsible for any charges associated with this line. Equipment required on the BellSouth end to attach the line to the mainframe computer and to transmit successfully ongoing will be negotiated on a case by case basis. Where a dial-up facility is required, dial circuits will be installed in the BellSouth data center by BellSouth and the associated charges assessed to VBI 2000. Additionally, all message toll charges associated with the use of the dial circuit by VBI 2000 will be the responsibility of VBI 2000. Associated equipment on the BellSouth end, including a modem, will be negotiated on a case by case basis between the parties. All equipment, including modems and software, that is required on VBI 2000 end for the purpose of data transmission will be the responsibility of VBI 2000.

6.3 **Packing Specifications**

- 6.3.1 A pack will contain a minimum of one message record or a maximum of 99,999 message records plus a pack header record and a pack trailer record. One transmission can contain a maximum of 99 packs and a minimum of one pack.
- 6.3.2 The Operating Company Number (OCN), From Revenue Accounting Office (RAO), and Invoice Number will control the invoice sequencing. The From RAO will be used to identify to VBI 2000 which BellSouth RAO that is sending the message. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will use the invoice sequencing to control data exchange. BellSouth will be notified of sequence failures identified by VBI 2000 and resend the data as appropriate.

THE DATA WILL BE PACKED USING ATIS EMI RECORDS.

CALLING NAME DELIVERY (CNAM) DATABASE SERVICES

1.00 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Attachment, the following terms shall be defined as:

CALLING NAME DELIVERY DATABASE SERVICE (CNAM) - The ability to associate a name with the calling party number, allowing the end user subscriber (to which a call is being terminated) to view the calling party's name before the call is answered. This service also provides VBI 2000 the opportunity to load and store its subscriber names in the BellSouth CNAM SCPs.

CALLING PARTY NUMBER (CPN) - The number of the calling party that is delivered to the terminating switch using common channel signaling system 7 (CCS7) technology, and that is contained in the Initial Address Message (IAM) portion of the CCS7 call setup.

COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING SYSTEM 7 (CCS7) - A network signaling technology in which all signaling information between two or more nodes is transmitted over high-speed data links, rather than over voice circuits.

SERVICE CONTROL POINTs (SCPs) - The real-time data base systems that contain the names to be provided in response to queries received from CNAM SSPs.

SERVICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SMS) - The main operations support system of CNAM DATABASE SERVICE. CNAM records are loaded into the SMS, which in turn downloads into the CNAM SCP.

SERVICE SWITCHING POINTs (SSPs) - Features of computerized switches in the telephone network that determine that a terminating line has subscribed to CNAM service, and then communicate with CNAM SCPs in order to provide the name associated with the calling party number.

SUBSYSTEM NUMBER (SSN) - The address used in the Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) layer of the SS7 protocol to designate an application at an end signaling point. A SSN for CNAM at the end office designates the CNAM application within the end office. BellSouth uses the CNAM SSN of 232.

ATTACHMENT

2.01 This Attachment contains the terms and conditions where BellSouth will provide to the VBI 2000 access to the BellSouth CNAM SCP for query or record storage purposes.

2.02 VBI 2000 shall submit to BellSouth a notice of its intent to access and utilize BellSouth CNAM Database Services pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Attachment. Said notice shall be in writing, no less than 60 days prior to VBI 2000's access to BellSouth's CNAM Database Services and shall be addressed to VBI 2000's Account Manager.

3.00 PHYSICAL CONNECTION AND COMPENSATION

3.01 BellSouth's provision of CNAM Database Services to VBI 2000 requires interconnection from VBI 2000 to BellSouth CNAM Service Control Points (SCPs). Such interconnections shall be established pursuant to Attachment 3 of this Agreement. The appropriate charge for access to and use of the BellSouth CNAM Database service shall be as set forth in this Attachment.

3.02 In order to formulate a CNAM query to be sent to the BellSouth CNAM SCP, VBI 2000 shall provide its own CNAM SSP. VBI 2000's CNAM SSPs must be compliant with TR-NWT-001188, "CLASS Calling Name Delivery Generic Requirements".

3.03 If VBI 2000 elects to access the BellSouth CNAM SCP via a third party CCS7 transport provider, the third party CCS7 provider shall interconnect with the BellSouth CCS7 network according to BellSouth's Common Channel Signaling Interconnection Guidelines and Telcordia (formerly BellCore)'s CCS Network Interface Specification document, TR-TSV-000905. In addition, the third party provider shall establish CCS7 interconnection at the BellSouth Local Signal Transfer Points (LSTPs) serving the BellSouth CNAM SCPs that VBI 2000 desires to query.

3.04 Out-Of-Region Customers. If the customer queries the BellSouth CNAM SCP via a third party national SS7 transport provider, the third party SS7 provider shall interconnect with the BellSouth CCS7 network according to BellSouth's Common Channel Signaling Interconnection Guidelines and Bellcore's CCS Network Interface Specification document, TR-TSV-000905. In addition, the third party provider shall establish SS7 interconnection at one or more of the BellSouth Gateway Signal Transfer Points (STPs). The payment of all costs associated with the transport of SS7 signals via a third party will be established by mutual agreement of the parties and writing shall, by this reference become an integral part of this Agreement.

4.00 CNAM RECORD INITIAL LOAD AND UPDATES

4.01 The mechanism to be used by VBI 2000 for initial CNAM record load and/or updates shall be determined by mutual agreement. The initial load and all updates shall be provided by VBI 2000 in the BellSouth specified format and shall contain records for every working telephone number that can originate phone calls. It is the responsibility of VBI 2000 to provide accurate information to BellSouth on a current basis.

4.02 Updates to the SMS shall occur no less than once a week, reflect service order activity affecting either name or telephone number, and involve only record additions, deletions or changes.

4.03 VBI 2000 CNAM records provided for storage in the BellSouth CNAM SCP shall be available, on a SCP query basis only, to all parties querying the BellSouth CNAM SCP. Further, CNAM service shall be provided by each party consistent with state and/or federal regulation.

BELLSOUTH/MBI 2000, L.L.C. RATES
 ODUF/EDUFC/MDS/CNAM

The rates contained within this Exhibit were negotiated as a whole within the negotiations of the terms and conditions contained within the Attachment and each rate, term and condition is interdependent upon the other rates, terms and conditions within this Attachment.

DESCRIPTION	USOC	RATES BY STATE												
		AL	FL	GA	KY	LA	MS	NC	SC	TN				
ODUF: Recording, per message	N/A	\$0.0002	\$0.008	\$0.008	\$0.0008611	\$0.00019	\$0.0001179	\$0.008	\$0.0002862	\$0.008				
ODUF: Message Processing, per message	N/A	\$0.0033	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.0032357	\$0.0024	\$0.0032089	\$0.004	\$0.0032344	\$0.004				
ODUF: Message Processing, per message	N/A	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004	\$0.004				
ODUF: Message Processing, per magnetic tape provisioned	N/A	\$55.19	\$54.95	\$54.95	\$55.88	\$47.30	\$54.62	\$54.95	\$54.72	\$54.95				
ODUF: Message Processing, per magnetic tape provisioned	N/A	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30	\$47.30				
ODUF: Data Transmission (CONNECT:DIRECT), per message	N/A	\$0.00004	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.0000365	\$0.00003	\$0.0000364	\$0.001	\$0.0000357	\$0.001				
ODUF: Data Transmission (CONNECT:DIRECT), per message	N/A	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364	\$0.0000364				
CNAM: Data Transmission (CONNECT:DIRECT), per message	N/A	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001				
CNAM (Database Owner), Per Query *	N/A	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016	\$0.016				
CNAM (Non-Database Owner), Per Query *	N/A	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01				
* Volume and term arrangements are also available.	N/A	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00	\$595.00				

NOTES:
 If no rate is identified in the contract, the rate for the specific service or function will be as set forth in applicable BellSouth tariff or as negotiated by the parties upon request by either party.

Attachment 2

Network Elements and Other Services

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ACCESS TO NETWORK ELEMENTS AND OTHER SERVICES

Attachment 2 consists of the following sections:

- Unbundled Loops, Integrated Digital Loop Carriers, Network Interfaces Device, Unbundled Loop Concentration (ULC) System, Sub Loops and Dark Fiber
- Switching
- Transport and Dark Fiber
- 800 Access Ten Digit Screening Services
- Line Information Database (LIDB)
- Signaling
- Operating Call Processing, Inward Operator Services and Directory Assistance Services
- Calling Name (CNAM) Database Service
- Basic 911 and E911

Each of these sections contains rates, terms, and conditions that are applicable to each individual section.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Network Element is defined to mean a facility or equipment used in the provision of a telecommunications service. Such term may include, but is not limited to, features, functions, and capabilities that are provided by means of such facility or equipment, including but not limited to, subscriber numbers, databases, signaling systems, and information sufficient for billing and collection or used in the transmission, routing, or other provision of a telecommunications service. BellSouth offers access to the Network Elements, unbundled loops; network interface device; sub-loop elements; local switching; transport; tandem switching; operator systems; signaling; access to call-related databases; dark fiber as set forth in this Attachment.
- 1.2 BellSouth shall, upon request of VBI 2000, and to the extent technically feasible, provide to VBI 2000 access to its network elements for the provision of VBI 2000's telecommunications service. If no rate is identified in the contract, the rate for the specific service or function will be as set forth in applicable BellSouth tariff or as negotiated by the Parties upon request by either Party.
- 1.3 VBI 2000 may purchase network elements and other services from BellSouth for the purpose of combining such network elements in any manner VBI 2000 chooses to provide telecommunication services to its intended users, including recreating existing BellSouth services. With the exception of the sub-loop elements which are located outside of the central office, BellSouth shall deliver the network elements purchased by VBI 2000 for combining to the designated VBI 2000 collocation space. The network elements shall be provided as set forth in this Attachment.

1.4 BellSouth will provide the following combined network elements for purchase by VBI 2000. The rate of the following combined network elements is the sum of the individual element prices as set forth in this Attachment. Order Coordination as defined in Section 2 of Attachment 2 of this Agreement is available for each of these combinations:

- SL2 loop and cross connect
- Port and cross connect
- Port and cross connect and common (shared) transport
- Port and vertical features
- SL2 Loop with loop concentration
- Port and common (shared) transport
- SL2 Loop and LNP

1.5 BellSouth shall comply with the requirements as set forth in the technical references within Attachment 2 to the extent that they are consistent with the greater of BellSouth's actual performance or applicable industry standards.

1.6 In the event that any final and nonappealable legislative, regulatory, judicial or other legal action modifies or redefines the "Network Elements" in a manner which materially affects the terms of this Attachment or the Network Elements and/or prices set forth herein, either Party may, on thirty (30) days written notice, require renegotiation of such terms, and the Parties shall renegotiate in good faith such new terms in accordance with such legislative, regulatory, judicial or other legal action. In the event such new terms are not renegotiated within ninety (90) days after the notice for renegotiation, either Party may petition the Commission for resolution of the dispute between the Parties. Each Party reserves the right to seek judicial review of any Commission ruling concerning this Attachment.

1.7 VBI 2000 will adopt and adhere to the standards contained in the applicable CLEC Work Center Operational Understanding Agreement regarding maintenance and installation of service.

2. **Unbundled Loops**

2.1.1 BellSouth agrees to offer access to loops pursuant to the following terms and conditions and at the rates set forth in this Attachment.

2.2 **Definition**

2.2.1 The loop is the physical medium or functional path on which a subscriber's traffic is carried from the MDF or similar terminating device in a central office up to the termination at the NID at the customer's premise. Each loop will be provisioned with a NID.

2.2.2 The provisioning of service to a CLEC will require cross-office cabling and cross-connections within the central office to connect the loop to a local switch or to

other transmission equipment in collocation space. These cross-connects are a separate element and are not considered a part of the loop.

BellSouth Order Coordination referenced in Attachment 2 includes two types: "Order Coordination" and "Order Coordination - Time Specific."

"Order Coordination" refers to standard BellSouth service order coordination involving SL2 voice loops and all digital loops. Order coordination for physical conversions will be scheduled at BellSouth's discretion during normal working hours on the committed due date and VBI 2000 advised.

"Order Coordination - Time Specific" refers to service order coordination in which VBI 2000 requests a specific time for a service order conversion to take place. Loops on a single service order of 14 or more loops will be provisioned on a project basis. This is a chargeable option for any coordinated order and is billed in addition to the OC charge. VBI 2000 may specify a time between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (location time) Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). If VBI 2000 specifies a time outside this window, or selects a time or quantity of loops that requires BellSouth technicians to work outside normal work hours, overtime charges will apply in addition to the OC and OC-TS charges. Overtime charges will be applied according to actual costs based on type of force group required to perform the work, overtime hours worked and any special circumstances.

Where facilities are available, BellSouth will install loops within a 5-7 business days interval. For orders of 14 or more loops, the installation will be handled on a project basis and the intervals will be set by the BellSouth project manager for that order. Some loops require a Service Inquiry (SI) to determine if facilities are available prior to issuing the order. The interval for the SI process is separate from the installation interval. For expedite requests by VBI 2000, expedite charges will apply for intervals less than 5 days. The charges outlined in BST's FCC # 1 Tariff, Section 5.1.1, will apply. If VBI 2000 cancels an order for network elements and other services, any costs incurred by BellSouth in conjunction with the provisioning of that order will be recovered in accordance with FCC #1 Tariff, Section 5.4."

If VBI 2000 modifies an order after being sent a Firm Order Confirmation (FOC) from BellSouth, any costs incurred by BellSouth to accommodate the modification will be reimbursed by VBI 2000.

- 2.2.3 BellSouth will offer Unbundled Voice Loops (UVL) in two different service levels - Service Level One (SL1) and Service Level Two (SL2). SL1 loops will be non-designed, will not have test points, and will not come with any Order Coordination (OC) or engineering information/circuit make-up data. Upon

issuance of an order in the service order system, SL1 loops will be activated on the due date in the same manner and time frames that BellSouth normally activates POTS-type loops for its customers. If VBI 2000 requests work to be done for SL1s that requires BellSouth technicians to work outside normal work hours, overtime charges will be applied according to actual costs based on type of force group required to perform the work, overtime hours worked and any special circumstances.

SL2 loops shall have test points, will be designed with a Design Layout Record provided to VBI 2000, and will be provided with Order Coordination. The OC feature will allow VBI 2000 to coordinate the installation of the loop with the disconnect of an existing customer's service and/or number portability service. In these cases, BellSouth will perform the order conversion with standard order coordination at its discretion during normal work hours.

- 2.2.4 BellSouth will also offer Unbundled Digital Loops (UDL). They will be designed, will be provisioned with test points (where appropriate), and will come standard with Order Coordination and a Design Layout Record (DLR).
- 2.2.5 As a chargeable option on all loops except UVL-SL1, BellSouth will offer Order Coordination - Time Specific (OC-TS). This will allow VBI 2000 the ability to specify the time that the coordinated conversion takes place. The OC-TS charge for orders due on the same day at the same location will be applied on a per Local Service Request (LSR) basis.
- 2.2.6 VBI 2000 will be responsible for testing and isolating troubles on the loops. Once VBI 2000 has isolated a trouble to the BellSouth provided loop, VBI 2000 will issue a trouble to BellSouth on the loop. BellSouth will take the actions necessary to repair the loop if a trouble actually exists. BellSouth will repair these loops in the same time frames that BellSouth repairs similarly situated loops to its customers.
- 2.2.7 If VBI 2000 reports a trouble on SL1 loops and no trouble actually exists, BellSouth will charge VBI 2000 for any dispatching and testing (both inside and outside the CO) required by BellSouth in order to confirm the loop's working status.
- 2.2.8 If VBI 2000 reports a trouble on SL2 loops and no trouble actually exists, BellSouth will charge VBI 2000 for any dispatching and testing, (outside the CO) required by BellSouth in order to confirm the loop's working status.

2.3 Technical Requirements

- 2.3.1 To the extent available within BST's Network at a particular location, BellSouth will offer loops capable of supporting telecommunications services such as: POTS, Centrex, basic rate ISDN, analog PBX, voice grade private line, ADSL,

HDSL, DS1 and digital data (up to 64 kb/s). Additional services may include digital PBXs, primary rate ISDN, xDSL, and Nx 64 kb/s. If a requested loop type is not available, then the CLEC can use the Special Construction process to request that BellSouth place facilities or otherwise modify facilities in order to meet the CLEC's request.

2.3.1.1 The loop will support the transmission, signaling, performance and interface requirements of the services described in 2.3.1 above. It is recognized that the requirements of different services are different, and that a number of types or grades of loops are required to support these services. Services provided over the loop by VBI 2000 will be consistent with industry standards and BST's TR73600.

2.3.1.2 In some instances, VBI 2000 will require access to a copper twisted pair loop unfettered by any intervening equipment (e.g., filters, load coils, range extenders, etc.), so that VBI 2000 can use the loop for a variety of services by attaching appropriate terminal equipment at the ends. VBI 2000 will determine the type of service that will be provided over the loop. In some cases, VBI 2000 may be required to pay additional charges for the removal of certain types of equipment. BellSouth's Special Construction process will be used to determine the costs and feasibility of these activities.

In cases in which VBI 2000 has requested that BellSouth remove equipment from the BellSouth loop, BellSouth will no longer be expected to maintain and repair the loop to the standards specified for that loop type in the TR73600 and other standards referenced in this Agreement.

VBI 2000, in performance of its obligations pursuant to the preceding Section, shall maintain records that will reflect that pursuant to VBI 2000's request BellSouth has removed certain equipment from BellSouth provided loops and as such the loop may not perform within the technical specifications associated with that loop type. VBI 2000 will not report to BellSouth troubles on said loops where the loops are not performing within the technical specifications of that loop type.

In addition, VBI 2000 recognizes there may be instances where a loop modified in this manner may be subjected to normal network configuration changes that may cause the circuit characteristics to be changed and may create an outage of the service that VBI 2000 has placed on the loop. If this occurs, BellSouth will work cooperatively with VBI 2000 to restore the circuit to its previous modified status as quickly as possible. VBI 2000 will pay the Time and Materials costs associated with BellSouth's work efforts needed to bring the loop back to its previous modified status.

2.3.2 The loop shall be provided to VBI 2000 in accordance with the following Technical References:

- BellSouth's TR73600, Unbundled Local Loop Technical Specification
- 2.3.2.1 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT-000057, Functional Criteria for Digital Loop Carrier Systems, Issue 2, January 1993.
 - 2.3.2.2 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT-000393, Generic Requirements for ISDN Basic Access Digital Subscriber Lines.
 - 2.3.2.3 ANSI T1.102 - 1993, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Electrical Interfaces.
 - 2.3.2.4 ANSI T1.403 - 1989, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Carrier to Customer Installation, DS1 Metallic Interface Specification.

3. Integrated Digital Loop Carriers

- 3.1.1 Where BellSouth uses Integrated Digital Loop Carrier (IDLC) systems to provide the local loop and BellSouth has a suitable alternate facility available, BellSouth will make arrangements to permit VBI 2000 to order a contiguous local loop. To the extent it is technically feasible, these arrangements will provide VBI 2000 with the capability to serve end users at a level that is at parity with the level of service BellSouth provides its customers. If no alternate facility is available, BellSouth will utilize its Special Construction (SC) process to determine the additional costs required to provision the loop facilities. VBI 2000 will then have the option of paying the one-time SC rates to place the loop facilities or VBI 2000 may choose some other method of providing service to the end-user (e.g., Resale, private facilities, etc.)

4. Network Interface Device

4.1 Definition

- 4.1.1 The Network Interface Device (NID) is a single-line termination device or that portion of a multiple-line termination device required to terminate a single line or circuit at the end user customer's premises. The fundamental function of the NID is to establish the official network demarcation point between a carrier and its end-user customer. The NID features two independent chambers or divisions which separate the service provider's network from the customer's inside wiring. Each chamber or division contains the appropriate connection points or posts to which the service provider, and the end-user customer each make their connections. The NID provides a protective ground connection, and is capable of terminating cables such as twisted pair cable.

4.2 Technical Requirements

- 4.2.1 The Network Interface Device shall provide a clean, accessible point of connection for the inside wiring and for the Distribution Media and shall maintain a connection to ground that meets the requirements set forth below.
- 4.2.2 The NID shall be capable of transferring electrical analog or digital signals between the customer's inside wiring and the Distribution Media.
- 4.2.3 All NID posts or connecting points shall be in place, secure, usable and free of any rust or corrosion. The protective ground connection shall exist and be properly installed. The ground wire will also be free of rust or corrosion and have continuity relative to ground.
- 4.2.4 The NID shall be capable of withstanding all normal local environmental variations.
- 4.2.5 Where feasible, the NID shall be physically accessible to VBI 2000 designated personnel. In cases where entrance to the end user's premises is required to give access to the NID, VBI 2000 shall obtain entrance permission directly from the end user.
- 4.2.6 BellSouth shall offer the NID as a stand-alone component. Additionally, VBI 2000 may connect its loop to any spare capacity on the BellSouth NID. Where necessary to comply with an effective Commission order, BellSouth will allow VBI 2000 to disconnect the BellSouth loop from the BellSouth NID in order to connect VBI 2000's loop to the BellSouth NID. In these cases, VBI 2000 accepts all liability associated with this process and it is VBI 2000's responsibility to make sure the disconnected BellSouth loop is properly grounded.
- 4.3 Interface Requirements
- 4.3.1 The NID shall be equal to or better than all of the requirements for NIDs set forth in the following technical references:
- 4.3.1.1 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) Technical Advisory TA-TSY-000120 "Customer Premises or Network Ground Wire";
- 4.3.1.2 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) Generic Requirement GR-49-CORE "Generic Requirements for Outdoor Telephone Network Interface Devices";
- 4.3.1.3 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) Technical Requirement TR-NWT-00239 "Indoor Telephone Network Interfaces";
- 4.3.1.4 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) Technical Requirement TR-NWT-000937 "Generic Requirements for Outdoor and Indoor Building Entrance"
5. Unbundled Loop Concentration (ULC) System

- 5.1.1 BellSouth will provide to VBI 2000 loop concentration (ULC). Loop concentration systems in the central office concentrate the signals transmitted over local loops onto a digital loop carrier system. The concentration device is placed inside a BellSouth central office. BellSouth will offer ULC with a TR008 interface or a TR303 interface.
- 5.1.2 ULC will be offered in two sizes. System A will allow up to 96 BellSouth loops to be concentrated onto multiple DS1s. The high speed connection from the concentrator will be at the electrical DS1 level and may connect to VBI 2000 at VBI 2000's collocation site. System B will allow up to 192 BellSouth loops to be concentrated onto multiple DS1s. System A may be upgraded to a System B. A minimum of two DS1s is required for each system (i.e., System A requires two DS1s and System B would require an additional two DS1s or four in total). All DS1 interfaces will terminate to the CLEC's collocation space. ULC service is offered with or without concentration and with or without protection. A Line Interface element will be required for each loop that is terminated onto the ULC system. Rates for ULC are as set forth in this Attachment.

6. **Sub-loop Elements**

- 6.1 Where facilities permit and where necessary to comply with an effective Commission order, BellSouth shall offer access to its Unbundled Sub-Loop (USL), Unbundled Sub-Loop Concentration (USLC) System and Unbundled Network Terminating Wire (UNTW) elements.
- 6.2 Unbundled Sub-Loop (USL)
- 6.2.1 **Definition**
- 6.2.1.1 Unbundled Sub-Loop provides connectivity between the NID component of the sub-loop and the terminal block on the customer-side of a Feeder Distribution Interface (FDI). This termination and cross-connect field may be in the form of an outside plant distribution closure or remote terminal. Riser Cable that extends from BellSouth's point-of-entry into a building (e.g., equipment closet, terminal room, etc.) to the NID on a particular floor or office space in a multi-tenant building is also classified as a USL. Unbundled Sub-Loops will be provisioned as 2-wire or 4-wire circuits and will include a NID.
- 6.2.1.2 The Unbundled Sub-Loop will be copper twisted pair. If VBI 2000 requires a copper twisted pair Unbundled Sub-Loop in instances where the Unbundled Sub-Loop for services that BellSouth offers is other than a copper facility, BellSouth will provide that media if those facilities exist. If there are no copper facilities available, BellSouth will use its Special Construction process to determine if facilities can be provided to VBI 2000.

6.2.2 Requirements for All Unbundled Sub-Loops

6.2.2.1 Unbundled Sub-Loops shall be capable of carrying all signaling messages or tones needed to provide telecommunications services.

Unbundled Sub-Loop shall support functions associated with provisioning, maintenance and testing of the Unbundled Sub-Loop. In these scenarios, VBI 2000 would be required to place a cross-box, remote terminal (RT), or other similar device and deliver a cable to the BellSouth remote terminal or cross-box. This cable would be connected, by a BST technician, to a cross-connect panel within the BellSouth RT/cross-box. VBI 2000's cable pairs can then be connected to BST's USL within the BST cross-box by the BST technician.

6.2.3 Interface Requirements

6.2.3.1 Unbundled Sub-Loop shall be equal to or better than each of the applicable interface requirements set forth in the following technical references:

6.2.3.2 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT-000049, "Generic Requirements for Outdoor Telephone Network Interface Devices," Issued December 1, 1994;

6.3 Unbundled Sub-Loop Concentration System (USLC)

6.3.1 Where facilities permit and where necessary to comply with an effective Commission order, BellSouth will provide to VBI 2000 with the ability to concentrate its sub-loops onto multiple DS1s back to the BellSouth Central Office. The DS1s will then be terminated into VBI 2000's collocation space. TR-008 and TR303 interface standards are available.

6.3.2 USLC, using the Lucent Series 5 equipment, will be offered in two different systems. System A will allow up to 96 of VBI 2000's sub-loops to be concentrated onto multiple DS1s. System B will allow an additional 96 of VBI 2000's sub-loops to be concentrated onto multiple DS1s. One System A may be supplemented with one System B and they both must be physically located in a single Series 5 dual channel bank. A minimum of two DS1s is required for each system (i.e., System A requires two DS1s and System B would require an additional two DS1s or four in total). The DS1 level facility that connects the RT site with the serving wire center is known as a Feeder Interface. All DS1 Feeder Interfaces will terminate to the CLEC's collocation space within the SWC that serves the RT where the CLEC's sub-loops are connected. USLC service is offered with or without concentration and with or without a protection DS1.

6.3.3 In these scenarios VBI 2000 would be required to place a cross-box, remote terminal (RT), or other similar device and deliver a cable to the BellSouth remote terminal. This cable would be connected, by a BellSouth technician, to a cross-

connect panel within the BellSouth RT/cross-box and would allow VBI 2000's sub-loops to then be placed on the ULSC and transported to their collocation space at a DSI level.

6.4 Unbundled Network Terminating Wire (UNTW)

6.4.1 BellSouth agrees to offer its Unbundled Network Terminating Wire (UNTW) to VBI 2000 pursuant to the following terms and conditions at rates as set forth in this Attachment.

6.5 Definition

UNTW is twisted copper wire that extends from BellSouth's point-of-entry into a multi-dwelling unit (MDU) complex or multi-tenant unit (MTU) complex to the point of demarcation at the end-users location. The UNTW will not include a Network Interface Device (NID).

6.6 Requirements

6.6.1 BellSouth will retain the first pair of NTW going into each end-user premises. BellSouth will offer spare pairs that are available to an end-users premises to VBI 2000. Available spare pairs are defined as pairs that are not being utilized by BellSouth or by a third party to provide an end-user with working service at the time of VBI 2000's request for UNTW. If no spare pairs are available and the end-user is no longer using BellSouth's local service, BellSouth will relinquish the first pair to VBI 2000. If after BellSouth has relinquished the first pair to VBI 2000 and the end-user decides to change local service providers to BellSouth, VBI 2000 will relinquish the first pair back to BellSouth.

6.6.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, should BellSouth subsequently require the use of additional pair(s) to provide for the activation of additional lines in an end-users premises in response to a request from such end-user, VBI 2000 agrees to surrender their spare pair(s) upon request by BellSouth.

6.6.3 If an end-user of VBI 2000 desires to receive local exchange service from a service provider who is not a Party to this Agreement, and such third party service provider needs access to the BellSouth UNTW to provide local exchange service to the end user, then VBI 2000 agrees to surrender the requisite number of its inactive spare pair(s) if no other spare pair is available and upon request by BellSouth.

6.6.4 If VBI 2000 has placed NTW at a location and an end-user desires to receive local exchange service from BellSouth and BellSouth needs access to VBI 2000's NTW to provide local exchange service to the end-user, then VBI 2000 agrees to surrender the requisite number of its spare pair(s) upon request by BellSouth.

6.6.5 In new construction, where possible, both Parties may at their option and with the property owner's agreement install their own NTW. In existing construction, BellSouth shall not be required to install new or additional NTW beyond existing NTW to provision the services of the CLEC.

6.7 Technical Requirements

6.7.1 In these scenarios, BellSouth will connect the requested UNTW pairs to a cross-connect panel designed for CLEC access to BellSouth's NTW. VBI 2000 will be required to place a cross-box, terminal, or other similar device and deliver a cable to this cross-connect panel. VBI 2000 will then connect their cable to the cross-connect panel to access the requested UNTW pairs.

7. Local Switching

BellSouth agrees to offer access to local switching pursuant to the following terms and conditions and at the rates set forth in this Attachment.

7.1 Definition

7.1.1 Local Switching is the Network Element that provides the functionality required to connect the appropriate originating lines or trunks wired to the Main Distributing Frame (MDF) or Digital Cross Connect (DSX) panel to a desired terminating line or trunk. Such functionality shall include access to all of the features, functions, and capabilities that the underlying BellSouth switch that is providing such Local Switching function is then capable of providing, including but not limited to: line signaling and signaling software, digit reception, dialed number translations, call screening, routing, recording, call supervision, dial tone, switching, telephone number provisioning, announcements, calling features and capabilities (including call processing), CENTREX, Automatic Call Distributor (ACD), Carrier pre-subscription (e.g. long distance carrier, intraLATA toll), Carrier Identification Code (CIC) portability capabilities, testing and other operational features inherent to the switch and switch software. It also provides access to transport, signaling (ISDN User Part (ISUP)) and Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP), and platforms such as adjuncts, Public Safety Systems (911), operator services, Directory Assistance Services and Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN). Remote Switching Module functionality is included in the Local Switching function. The switching capabilities used will be based on the line side features they support. Local Switching will also be capable of routing local, intraLATA, interLATA, and calls to international customer's preferred carrier; call features (e.g., call forwarding) and CENTREX capabilities. Where required to do so in order to comply with an effective Commission order, Local Switching, including the ability to route to VBI 2000's transport facilities, dedicated facilities and systems, shall be unbundled from all other Network Elements and other services, i.e., Operator Systems, Common (Shared) Transport,

and Dedicated Transport. BellSouth and VBI 2000 shall continue to work with the appropriate industry groups to develop a long-term solution for selective routing.

- 7.1.2 A featureless port is one that has a line port, switching functionality, and an interoffice port. A featured port is a port that includes all features then capable or a number of then capable features specifically requested by VBI 2000. Any features that are not currently then capable but are technically feasible through the switch can be requested through the BFR process.
- 7.1.3 Where required to do so in order to comply with an effective Commission order, BellSouth will provide to VBI 2000 purchasing local BellSouth switching and reselling BellSouth local exchange service under Attachment 1, selective routing of calls to a requested directory assistance services platform or operator services platform. VBI 2000 customers may use the same dialing arrangements as BellSouth customers, but obtain a VBI 2000 branded service.
- 7.2 Technical Requirements
- 7.2.1 The requirements set forth in this Section apply to Local Switching, but not to the Data Switching function of Local Switching.
- 7.2.1.1 Local Switching shall be equal to or better than the requirements for Local Switching set forth in Telcordia (formerly BellCore)'s Local Switching Systems General Requirements (FR-NWT-000064).
- 7.2.1.2 When applicable, BellSouth shall route calls to the appropriate trunk or lines for call origination or termination.
- 7.2.1.3 Subject to this section, BellSouth shall route calls on a per line or per screening class basis to (1) BellSouth platforms providing Network Elements or additional requirements (2) Operator Services platforms, (3) Directory Assistance platforms, and (4) Repair Centers. Any other routing requests by VBI 2000 will be made pursuant to the Bona Fide Request/ New Business Request Process as set forth in General Terms and Conditions.
- 7.2.1.4 BellSouth shall provide unbranded recorded announcements and call progress tones to alert callers of call progress and disposition.
- 7.2.1.5 BellSouth shall activate service for an VBI 2000 customer or network interconnection on any of the Local Switching interfaces. This includes provisioning changes to change a customer from BellSouth's services to VBI 2000's services without loss of switch feature functionality as defined in this Agreement.

- 7.2.1.6 BellSouth shall perform routine testing (e.g., Mechanized Loop Tests (MLT) and test calls such as 105, 107 and 108 type calls) and fault isolation on a mutually agreed upon schedule.
- 7.2.1.7 BellSouth shall repair and restore any equipment or any other maintainable component that may adversely impact Local Switching.
- 7.2.1.8 BellSouth shall control congestion points such as those caused by radio station call-ins, and network routing abnormalities. All traffic shall be restricted in a non discriminatory manner.
- 7.2.1.9 BellSouth shall perform manual call trace and permit customer originated call trace.
- 7.2.1.10 Special Services provided by BellSouth will include the following:
- 7.2.1.10.1 Telephone Service Prioritization;
- 7.2.1.10.2 Related services for handicapped;
- 7.2.1.10.3 Soft dial tone where required by law; and
- 7.2.1.10.4 Any other service required by law.
- 7.2.1.11 BellSouth shall provide Switching Service Point (SSP) capabilities and signaling software to interconnect the signaling links destined to the Signaling Transfer Point Switch (STP). These capabilities shall adhere to Telcordia (formerly BellCore) specifications - TCAP (GR-1432-CORE), ISUP (GR-905-CORE), Call Management (GR-1429-CORE), Switched Fractional DS1 (GR-1357-CORE), Toll Free Service (GR-1428-CORE), Calling Name (GR-1597-CORE), Line Information Database (GR-954-CORE), and Advanced Intelligent Network (GR-2863-CORE).
- 7.2.1.12 BellSouth shall provide interfaces to adjuncts through Telcordia (formerly BellCore) standard interfaces. These adjuncts can include, but are not limited to, the Service Circuit Node and Automatic Call Distributors.
- 7.2.1.13 BellSouth shall provide performance data regarding a customer line, traffic characteristics or other measurable elements to VBI 2000, upon a reasonable request from VBI 2000. CLEC will pay BellSouth for all costs incurred to provide such performance data through the Business Opportunity Request process.
- 7.2.1.14 BellSouth shall offer Local Switching that provides feature offerings at parity to those provided by BellSouth to itself or any other Party. Such feature offerings shall include but are not limited to:

- 7.2.1.14.1 Basic and primary rate ISDN;
- 7.2.1.14.2 Residential features;
- 7.2.1.14.3 Customer Local Area Signaling Services (CLASS/LASS);
- 7.2.1.14.4 CENTREX (including equivalent administrative capabilities, such as customer accessible reconfiguration and detailed message recording); and
- 7.2.1.14.5 Advanced intelligent network triggers supporting VBI 2000 and BellSouth service applications.
BellSouth shall offer to VBI 2000 all AIN triggers in connection with its SMS/SCE offering which are supported by BellSouth for offering AIN-based services. Triggers that are currently available are:
 - 7.2.1.14.5.1 Off-Hook Immediate
 - 7.2.1.14.5.2 Off-Hook Delay
 - 7.2.1.14.5.3 Termination Attempt
 - 7.2.1.14.5.4 6/10 Public Office Dialing Plan
 - 7.2.1.14.5.5 Feature Code Dialing
 - 7.2.1.14.5.6 Customer Dialing Plan
- 7.2.1.14.6 When the following triggers are supported by BellSouth, BellSouth will make these triggers available to VBI 2000:
 - 7.2.1.14.6.1 Private EAMF Trunk
 - 7.2.1.14.6.2 Shared Interoffice Trunk (EAMF, SS7)
 - 7.2.1.14.6.3 N11
 - 7.2.1.14.6.4 Automatic Route Selection
- 7.2.1.15 Where capacity exists, BellSouth shall assign each VBI 2000 customer line the class of service designated by VBI 2000 (e.g., using line class codes or other switch specific provisioning methods), and shall route directory assistance calls from VBI 2000 customers to VBI 2000 directory assistance operators at VBI 2000's option.
- 7.2.1.16 Where capacity exists, BellSouth shall assign each VBI 2000 customer line the class of services designated by VBI 2000 (e.g., using line class codes or other switch specific provisioning methods) and shall route operator calls from VBI 2000 customers to VBI 2000 operators at VBI 2000's option. For example,

BellSouth may translate 0- and 0+ intraLATA traffic, and route the call through appropriate trunks to an VBI 2000 Operator Services Position System (OSPS). Calls from Local Switching must pass the ANI-II digits unchanged.

- 7.2.1.17 Local Switching shall be offered in accordance with the requirements of the following technical references:
 - 7.2.1.17.1 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1298-CORE, AIN Switching System Generic Requirements, as implemented in BellSouth's switching equipment;
 - 7.2.1.17.2 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1299-CORE, AIN Switch-Service Control Point (SCP)/Adjunct Interface Generic Requirements;
 - 7.2.1.17.3 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT-001284, AIN 0.1 Switching System Generic Requirements;
 - 7.2.1.17.4 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) SR-NWT-002247, AIN Release 1 Update.
- 7.2.2 Interface Requirements
 - 7.2.2.1 BellSouth shall provide the following interfaces to loops:
 - 7.2.2.2 Standard Tip/Ring interface including loopstart or groundstart, on-hook signaling (e.g., for calling number, calling name and message waiting lamp);
 - 7.2.2.3 Coin phone signaling;
 - 7.2.2.4 Basic Rate Interface ISDN adhering to appropriate Telcordia (formerly BellCore) Technical Requirements;
 - 7.2.2.5 Two-wire analog interface to PBX;
 - 7.2.2.5.1 Four-wire analog interface to PBX;
 - 7.2.2.6 Four-wire DS1 interface to PBX or customer provided equipment (e.g. computers and voice response systems);
 - 7.2.2.7 Primary Rate ISDN to PBX adhering to ANSI standards Q.931, Q.932 and appropriate Telcordia (formerly BellCore) Technical Requirements;
 - 7.2.2.8 Switched Fractional DS1 with capabilities to configure Nx64 channels (where N = 1 to 24); and
 - 7.2.2.9 Loops adhering to Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT-08 and TR-NWT-303 specifications to interconnect Digital Loop Carriers.
 - 7.2.2.10 BellSouth shall provide access to the following but not limited to:

- 7.2.2.11 SS7 Signaling Network or Multi-Frequency trunking if requested by VBI 2000;
- 7.2.2.12 Interface to VBI 2000 operator services systems or Operator Services through appropriate trunk interconnections for the system; and
- 7.2.2.13 Interface to VBI 2000 directory assistance services through the VBI 2000 switched network or to Directory Assistance Services through the appropriate trunk interconnections for the system; and 950 access or other VBI 2000 required access to interexchange carriers as requested through appropriate trunk interfaces.

8. Transport

BellSouth agrees to offer access to transport including Common (Shared) Transport, Dedicated Transport and Tandem Switching pursuant to following terms and conditions and at the rates set forth in this Attachment.

8.1 Definition of Common (Shared) Transport

Common (Shared) Transport is an interoffice transmission path between two BellSouth end-offices, BellSouth end-office and a local tandem, or between two local tandems. Where BellSouth Network Elements are connected by intra-office wiring, such wiring is provided as a part of the Network Elements and is not Common (Shared) Transport. Common (Shared) Transport consists of BellSouth inter-office transport facilities and is unbundled from local switching.

8.2 Technical Requirements of Common (Shared) Transport

- 8.2.1 Common (Shared) Transport provided on DS1 or VT1.5 circuits, shall, at a minimum, meet the performance, availability, jitter, and delay requirements specified for Central Office to Central Office ("CO to CO") connections in the appropriate industry standards.
- 8.2.2 Common (Shared) Transport provided on DS3 circuits, STS-1 circuits, and higher transmission bit rate circuits, shall, at a minimum, meet the performance, availability, jitter, and delay requirements specified for CO to CO connections in the appropriate industry standards.
- 8.2.3 BellSouth shall be responsible for the engineering, provisioning, and maintenance of the underlying equipment and facilities that are used to provide Common (Shared) Transport.
- 8.2.4 At a minimum, Common (Shared) Transport shall meet all of the requirements set forth in the following technical references (as applicable for the transport technology being used):
 - 8.2.4.1 ANSI T1.101-1994, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronization Interface Standard Performance and Availability;

- 8.2.4.2 ANSI T1.102-1993, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Electrical Interfaces;
- 8.2.4.3 ANSI T1.102.01-199x, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - VT1.5;
- 8.2.4.4 ANSI T1.105-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Basic Description including Multiplex Structure, Rates and Formats;
- 8.2.4.5 ANSI T1.105.01-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Automatic Protection Switching;
- 8.2.4.6 ANSI T1.105.02-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Payload Mappings;
- 8.2.4.7 ANSI T1.105.03-1994, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Jitter at Network Interfaces;
- 8.2.4.8 ANSI T1.105.03a-1995, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET): Jitter at Network Interfaces - DS1 Supplement;
- 8.2.4.9 ANSI T1.105.05-1994, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Tandem Connection;
- 8.2.4.10 ANSI T1.105.06-199x, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Physical Layer Specifications;
- 8.2.4.11 ANSI T1.105.07-199x, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Sub STS-1 Interface Rates and Formats;
- 8.2.4.12 ANSI T1.105.09-199x, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - Network Element Timing and Synchronization;
- 8.2.4.13 ANSI T1.106-1988, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Optical Interface Specifications (Single Mode);
- 8.2.4.14 ANSI T1.107-1988, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Formats Specifications;
- 8.2.4.15 ANSI T1.107a-1990 - American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Supplement to Formats Specifications (DS3 Format Applications);

- 8.2.4.16 ANSI T1.107b-1991 - American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Supplement to Formats Specifications;
- 8.2.4.17 ANSI T1.117-1991, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Optical Interface Specifications (SONET) (Single Mode - Short Reach);
- 8.2.4.18 ANSI T1.403-1989, Carrier to Customer Installation, DS1 Metallic Interface Specification;
- 8.2.4.19 ANSI T1.404-1994, Network-to-Customer Installation - DS3 Metallic Interface Specification;
- 8.2.4.20 ITU Recommendation G.707, Network node interface for the synchronous digital hierarchy (SDH);
- 8.2.4.21 ITU Recommendation G.704, Synchronous frame structures used at 1544, 6312, 2048, 8488 and 44736 kbit/s hierarchical levels;
- 8.2.4.22 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) FR-440 and TR-NWT-000499, Transport Systems Generic Requirements (TSGR): Common Requirements;
- 8.2.4.23 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-820-CORE, Generic Transmission Surveillance: DS1 & DS3 Performance;
- 8.2.4.24 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-253-CORE, Synchronous Optical Network Systems (SONET); Common Generic Criteria;
- 8.2.4.25 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT 000507, Transmission, Section 7, Issue 5 (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), December 1993). (A module of LSSGR, FR-NWT-000064.);
- 8.2.4.26 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT-000776, Network Interface Description for ISDN Customer Access;
- 8.2.4.27 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-INS-000342, High-Capacity Digital Special Access Service-Transmission Parameter Limits and Interface Combinations, Issue 1 February 1991;
- 8.2.4.28 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ST-TEC 000052, Telecommunications Transmission Engineering Textbook, Volume 2: Facilities, Third Edition, Issue I May 1989;
- 8.2.4.29 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ST-TEC-000051, Telecommunications Transmission Engineering Textbook Volume 1: Principles, Third Edition. Issue 1 August 1987.

8.3 Dedicated Transport

8.3.1 Definition

8.3.1.1 Dedicated Transport is defined as BellSouth transmission facilities dedicated to a particular customer or carrier that provide telecommunications between wire centers owned by BellSouth or requesting telecommunications carriers, or between switches owned by BellSouth or requesting telecommunications carriers.

8.3.1.2 BellSouth shall offer Dedicated Transport in each of the following ways:

8.3.1.2.1 As capacity on a shared facility.

8.3.1.2.2 As a circuit (e.g., DS0, DS1 or DS3) dedicated to VBI 2000.

8.3.1.3 When Dedicated Transport is provided as a system it shall include:

8.3.1.3.1 Transmission equipment such as multiplexers, line terminating equipment, amplifiers, and regenerators;

8.3.1.3.2 Inter-office transmission facilities such as optical fiber, copper twisted pair, and coaxial cable.

8.3.2 Unbundled Local Channel

8.3.2.1 The Unbundled Local Channel is the dedicated transmission path between VBI 2000's Point of Presence and the BellSouth Serving Wire Center.

8.3.2.2 BellSouth currently offers Unbundled Local Channels for switched traffic. Rates for these elements are listed in this Attachment. For those states that do not contain rates in this Attachment for DS1 and DS3 switched Local Channels, the rates in the applicable State Access Tariff will apply as interim rates. When final rates are developed, these interim rates will be subject to true-up, and the Parties will amend the Agreement to reflect the new rates.

8.3.2.3 BellSouth currently offers Unbundled Local Channels for non-switched traffic at DS1 and DS3 levels at rates as set forth in Exhibit C to this Attachment.

8.3.3 Technical Requirements

This Section sets forth technical requirements for all Dedicated Transport.

8.3.3.1 When BellSouth provides Dedicated Transport as a circuit or a system, the entire designated transmission circuit or system (e.g., DS0, DS1, DS3) shall be dedicated to VBI 2000 designated traffic.

- 8.3.3.2 BellSouth shall offer Dedicated Transport in all technologies that become available including, but not limited to, DS1 and DS3 transport systems, SONET (or SDH) Bi-directional Line Switched Rings, SONET (or SDH) Unidirectional Path Switched Rings, and SONET (or SDH) point-to-point transport systems (including linear add-drop systems), at all available transmission bit rates. While SONET Ring facilities are not available in every application, they are typically available in the major metropolitan areas.
- 8.3.3.3 For DS1 or VT1.5 circuits, Dedicated Transport shall, at a minimum, meet the performance, availability, jitter, and delay requirements specified for Customer Interface to Central Office ("CI to CO") connections in the appropriate industry standards.
- 8.3.3.4 Where applicable, for DS3 circuits, Dedicated Transport shall, at a minimum, meet the performance, availability, jitter, and delay requirements specified for CI to CO connections in the appropriate industry standards.
- 8.3.3.5 BellSouth shall offer the following interface transmission rates for Dedicated Transport:
 - 8.3.3.5.1 DS0 Equivalent;
 - 8.3.3.5.2 DS1 (Extended SuperFrame - ESF and D4 channel bank shall be provided);
 - 8.3.3.5.3 DS3 where applicable (M13 multiplexer shall be provided);
 - 8.3.3.5.4 SDH Standard interface rates in accordance with International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Recommendation G.707 and Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy (PDH) rates per ITU Recommendation G.704.
- 8.3.3.6 When Dedicated Transport is provided as a system, BellSouth shall design the system according to our network infrastructure to allow for the termination points specified by VBI 2000.
- 8.3.4 At a minimum, Dedicated Transport shall meet each of the requirements set forth in the following technical references:
 - 8.3.4.1 ANSI T1.231-1993 -American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Layer 1 In-Service Digital Transmission performance monitoring.
 - 8.3.4.1.1 ANSI T1.102-1993, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Electrical Interfaces;
 - 8.3.4.1.2 ANSI T1.106-1988, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Optical Interface Specifications (Single Mode);

- 8.3.4.1.3 ANSI T1.107-1988, American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Formats Specifications;
- 8.3.4.1.4 ANSI T1.107a-1990 - American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Supplement to Formats Specifications (DS3 Format Applications);
- 8.3.4.1.5 ANSI T1.107b-1991 - American National Standard for Telecommunications - Digital Hierarchy - Supplement to Formats Specifications;
- 8.3.4.1.6 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) FR-440 and TR-NWT-000499, Transport Systems Generic Requirements (TSGR): Common Requirements;
- 8.3.4.1.7 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-820-CORE, Generic Transmission Surveillance: DS1 & DS3 Performance;
- 8.3.4.1.8 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-NWT 000507, Transmission, Section 7, Issue 5 (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), December 1993). (A module of LSSGR, FR-NWT-000064.);
- 8.3.4.1.9 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) TR-INS-000342, High-Capacity Digital Special Access Service-Transmission Parameter Limits and Interface Combinations, Issue 1 February 1991;
- 8.3.4.1.10 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ST-TEC 000052, Telecommunications Transmission Engineering Textbook, Volume 2: Facilities, Third Edition, Issue I May 1989;
- 8.3.4.1.11 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ST-TEC-000051, Telecommunications Transmission Engineering Textbook Volume 1: Principles, Third Edition. Issue 1 August 1987;

9. **Tandem Switching**

9.1 **Definition**

Tandem Switching is the function that establishes a communications path between two switching offices through a third switching office (the Tandem switch).

9.2 **Technical Requirements**

9.2.1 Tandem Switching shall have the same capabilities or equivalent capabilities as those described in Bell Communications Research TR-TSY-000540 Issue 2R2, Tandem Supplement, 6/1/90. The requirements for Tandem Switching include, but are not limited to the following:

9.4.2.1.1 Tandem Switching shall provide signaling to establish a tandem connection;

- 9.4.2.1.2 Tandem Switching will provide screening as jointly agreed to by VBI 2000 and BellSouth;
- 9.4.2.1.3 Tandem Switching shall provide Advanced Intelligent Network triggers supporting AIN features where such routing is not available from the originating end office switch, to the extent such Tandem switch has such capability;
- 9.4.2.1.4 Tandem Switching shall provide access to Toll Free number portability database as designated by VBI 2000;
- 9.4.2.1.5 Tandem Switching shall provide all trunk interconnections discussed under the "Network Interconnection" section (e.g., SS7, MF, DTMF, DialPulse, PRI-ISDN, DID, and CAMA-ANI (if appropriate for 911));
- 9.4.2.1.6 Tandem Switching shall provide connectivity to PSAPs where 911 solutions are deployed and the tandem is used for 911; and
- 9.4.2.1.7 Where appropriate, Tandem Switching shall provide connectivity to transit traffic to and from other carriers.
- 9.4.2.2 Tandem Switching shall accept connections (including the necessary signaling and trunking interconnections) between end offices, other tandems, IXCs, ICOs, CAPs and CLEC switches.
- 9.4.2.3 Tandem Switching shall provide local tandeming functionality between two end offices including two offices belonging to different CLEC's (e.g., between a CLEC end office and the end office of another CLEC).
- 9.4.2.4 Tandem Switching shall preserve CLASS/LASS features and Caller ID as traffic is processed.
- 9.4.2.5 Tandem Switching shall record billable events and send them to the area billing centers designated by VBI 2000. Tandem Switching will provide recording of all billable events as jointly agreed to by VBI 2000 and BellSouth.
- 9.4.2.6 Upon a reasonable request from VBI 2000, BellSouth shall perform routine testing and fault isolation on the underlying switch that is providing Tandem Switching and all its interconnections. The results and reports of the testing shall be made immediately available to VBI 2000.
- 9.4.2.7 BellSouth shall maintain VBI 2000's trunks and interconnections associated with Tandem Switching at least at parity to its own trunks and interconnections.
- 9.4.2.8 BellSouth shall control congestion points and network abnormalities. All traffic will be restricted in a non discriminatory manner.

- 9.4.2.9 Selective Call Routing through the use of line class codes is not available through the use of tandem switching. Selective Call Routing through the use of line class codes is an end office capability only. Detailed primary and overflow routing plans for all interfaces available within BellSouth switching network shall be mutually agreed to by VBI 2000 and BellSouth.
- 9.4.2.10 Tandem Switching shall process originating toll-free traffic received from VBI 2000 local switch.
- 9.4.2.11 In support of AIN triggers and features, Tandem Switching shall provide SSP capabilities when these capabilities are not available from the Local Switching Network Element, to the extent such Tandem Switch has such capability.
- 9.4.3 Interface Requirements
- 9.4.3.1 Tandem Switching shall provide interconnection to the E911 PSAP where the underlying Tandem is acting as the E911 Tandem.
- 9.4.3.2 Tandem Switching shall interconnect, with direct trunks, to all carriers with which BellSouth interconnects.
- 9.4.3.3 BellSouth shall provide all signaling necessary to provide Tandem Switching with no loss of feature functionality.
- 9.4.3.4 Tandem Switching shall interconnect with VBI 2000's switch, using two-way trunks, for traffic that is transiting via BellSouth network to interLATA or intraLATA carriers. At VBI 2000's request, Tandem Switching shall record and keep records of traffic for billing.
- 9.4.3.5 Tandem Switching shall provide an alternate final routing pattern for VBI 2000 traffic overflowing from direct end office high usage trunk groups.
- 9.4.4 Tandem Switching shall meet or exceed (i.e., be more favorable to VBI 2000) each of the requirements for Tandem Switching set forth in the following technical references:
- 9.4.4.1 Bell Communications Research TR-TSY-000540 Issue 2R2, Tandem Supplement, 6/1/90;
- 9.4.4.2 GR-905-CORE covering CCSNIS;
- 9.4.4.3 GR-1429-CORE for call management features; and
GR-2863-CORE and Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-2902-CORE covering CCS AIN interconnection

10. Operator Systems

BellSouth agrees to offer access to operator systems pursuant to the terms and conditions following and at the rates set forth in this Attachment.

10.1 Definition

Operator Systems is the Network Element that provides operator and automated call handling and billing, special services, end user telephone listings and optional call completion services. The Operator Systems, Network Element provides two types of functions: Operator Service functions and Directory Assistance Service functions, each of which are described in detail below.

10.2 Operator Service

10.2.1 Definition

Operator Service provides: (1) operator handling for call completion (for example, collect, third number billing, and manual credit card calls), (2) operator or automated assistance for billing after the end user has dialed the called number (for example, credit card calls); and (3) special services including but not limited to Busy Line Verification and Emergency Line Interrupt (ELI), Emergency Agency Call, Operator-assisted Directory Assistance, and Rate Quotes.

11.2.2 Requirements

10.2.2.1 When VBI 2000 requests BellSouth to provide Operator Services, the following requirements apply:

10.2.2.1.1 BellSouth shall complete 0+ and 0- dialed local calls.

10.2.2.1.2 BellSouth shall complete 0+ intraLATA toll calls.

10.2.2.1.3 BellSouth shall complete calls that are billed to VBI 2000 end user's calling card that can be validated by BellSouth.

10.2.2.1.4 BellSouth shall complete person-to-person calls.

10.2.2.1.5 BellSouth shall complete collect calls.

10.2.2.1.6 BellSouth shall provide the capability for callers to bill to a third party and complete such calls.

10.2.2.1.7 BellSouth shall complete station-to-station calls.

10.2.2.1.8 BellSouth shall process emergency calls.

10.2.2.1.9 BellSouth shall process Busy Line Verify and Emergency Line Interrupt requests.

- 10.2.2.1.10 BellSouth shall process emergency call trace, as they do for their End users prior to the Effective Date. Call must originate from a 911 provider.
- 10.2.2.1.11 BellSouth shall process operator-assisted directory assistance calls.
- 10.2.2.2 BellSouth shall adhere to equal access requirements, providing VBI 2000 local end users the same IXC access as provided to BellSouth end users.
- 10.2.2.3 BellSouth shall exercise at least the same level of fraud control in providing Operator Service to VBI 2000 that BellSouth provides for its own operator service.
- 10.2.2.4 BellSouth shall perform Billed Number Screening when handling Collect, Person-to-Person, and Billed-to-Third-Party calls.
- 10.2.2.5 BellSouth shall direct customer account and other similar inquiries to the customer service center designated by VBI 2000.
- 10.2.2.6 BellSouth shall provide a feed of customer call records in "EMI" format to VBI 2000 in accordance with CLECODUF standards specified in Attachment 7.
- 10.2.3 Interface Requirements

With respect to Operator Services for calls that originate on local switching capability provided by or on behalf of VBI 2000, the interface requirements shall conform to the then current established system interface specifications for the platform used to provide Operator Service and the interface shall conform to industry standards.
- 10.3 Directory Assistance Service
 - 10.3.1 Definition

Directory Assistance Service provides local end user telephone number listings with the option to complete the call at the callers direction separate and distinct from local switching.
 - 10.3.2 Requirements
 - 10.3.2.1 Directory Assistance Service shall provide up to two listing requests per call. If available and if requested by VBI 2000's end user, BellSouth shall provide caller-optional directory assistance call completion service at rates contained in this Attachment to one of the provided listings, equal to that which BellSouth provides its end users. If not available, VBI 2000 may request such requirement pursuant to the Bona Fide Request/New Business Process as set forth in General Terms and Conditions.
 - 10.3.2.2 Directory Assistance Service Updates

- 10.3.2.2.1 BellSouth shall update end user listings changes daily. These changes include:
 - 10.3.2.2.1.1 New end user connections: BellSouth will provide service to VBI 2000 that is equal to the service it provides to itself and its end users;
 - 10.3.2.2.1.2 End user disconnections: BellSouth will provide service to VBI 2000 that is equal to the service it provides to itself and its end users; and
 - 10.3.2.2.1.3 End user address changes: BellSouth will provide service to VBI 2000 that is equal to the service it provides to itself and its end users;
- 10.3.2.3 These updates shall also be provided for non-listed and non-published numbers for use in emergencies.

10.4 Branding for Operator Call Processing and Directory Assistance

- 10.4.1 The BellSouth Operator Systems Branding Feature provides a definable announcement to VBI 2000 end users using Directory Assistance (DA)/Operator Call Processing (OCP) prior to placing them in queue or connecting them to an available operator or automated operator system. This feature allows VBI 2000 to have its calls custom branded with VBI 2000 name on whose behalf BellSouth is providing Directory Assistance and/or Operator Call Processing. Rates for Custom Branding, Operator Call Process and Directory Assistance are set forth in this Attachment.
- 10.4.2 BellSouth offers four service levels of branding to VBI 2000 when ordering Directory Assistance and/or Operator Call Processing.
 - 10.4.2.1 Service Level 1 - BellSouth Branding
 - 10.4.2.2 Service Level 2 - Unbranded
 - 10.4.2.3 Service Level 3 - Custom Branding
 - 10.4.2.4 Service Level 4 - Self Branding (applicable only to VBI 2000 for Resale or use with an Unbundled Port when routing to an operator service provider other than BellSouth).
- 10.4.3 For Resellers and Use with an Unbundled Port
 - 10.4.3.1 BellSouth Branding is the Default Service Level.
 - 10.4.3.2 Unbranding, Custom Branding, and Self Branding require VBI 2000 to order selective routing for each originating BellSouth end office identified by VBI 2000. Rates for Selective Routing are set forth in this Attachment.

- 10.4.3.3 Customer Branding and Self Branding require VBI 2000 to order dedicated trunking from each BellSouth end office identified by VBI 2000, to either the BellSouth Traffic Operator Position System (TOPS) or VBI 2000 Operator Service Provider. Rates for trunks are set forth in applicable BellSouth tariffs.
- 10.4.3.4 Unbranding - Unbranded Directory Assistance and/or Operator Call Processing calls ride common trunk groups provisioned by BellSouth from those end offices identified by VBI 2000 to the BellSouth TOPS. These calls are routed to "No Announcement."
- 10.4.4 For Facilities Based Carriers
- 10.4.4.1 All Service Levels require VBI 2000 to order dedicated trunking from their end office(s) point of interface to the BellSouth TOPS Switches. Rates for trunks are set forth in applicable BellSouth tariffs.
- 10.4.4.2 Customized Branding includes charges for the recording of the branding announcement and the loading of the audio units in each TOPS Switch, IVS and NAV equipment for which VBI 2000 requires service

Directory Assistance customized branding uses:

- the recording of the name;
- the front-end loading of the Digital Recorded Announcement Machine (DRAM) in each TOPS switch.

Operator Call Processing customized branding uses:

- the recording of the name;
- the front-end loading of the DRAM in the TOPS Switch;
- the back-end loading in the audio units in the Automated Alternate Billing System (AABS) in the Interactive Voice Subsystem (IVS);
- the 0- automation loading for the audio units in the Enhanced Billing and Access Service (EBAS) in the Network Applications Vehicle (NAV).

- 10.4.4.3 BellSouth will provide to VBI 2000 purchasing local BellSouth switching and reselling BellSouth local exchange service, selective routing of calls to a requested directory assistance services platform or operator services platform. VBI 2000 end users may use the same dialing arrangements as BellSouth end users, but obtain a VBI 2000 branded service.

10.5 Directory Assistance Database Service (DADS)

- 10.5.1 BellSouth shall make its Directory Assistance Database Service (DADS) available solely for the expressed purpose of providing Directory Assistance type services

to VBI 2000 end users. The term "end user" denotes any entity which obtains Directory Assistance type services for its own use from a DADS customer. Directory Assistance type service is defined as Voice Directory Assistance (DA Operator assisted and Electronic Directory Assistance (Data System assisted)). VBI 2000 agrees that Directory Assistance Database Service (DADS) will not be used for any purpose which violates federal or state laws, statutes, regulatory orders or tariffs. Except for the permitted users, VBI 2000 agrees not to disclose DADS to others and shall provide due care in providing for the security and confidentiality of DADS. Further, VBI 2000 authorizes the inclusion of VBI 2000 Subscriber listings in the BellSouth Directory Assistance products.

10.5.2 BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 initially with a base file of subscriber listings which reflect all listing change activity occurring since VBI 2000's most recent update via magnetic tape, and subsequently using electronic connectivity such as Network Data Mover to be developed mutually by VBI 2000 and BellSouth. VBI 2000 agrees to assume the costs associated with CONNECT: Direct™ connectivity, which will vary depending upon volume and mileage.

10.5.3 BellSouth will require approximately one month after receiving an order to prepare the Base File. BellSouth will provide daily updates which will reflect all listing change activity occurring since CLEC's most recent update. BellSouth shall provide updates to VBI 2000 on a Business, Residence, or combined Business and Residence basis. VBI 2000 agrees that the updates shall be used solely to keep the information current. Delivery of Daily Updates will commence the day after VBI 2000 receives the Base File.

10.5.4 BellSouth is authorized to include VBI 2000 Subscriber List Information in its Directory Assistance Database Service (DADS) and its Directory Publishers Database Service (DPDS). Any other use by BellSouth of VBI 2000 Subscriber List Information is not authorized and with the exception of a request for DADS or DPDS, BellSouth shall refer any request for such information to VBI 2000.

10.5.5 Rates for DADS are as set forth in this Attachment.

10.6 Direct Access to Directory Assistance Service

10.6.1 Direct Access to Directory Assistance Service (DADAS) will provide VBI 2000's directory assistance operators with the ability to search all available BellSouth's subscriber listings using the Directory Assistance search format. Subscription to DADAS will allow VBI 2000 to utilize its own switch, operator workstations and optional audio subsystems.

10.6.2 BellSouth will provide DADAS from its DA location. VBI 2000 will access the DADAS system via a telephone company provided point of availability. VBI 2000 has the responsibility of providing the physical links required to connect to the point of availability. These facilities may be purchased from the telephone

company as rates and charges billed separately from the charges associated with this offering.

- 10.6.3 A specified interface to each VBI 2000 subsystem will be provided by BellSouth. Interconnection between VBI 2000 system and a specified BellSouth location will be pursuant to the use of VBI 2000 owned or VBI 2000 leased facilities and shall be appropriate sized based upon the volume of queries being generated by VBI 2000.
- 10.6.4 The specifications for the three interfaces necessary for interconnection are available in the following documents:
 - 10.6.4.1 DADAS to Subscriber Operator Position System—Northern Telecom Document CSI-2300-07; Universal Gateway/ Position Message Interface Format Specification
 - 10.6.4.2 DADAS to Subscriber Switch—Northern Telecom Document Q210-1 Version A107; NTDMS/CCIDAS System Application Protocol; and AT&T Document 250-900-535 Operator Services Position System Listing Service and Application Call Processing Data Link Interface Specification
 - 10.6.4.3 DADAS to Audio Subsystem (Optional)—Directory One Call Control to Audio Response Unit system interface specifications are available through Northern Telecom as a licensed access protocol—Northern Telecom Document 355-004424 and Gateway/Interactive Voice subsystem Protocol Specification
- 10.6.5 Rates for DADAS are as set forth in this Attachment.

11. **Signaling**

BellSouth agrees to offer access to signaling and access to BellSouth's signaling databases subject to compatibility testing and at the rates set forth in this Attachment. BellSouth may provide mediated access to BellSouth signaling systems and databases. Available signaling elements include signaling links, signal transfer points and service control points. Signaling functionality will be available with both A-link and B-link connectivity.

11.1 **Definition of Signaling Link Transport**

Signaling Link Transport is a set of two or four dedicated 56 Kbps. transmission paths between CLEC-designated Signaling Points of Interconnection (SPOI) that provides appropriate physical diversity.

11.2 **Technical Requirements**

- 11.2.1 Signaling Link Transport shall consist of full duplex mode 56 kbps transmission paths.
- 11.2.2 Of the various options available, Signaling Link Transport shall perform in the following two ways:
 - 11.2.2.1 As an "A-link" which is a connection between a switch or SCP and a home Signaling Transfer Point Switch (STP) pair; and
 - 11.2.2.2 As a "B-link" which is a connection between two STP pairs in different company networks (e.g., between two STP pairs for two Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs)).
- 11.2.3 Signaling Link Transport shall consist of two or more signaling link layers as follows:
 - 11.2.3.1 An A-link layer shall consist of two links.
 - 11.2.3.2 A B-link layer shall consist of four links.
- 11.2.4 A signaling link layer shall satisfy a performance objective such that:
 - 11.2.4.1 There shall be no more than two minutes down time per year for an A-link layer; and
 - 11.2.4.2 There shall be negligible (less than 2 seconds) down time per year for a B-link layer.
- 11.2.5 A signaling link layer shall satisfy interoffice and intraoffice diversity of facilities and equipment, such that:
 - 11.2.5.1 No single failure of facilities or equipment causes the failure of both links in an A-link layer (i.e., the links should be provided on a minimum of two separate physical paths end-to-end); and
 - 11.2.5.2 No two concurrent failures of facilities or equipment shall cause the failure of all four links in a B-link layer (i.e., the links should be provided on a minimum of three separate physical paths end-to-end).
- 11.3 Interface Requirements
- 11.3.1 There shall be a DS1 (1.544 Mbps) interface at the VBI 2000-designated SPOIs. Each 56 kbps transmission path shall appear as a DS0 channel within the DS1 interface.
- 12. Signaling Transfer Points (STPs)

- 12.1 Definition - Signaling Transfer Points is a signaling network function that includes all of the capabilities provided by the signaling transfer point switches (STPs) and their associated signaling links which enable the exchange of SS7 messages among and between switching elements, database elements and signaling transfer point switches
- 12.2 Technical Requirements
 - 12.2.1 STPs shall provide access to Network Elements connected to BellSouth SS7 network. These include:
 - 12.2.1.1 BellSouth Local Switching or Tandem Switching;
 - 12.2.1.2 BellSouth Service Control Points/DataBases;
 - 12.2.1.3 Third-party local or tandem switching;
 - 12.2.1.4 Third-party-provided STPs.
 - 12.2.2 The connectivity provided by STPs shall fully support the functions of all other Network Elements connected to BellSouth SS7 network. This explicitly includes the use of BellSouth SS7 network to convey messages which neither originate nor terminate at a signaling end point directly connected to BellSouth SS7 network (*i.e.*, transient messages). When BellSouth SS7 network is used to convey transient messages, there shall be no alteration of the Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP) or Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP) user data that constitutes the content of the message.
 - 12.2.3 If a BellSouth tandem switch routes calling traffic, based on dialed or translated digits, on SS7 trunks between an VBI 2000 local switch and third party local switch, BellSouth SS7 network shall convey the TCAP messages that are necessary to provide Call Management features (Automatic Callback, Automatic Recall, and Screening List Editing) between VBI 2000 local STPs and the STPs that provide connectivity with the third party local switch, even if the third party local switch is not directly connected to BellSouth STPs.
 - 12.2.4 STPs shall provide all functions of the MTP as defined in Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ANSI Interconnection Requirements. This includes:
 - 12.2.4.1 Signaling Data Link functions, as defined in Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ANSI Interconnection Requirements,
 - 12.2.4.2 Signaling Link functions, as defined in Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ANSI Interconnection Requirements, and
 - 12.2.4.3 Signaling Network Management functions, as defined in Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ANSI Interconnection Requirements.

- 12.2.5 STPs shall provide all functions of the SCCP necessary for Class 0 (basic connectionless) service, as defined in Telcordia (formerly BellCore) ANSI Interconnection Requirements. In particular, this includes Global Title Translation (GTT) and SCCP Management procedures, as specified in T1.112.4. In cases where the destination signaling point is a VBI 2000 or third party local or tandem switching system directly connected to BellSouth SS7 network, BellSouth shall perform final GTT of messages to the destination and SCCP Subsystem Management of the destination. In all other cases, BellSouth shall perform intermediate GTT of messages to a gateway pair of STPs in an SS7 network connected with BellSouth SS7 network, and shall not perform SCCP Subsystem Management of the destination. If BellSouth performs final GTT to a VBI 2000 database, then VBI 2000 agrees to provide BellSouth with the Destination Point Code for the VBI 2000 database.
- 12.2.6 STPs shall provide on a non-discriminatory basis all functions of the OMAP commonly provided by STPs, as specified in the reference in Section 12.4.5 of this Attachment. All OMAP functions will be on a "where available" basis and can include:
- 12.2.6.1 MTP Routing Verification Test (MRVT) and
- 12.2.6.2 SCCP Routing Verification Test (SRVT).
- 12.2.7 In cases where the destination signaling point is a BellSouth local or tandem switching system or database, or is an VBI 2000 or third party local or tandem switching system directly connected to the BellSouth SS7 network, STPs shall perform MRVT and SRVT to the destination signaling point. In all other cases, STPs shall perform MRVT and SRVT to a gateway pair of STPs in an SS7 network connected with the BellSouth SS7 network. This requirement shall be superseded by the specifications for Internetwork MRVT and SRVT if and when these become approved ANSI standards and available capabilities of BellSouth STPs, and if mutually agreed upon by VBI 2000 and BellSouth.
- 12.2.8 STPs shall be on parity with BellSouth.
- 12.2.9 SS7 Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN) Access
- 12.2.9.1 When technically feasible and upon request by VBI 2000, SS7 Access shall be made available in association with switching. SS7 AIN Access is the provisioning of AIN 0.1 triggers in an equipped BellSouth local switch and interconnection of the BellSouth SS7 network with the VBI 2000 SS7 network to exchange TCAP queries and responses with an VBI 2000 SCP.
- 12.2.9.2 SS7 AIN Access shall provide VBI 2000 SCP access to BellSouth local switch in association with switching via interconnection of BellSouth SS7 and VBI 2000 SS7 Networks. BellSouth shall offer SS7 access through its STPs. If BellSouth

requires a mediation device on any part of its network specific to this form of access, BellSouth must route its messages in the same manner. The interconnection arrangement shall result in the BellSouth local switch recognizing the VBI 2000 SCP as at least at parity with BellSouth's SCP's in terms of interfaces, performance and capabilities.

12.3 Interface Requirements

12.3.1 BellSouth shall provide the following STPs options to connect VBI 2000 or VBI 2000-designated local switching systems or STPs to BellSouth SS7 network:

12.3.1.1 An A-link interface from VBI 2000 local switching systems; and,

12.3.1.2 A B-link interface from VBI 2000 local STPs.

12.3.2 Each type of interface shall be provided by one or more sets (layers) of signaling links.

12.3.3 The Signaling Point of Interconnection (SPOI) for each link shall be located at a cross-connect element, such as a DSX-1, in the Central Office (CO) where BellSouth STP is located. There shall be a DS1 or higher rate transport interface at each of the SPOIs. Each signaling link shall appear as a DS0 channel within the DS1 or higher rate interface. BellSouth shall offer higher rate DS1 signaling for interconnecting VBI 2000 local switching systems or STPs with BellSouth STPs as soon as these become approved ANSI standards and available capabilities of BellSouth STPs. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will work jointly to establish mutually acceptable SPOIs.

12.3.4 BellSouth CO shall provide intraoffice diversity between the SPOIs and BellSouth STPs, so that no single failure of intraoffice facilities or equipment shall cause the failure of both B-links in a layer connecting to a BellSouth STP. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will work jointly to establish mutually acceptable SPOIs.

12.3.5 BellSouth shall provide MTP and SCCP protocol interfaces that shall conform to all sections relevant to the MTP or SCCP in the following specifications:

12.3.5.1 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-905-CORE, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Network Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP);

12.3.5.2 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1432-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) and Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP).

12.3.6 Message Screening

- 12.3.6.1 BellSouth shall set message screening parameters so as to accept valid messages from VBI 2000 local or tandem switching systems destined to any signaling point within BellSouth's SS7 network where the VBI 2000 switching system has a legitimate signaling relation.
- 12.3.6.2 BellSouth shall set message screening parameters so as to pass valid messages from VBI 2000 local or tandem switching systems destined to any signaling point or network accessed through BellSouth's SS7 network where the VBI 2000 switching system has a legitimate signaling relation.
- 12.3.6.3 BellSouth shall set message screening parameters so as to accept and pass/send valid messages destined to and from VBI 2000 from any signaling point or network interconnected through BellSouth's SS7 network where the VBI 2000 SCP has a legitimate signaling relation.
- 12.4 STPs shall be equal to or better than all of the requirements for STPs set forth in the following technical references:
 - 12.4.1 ANSI T1.111-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Message Transfer Part (MTP);
 - 12.4.2 ANSI T1.111A-1994 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Message Transfer Part (MTP) Supplement;
 - 12.4.3 ANSI T1.112-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP);
 - 12.4.4 ANSI T1.115-1990 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Monitoring and Measurements for Networks;
 - 12.4.5 ANSI T1.116-1990 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Operations, Maintenance and Administration Part (OMAP);
 - 12.4.6 ANSI T1.118-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Intermediate Signaling Network Identification (ISNI);
 - 12.4.7 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-905-CORE, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Network Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP); and
 - 12.4.8 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1432-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) and Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP).

13. Service Control Points/DataBases

13.1 Definition

13.1.1 Databases are the Network Elements that provide the functionality for storage of, access to, and manipulation of information required to offer a particular service and/or capability. Databases include, but are not limited to: Local Number Portability, LIDB, Toll Free Number Database, Automatic Location Identification/Data Management System, Calling Name Database, access to Service Creation Environment and Service Management System (SCE/SMS) application databases and Directory Assistance.

13.1.2 A Service Control Point (SCP) is a specific type of Database functionality deployed in a Signaling System 7 (SS7) network that executes service application logic in response to SS7 queries sent to it by a switching system also connected to the SS7 network. Service Management Systems provide operational interfaces to allow for provisioning, administration and maintenance of subscriber data and service application data stored in SCPs.

13.2 Technical Requirements for SCPs/Databases

Requirements for SCPs/Databases within this section address storage of information, access to information (e.g. signaling protocols, response times), and administration of information (e.g., provisioning, administration, and maintenance). All SCPs/Databases shall be provided to VBI 2000 in accordance with the following requirements.

13.2.1 BellSouth shall provide physical access to SCPs through the SS7 network and protocols with TCAP as the application layer protocol.

13.2.2 BellSouth shall provide physical interconnection to databases via industry standard interfaces and protocols (e.g. SS7, ISDN and X.25).

13.2.3 The reliability of interconnection options shall be consistent with requirements for diversity and survivability.

13.2.4 Database Availability

Call processing databases shall have a maximum unscheduled availability of 30 minutes per year. Unavailability due to software and hardware upgrades shall be scheduled during minimal usage periods and only be undertaken upon proper notification to providers which might be impacted. Any downtime associated with the provision of call processing related databases will impact all service providers, including BellSouth, equally.

13.2.5 The operational interface provided by BellSouth shall complete Database transactions (i.e., add, modify, delete) for VBI 2000 customer records stored in

BellSouth databases within 3 days, or sooner where BellSouth provisions its own customer records within a shorter interval.

13.3 Local Number Portability Database

13.3.1 Definition

The Permanent Number Portability (PNP) database supplies routing numbers for calls involving numbers that have been ported from one local service provider to another. PNP is currently being worked in industry forums. The results of these forums will dictate the industry direction of PNP. BellSouth agrees to provide access to the PNP database at rates, terms and conditions as set forth by BellSouth and in accordance with an effective FCC or Commission directive.

13.4 Line Information Database (LIDB)

BellSouth will store in its LIDB only records relating to service in the BellSouth region. The LIDB Storage Agreement is included in this Attachment.

13.4.1 Definition

The Line Information Database (LIDB) is a transaction-oriented database accessible through Common Channel Signaling (CCS) networks. It contains records associated with end user Line Numbers and Special Billing Numbers. LIDB accepts queries from other Network Elements and provides appropriate responses. The query originator need not be the owner of LIDB data. LIDB queries include functions such as screening billed numbers that provides the ability to accept Collect or Third Number Billing calls and validation of Telephone Line Number based non-proprietary calling cards. The interface for the LIDB functionality is the interface between BellSouth CCS network and other CCS networks. LIDB also interfaces to administrative systems.

13.4.2 Technical Requirements

BellSouth will offer to VBI 2000 any additional capabilities that are developed for LIDB during the life of this Agreement.

13.4.2.1 BellSouth shall process VBI 2000's Customer records in LIDB at least at parity with BellSouth customer records, with respect to other LIDB functions. BellSouth shall indicate to VBI 2000 what additional functions (if any) are performed by LIDB in the BellSouth network.

13.4.2.2 Within two (2) weeks after a request by VBI 2000, BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 with a list of the customer data items which VBI 2000 would have to provide in order to support each required LIDB function. The list shall indicate which data items are essential to LIDB function, and which are required only to

support certain services. For each data item, the list shall show the data formats, the acceptable values of the data item and the meaning of those values.

- 13.4.2.3 BellSouth shall provide LIDB systems for which operating deficiencies that would result in calls being blocked, shall not exceed 30 minutes per year.
- 13.4.2.4 BellSouth shall provide LIDB systems for which operating deficiencies that would not result in calls being blocked shall not exceed 12 hours per year.
- 13.4.2.5 BellSouth shall provide LIDB systems for which the LIDB function shall be in overload no more than 12 hours per year.
- 13.4.2.6 All additions, updates and deletions of VBI 2000 data to the LIDB shall be solely at the direction of VBI 2000. Such direction from VBI 2000 will not be required where the addition, update or deletion is necessary to perform standard fraud control measures (e.g., calling card auto-deactivation).
- 13.4.2.7 BellSouth shall provide priority updates to LIDB for VBI 2000 data upon VBI 2000's request (e.g., to support fraud detection), via password-protected telephone card, facsimile, or electronic mail within one hour of notice from the established BellSouth contact.
- 13.4.2.8 BellSouth shall provide LIDB systems such that no more than 0.01% of VBI 2000 customer records will be missing from LIDB, as measured by VBI 2000 audits. BellSouth will audit VBI 2000 records in LIDB against DBAS to identify record mismatches and provide this data to a designated VBI 2000 contact person to resolve the status of the records and BellSouth will update system appropriately. BellSouth will refer record of mis-matches to VBI 2000 within one business day of audit. Once reconciled records are received back from VBI 2000, BellSouth will update LIDB the same business day if less than 500 records are received before 1:00PM Central Time. If more than 500 records are received, BellSouth will contact VBI 2000 to negotiate a time frame for the updates, not to exceed three business days.
- 13.4.2.9 BellSouth shall perform backup and recovery of all of VBI 2000's data in LIDB including sending to LIDB all changes made since the date of the most recent backup copy, in at least the same time frame BellSouth performs backup and recovery of BellSouth data in LIDB for itself. Currently, BellSouth performs backups of the LIDB for itself on a weekly basis and when a new software release is scheduled, a backup is performed prior to loading the new release.
- 13.4.2.10 BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 with LIDB reports of data which are missing or contain errors, as well as any misrouted errors, within a reasonable time period as negotiated between VBI 2000 and BellSouth.

- 13.4.2.11 BellSouth shall prevent any access to or use of VBI 2000 data in LIDB by BellSouth personnel that are outside of established administrative and fraud control personnel, or by any other Party that is not authorized by VBI 2000 in writing.
- 13.4.2.12 BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 performance of the LIDB Data Screening function, which allows a LIDB to completely or partially deny specific query originators access to LIDB data owned by specific data owners, for Customer Data that is part of an NPA-NXX or RAO-0/1XX wholly or partially owned by VBI 2000 at least at parity with BellSouth Customer Data. BellSouth shall obtain from VBI 2000 the screening information associated with LIDB Data Screening of VBI 2000 data in accordance with this requirement. BellSouth currently does not have LIDB Data Screening capabilities. When such capability is available, BellSouth shall offer it to VBI 2000 under the Bona Fide Request/New Business Process as set forth in General Terms and Conditions .
- 13.4.2.13 BellSouth shall accept queries to LIDB associated with VBI 2000 customer records, and shall return responses in accordance with industry standards.
- 13.4.2.14 BellSouth shall provide mean processing time at the LIDB within 0.50 seconds under normal conditions as defined in industry standards.
- 13.4.2.15 BellSouth shall provide processing time at the LIDB within 1 second for 99% of all messages under normal conditions as defined in industry standards.

13.4.3 Interface Requirements

BellSouth shall offer LIDB in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.

- 13.4.3.1 The interface to LIDB shall be in accordance with the technical references contained within.
- 13.4.3.2 The CCS interface to LIDB shall be the standard interface described herein.
- 13.4.3.3 The LIDB Data Base interpretation of the ANSI-TCAP messages shall comply with the technical reference herein. Global Title Translation shall be maintained in the signaling network in order to support signaling network routing to the LIDB.

13.5 Toll Free Number Database

The Toll Free Number Database is a SCP that provides functionality necessary for toll free (e.g., 800 and 888) number services by providing routing information and additional so-called vertical features during call set-up in response to queries from SSPs. BellSouth shall provide the Toll Free Number Database in accordance with the following:

13.5.1 Technical Requirements

13.5.1.1 BellSouth shall make BellSouth Toll Free Number Database available for VBI 2000 to query with a toll-free number and originating information.

13.5.1.2 The Toll Free Number Database shall return carrier identification and, where applicable, the queried toll free number, translated numbers and instructions as it would in response to a query from a BellSouth switch.

13.5.1.3 The SCP shall also provide, at VBI 2000's option, such additional feature as described in SR-TSV-002275 (BOC Notes on BellSouth Networks, SR-TSV-002275, Issue 2, (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), April 1994)) as are available to BellSouth. These may include but are not limited to:

13.5.1.3.1 Network Management;

13.5.1.3.2 Customer Sample Collection; and

13.5.1.3.3 Service Maintenance

13.6 Automatic Location Identification/Data Management System (ALI/DMS)

The ALI/DMS Database contains end user information (including name, address, telephone information, and sometimes special information from the local service provider or end user) used to determine to which Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to route the call. The ALI/DMS database is used to provide more routing flexibility for E911 calls than Basic 911. BellSouth shall provide the Emergency Services Database in accordance with the following:

13.6.1 Technical Requirements

13.6.1.1 BellSouth shall offer VBI 2000 a data link to the ALI/DMS database or permit VBI 2000 to provide its own data link to the ALI/DMS database. BellSouth shall provide error reports from the ALI/DMS database to VBI 2000 immediately after VBI 2000 inputs information into the ALI/DMS database. Alternately, VBI 2000 may utilize BellSouth, to enter end user information into the data base on a demand basis, and validate end user information on a demand basis.

13.6.1.2 The ALI/DMS database shall contain the following end user information:

13.6.1.2.1 Name;

13.6.1.2.2 Address;

13.6.1.2.3 Telephone number; and

13.6.1.2.4 Other information as appropriate (e.g., whether a end user is blind or deaf or has another disability).

13.6.1.3 When BellSouth is responsible for administering the ALI/DMS database in its entirety, ported number NXXs entries for the ported numbers should be maintained unless VBI 2000 requests otherwise and shall be updated if VBI 2000 requests, provided VBI 2000 supplies BellSouth with the updates.

13.6.1.4 When Remote Call Forwarding (RCF) is used to provide number portability to the local end user and a remark or other appropriate field information is available in the database, the shadow or "forwarded-to" number and an indication that the number is ported shall be added to the customer record.

13.6.1.5 If BellSouth is responsible for configuring PSAP features (for cases when the PSAP or BellSouth supports an ISDN interface) it shall ensure that CLASS Automatic Recall (Call Return) is not used to call back to the ported number. Although BellSouth currently does not have ISDN interface, BellSouth agrees to comply with this requirement once ISDN interfaces are in place.

13.6.2 Interface Requirements

The interface between the E911 Switch or Tandem and the ALI/DMS database for VBI 2000 end users shall meet industry standards.

13.7 Directory Assistance Database

BellSouth shall make its directory assistance database available to VBI 2000 in order to allow VBI 2000 to provide its end users with the same directory assistance telecommunications services BellSouth provides to BellSouth end users. BellSouth shall provide VBI 2000 with an initial feed via magnetic tape and daily update initially via magnetic tape and subsequently via an electronic gateway to be developed mutually by VBI 2000 and BellSouth of end user address and number changes. Directory Assistance Services must provide both the ported and VBI 2000 telephone numbers to the extent available in BellSouth's database assigned to a end user. Privacy indicators must be properly identified to assure the non-published numbers are accurately identified.

13.8 Calling Name (CNAM) Database Service. The Agreement for Calling Name (CNAM) with standard pricing is included as Exhibit B to this Attachment. VBI 2000 must provide to its account manager a written request with a requested activation date to activate this service. If VBI 2000 is interested in requesting CNAM with volume and term pricing, VBI 2000 must contact its account manager to request a separate CNAM volume and term Agreement.

13.9 SCPs/Databases shall be equal to or better than all of the requirements for SCPs/Databases set forth in the following technical references:

13.9.1 GR-246-CORE, Bell Communications Research Specification of Signaling System Number 7, ISSUE 1 (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), December 199);

- 13.9.2 GR-1432-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) and Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP). (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), March 1994);
- 13.9.3 GR-954-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Line Information Database (LIDB) Service 6, Issue 1, Rev. 1 (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), October 1995);
- 13.9.4 GR-1149-CORE, OSSGR Section 10: System Interfaces, Issue 1 (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), October 1995) (Replaces TR-NWT-001149);
- 13.9.5 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1158-CORE, OSSGR Section 22.3: Line Information Database 6, Issue (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), October 1995);
- 13.9.6 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1428-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Toll Free Service (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), May 1995); and
- 13.9.7 BOC Notes on BellSouth Networks, SR-TSV-002275, ISSUE 2, (Telcordia (formerly BellCore), April 1994).
- 13.10 Service Creation Environment and Service Management System (SCE/SMS) Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN) Access.
 - 13.10.1 BellSouth's Service Creation Environment and Service Management System (SCE/SMS) Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN) Access shall provide VBI 2000 the capability that will allow VBI 2000 and other third parties to create service applications in a BellSouth Service Creation Environment and deploy those applications in a BellSouth SMS to a BellSouth SCP. The third party service applications interact with AIN triggers provisioned on a BellSouth SSP.
 - 13.10.2 BellSouth's SCE/SMS AIN Access shall provide access to SCE hardware, software, testing and technical support (e.g., help desk, system administrator) resources available to VBI 2000. Scheduling procedures shall provide VBI 2000 equivalent priority to these resources
 - 13.10.3 BellSouth SCP shall partition and protect VBI 2000 service logic and data from unauthorized access, execution or other types of compromise.
 - 13.10.4 When VBI 2000 selects SCE/SMS AIN Access, BellSouth shall provide training, documentation, and technical support to enable VBI 2000 to use BellSouth's SCE/SMS AIN Access to create and administer applications. Training, documentation, and technical support will address use of SCE and SMS access and administrative functions, but will not include support for the creation of a specific service application.

- 13.10.5 When VBI 2000 selects SCE/SMS AIN Access, BellSouth shall provide for a secure, controlled access environment in association with its internal use of AIN components. VBI 2000 access will be provided via remote data connection (e.g., dial-in, ISDN).
- 13.10.6 When VBI 2000 selects SCE/SMS AIN Access, BellSouth shall allow VBI 2000 to download data forms and/or tables to BellSouth SCP via BellSouth SMS without intervention from BellSouth (e.g., service customization and end user subscription).

14. DARK FIBER

BellSouth agrees to offer access to Dark Fiber pursuant to the terms and conditions following and at the rates set forth in this Attachment. In Georgia, BellSouth is not required to construct the fiber if it is not available. In Kentucky, if BellSouth has plans to use the fiber in a three year planning period, there is no requirement to provide it. In all other states, BellSouth is not required to place the fibers if there are no fibers available. The Parties agree that Dark Fiber will be used in the provisioning of local service.

- 14.1.1 Dark Fiber is unused strands of optical fiber. It may be strands of optical fiber existing in aerial or underground structure. No line terminating elements terminated to such strands to operationalize its transmission capabilities will be available. No regeneration or optical amplification will be included with this element.

14.2 Requirements

- 14.2.1 BellSouth shall make available Dark Fiber where it exists in BellSouth's network and where, as a result of future building or deployment, it becomes available. BellSouth shall offer all Dark Fiber to VBI 2000 pursuant to the prices set forth in this Attachment.
- 14.2.2 VBI 2000 may test the quality of the Dark Fiber to confirm its usability and performance specifications.
- 14.2.3 BellSouth shall use its best efforts to provide to VBI 2000 information regarding the location, availability and performance of Dark Fiber within ten (10) business days for a records based answer and twenty (20) business days for a field based answer, after receiving a request from VBI 2000 ("Request"). Within such time period, BellSouth shall send written confirmation of availability of the Dark Fiber ("Confirmation").
- 14.2.4 BellSouth shall use its best efforts to make Dark Fiber available to VBI 2000 within thirty (30) business days after it receives written confirmation from VBI 2000 that the Dark Fiber previously deemed available by BellSouth is wanted for

use by VBI 2000. This includes identification of appropriate connection points (e.g., Light Guide Interconnection (LGX) or splice points) to enable VBI 2000 to connect or splice VBI 2000 provided transmission media (e.g., optical fiber) or equipment to the Dark Fiber.

15. SS7 Network Interconnection

15.1.1 Definition

SS7 Network Interconnection is the interconnection of VBI 2000 local Signaling Transfer Point Switches (STP) and VBI 2000 local or tandem switching systems with BellSouth STPs. This interconnection provides connectivity that enables the exchange of SS7 messages among BellSouth switching systems and databases (DBs), VBI 2000 local or tandem switching systems, and other third-party switching systems directly connected to the BellSouth SS7 network.

15.1.2 Technical Requirements

15.1.2.1 SS7 Network Interconnection shall provide connectivity to all components of the BellSouth SS7 network. These include:

15.1.2.1.1 BellSouth local or tandem switching systems;

15.1.2.1.2 BellSouth DBs; and

15.1.2.1.3 Other third-party local or tandem switching systems.

15.1.2.2 The connectivity provided by SS7 Network Interconnection shall fully support the functions of BellSouth switching systems and DBs and VBI 2000 or other third-party switching systems with A-link access to the BellSouth SS7 network.

If traffic is routed based on dialed or translated digits between an VBI 2000 local switching system and a BellSouth or other third-party local switching system, either directly or via a BellSouth tandem switching system, then it is a requirement that the BellSouth SS7 network convey via SS7 Network Interconnection the TCAP messages that are necessary to provide Call Management services (Automatic Callback, Automatic Recall, and Screening List Editing) between the VBI 2000 local STPs and BellSouth or other third-party local switch.

15.1.2.3 When the capability to route messages based on Intermediate Signaling Network Identifier (ISNI) is generally available on BellSouth STPs, the BellSouth SS7 Network shall also convey TCAP messages using SS7 Network Interconnection in similar circumstances where the BellSouth switch routes traffic based on a Carrier Identification Code (CIC).

- 15.1.2.4 SS7 Network Interconnection shall provide all functions of the MTP as specified in ANSI T1.111. This includes:
 - 15.1.2.4.1 Signaling Data Link functions, as specified in ANSI T1.111.2;
 - 15.1.2.4.2 Signaling Link functions, as specified in ANSI T1.111.3; and
 - 15.1.2.4.3 Signaling Network Management functions, as specified in ANSI T1.111.4.
- 15.1.2.5 SS7 Network Interconnection shall provide all functions of the SCCP necessary for Class 0 (basic connectionless) service, as specified in ANSI T1.112. In particular, this includes Global Title Translation (GTT) and SCCP Management procedures, as specified in T1.112.4. Where the destination signaling point is a BellSouth switching system or DB, or is another third-party local or tandem switching system directly connected to the BellSouth SS7 network, SS7 Network Interconnection shall include final GTT of messages to the destination and SCCP Subsystem Management of the destination. Where the destination signaling point is an VBI 2000 local or tandem switching system, SS7 Network Interconnection shall include intermediate GTT of messages to a gateway pair of VBI 2000 local STPs, and shall not include SCCP Subsystem Management of the destination.
- 15.1.2.6 SS7 Network Interconnection shall provide all functions of the Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP), as specified in ANSI T1.113.
- 15.1.2.7 SS7 Network Interconnection shall provide all functions of the TCAP, as specified in ANSI T1.114.
- 15.1.2.8 If and when Internetwork MTP Routing Verification Test (MRVT) and SCCP Routing Verification Test (SRVT) become approved ANSI standards and available capabilities of BellSouth STPs, SS7 Network Interconnection shall provide these functions of the OMAP.
- 15.1.2.9 SS7 Network Interconnection shall be equal to or better than the following performance requirements:
 - 15.1.2.9.1 MTP Performance, as specified in ANSI T1.111.6;
 - 15.1.2.9.2 SCCP Performance, as specified in ANSI T1.112.5; and
 - 15.1.2.9.3 ISDNUP Performance, as specified in ANSI T1.113.5.
- 15.1.3 Interface Requirements
 - 15.1.3.1 BellSouth shall offer the following SS7 Network Interconnection options to connect VBI 2000 or VBI 2000-designated local or tandem switching systems or STPs to the BellSouth SS7 network:

- 15.1.3.1.1 A-link interface from VBI 2000 local or tandem switching systems; and
- 15.1.3.1.2 B-link interface from VBI 2000 STPs.
- 15.1.3.2 The Signaling Point of Interconnection (SPOI) for each link shall be located at a cross-connect element, such as a DSX-1, in the Central Office (CO) where the BellSouth STP is located. There shall be a DS1 or higher rate transport interface at each of the SPOIs. Each signaling link shall appear as a DS0 channel within the DS1 or higher rate interface. BellSouth shall offer higher rate DS1 signaling links for interconnecting VBI 2000 local switching systems or STPs with BellSouth STPs as soon as these become approved ANSI standards and available capabilities of BellSouth STPs. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will work jointly to establish mutually acceptable SPOI.
- 15.1.3.3 BellSouth CO shall provide intraoffice diversity between the SPOIs and the BellSouth STP, so that no single failure of intraoffice facilities or equipment shall cause the failure of both B-links in a layer connecting to a BellSouth STP. BellSouth and VBI 2000 will work jointly to establish mutually acceptable SPOI.
- 15.1.3.4 The protocol interface requirements for SS7 Network Interconnection include the MTP, ISDNUP, SCCP, and TCAP. These protocol interfaces shall conform to the following specifications:
 - 15.1.3.4.1 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-905-CORE, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Network Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP);
 - 15.1.3.4.2 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1428-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Toll Free Service;
 - 15.1.3.4.3 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1429-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Call Management Services; and
 - 15.1.3.4.4 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1432-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) and Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP).
- 15.1.3.5 BellSouth shall set message screening parameters to block accept messages from VBI 2000 local or tandem switching systems destined to any signaling point in the BellSouth SS7 network with which the VBI 2000 switching system has a legitimate signaling relation.
- 15.1.4 SS7 Network Interconnection shall be equal to or better than all of the requirements for SS7 Network Interconnection set forth in the following technical references:

- 15.1.4.1 ANSI T1.110-1992 American National Standard Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - General Information;
- 15.1.4.2 ANSI T1.111-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Message Transfer Part (MTP);
- 15.1.4.3 ANSI T1.111A-1994 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Message Transfer Part (MTP) Supplement;
- 15.1.4.4 ANSI T1.112-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP);
- 15.1.4.5 ANSI T1.113-1995 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) User Part;
- 15.1.4.6 ANSI T1.114-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP);
- 15.1.4.7 ANSI T1.115-1990 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Monitoring and Measurements for Networks;
- 15.1.4.8 ANSI T1.116-1990 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Operations, Maintenance and Administration Part (OMAP);
- 15.1.4.9 ANSI T1.118-1992 American National Standard for Telecommunications - Signaling System Number 7 (SS7) - Intermediate Signaling Network Identification (ISNI);
- 15.1.4.10 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-905-CORE, Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Network Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISDNUP);
- 15.1.4.11 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-954-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Line Information Database (LIDB) Service;
- 15.1.4.12 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1428-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Toll Free Service;
- 15.1.4.13 Telcordia (formerly BellCore) GR-1429-CORE, CCS Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Call Management Services; and,