S02 General Regulations

2. General Regulations

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company

2.1.1 Scope

(A) The Telephone Company does not undertake to transmit messages under this tariff.

(B) The Telephone Company shall be responsible only for the installation, operation and maintenance of the service it provides.

(C) The Telephone Company will, for maintenance proposes, test its service only to the extent necessary to detect and/or clear troubles.

(D) Services are provided 24 hours daily, seven days per week, except as set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff.

(E) The Telephone Company does not warrant that its facilities and services meet standards other than those set forth in this tariff.

2.1.2 Limitations

(A) Assignment or Transfer of Services

The customer may assign or transfer the use of services provided under this tariff only where there is no interruption of use or relocation of the services. Such assignment or transfer may be made to:

(1) another customer, whether an individual, partnership, association or corporation, provided the assignee or transferee assumes all outstanding indebtedness for such services, and the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services, if any; or

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations (Cont'd)

(A) Assignment or Transfer of Services (Cont'd)

(2) a court appointed receiver, trustee or other person acting pursuant to law in bankruptcy, receivership, reorganization, insolvency, liquidation or other similar proceedings, provided the assignee or transfer assumes the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such service, if any.

In all cases of assignment or transfer, the written acknowledgement of the Telephone Company is required prior to such assignment or transfer. This acknowledgement shall be made within 15 days from the receipt of notification. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to such assignee or transferee.

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

(B) Use and Restoration of Services

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations (Cont'd)

(C) Sequence of Provisioning

Subject to compliance with the rules mentioned in (B) preceding, the services offered herein will be provided to customers on a first-come, first-served basis.

The first-come, first-served sequence shall be based upon the received time and date recorded, by stamp or other notation, by the Telephone Company on customer access orders. These orders must contain all the information as required for each respective service as delineated in other sections of this tariff. Customer orders shall not be deemed to have been received until such information is provided. Should questions arise which preclude order issuance due to missing information or the need for clarification, the Telephone Company will attempt to seek such missing information or clarification on a verbal basis.

2.1.3 Liability

(A) Limits of Liability

The Telephone Company's liability, if any, for its willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a customer or by any others, for damages associated with the installation, provision, termination, maintenance, repair or restoration of service, and subject to the provisions of (B) through (G) following, the Telephone Company's liability if any, shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge for the service for the period during which the service was affected. This liability for damages shall be in addition to any amounts that may otherwise be due the customer under this tariff as a Credit Allowance for a Service Interruption.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

(B) Acts or Omissions

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

(C) Damages to Customer Premises

The Telephone Company is not liable for damages to the customer premises resulting from the furnishing of a service, including the installation and removal of equipment and associated wiring, unless the damage is caused by the Telephone Company's negligence.

(D) Indemnification of Telephone Company

(1) By the End User

The Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the end user against any claim, loss or damage arising from the end user's use of services offered under this tariff, involving:

(A) Claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the end user's own communications;

(B) Claims for patent infringement arising from the end user's acts combining or using the service furnished by the Telephone Company in connection with facilities or equipment furnished by the end users or customer or;

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

(D) Indemnification of Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(1) By the End User (Cont'd)

(C) All other claims arising out of any act or omission of the end user in the course of using services provided pursuant to this tariff.

(2) By the Customer

The Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the customer against any claim, loss or damage arising from the customer's use of services offered under this tariff, involving:

(A) Claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the customer's own communications;

(B) Claims for patent infringement arising from the customer's acts combining or using the service furnished by the Telephone Company in connection with facilities or equipment furnished by the end user or customer or;

(C) All other claims arising out of any act or omission of the customer in the course of using services provided pursuant to this tariff.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

(E) Explosive Atmospheres

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

(F) No License Granted

No license under patents (other than the limited license to use) is granted by the Telephone Company or shall be implied or arise by estoppel, with respect to any service offered under this tariff. The Telephone Company will defend the customer against claims of patent infringement arising solely from the use by the customer of services offered under this tariff and will indemnify such customer for any damages awarded based solely on such claims.

(G) Circumstances Beyond the Telephone Company's Control

The Telephone Company's failure to provide or maintain services under this tariff shall be excused by labor difficulties, governmental orders, civil commotions, criminal actions taken against the Telephone Company, acts of God and other circumstances beyond the Telephone Company's reasonable control, subject to the Credit Allowance for a Service Interruption as set forth in Section 2.4.4 following.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.4 Provision of Service

The Telephone Company will provide to the customer, upon reasonable notice, services offered in other applicable sections of this tariff at rates and charges specified therein. Services will be made available to the extent that such services are or can be made available with reasonable effort, and after provision has been made for the Telephone Company's telephone exchange services.

2.1.5 Facility Terminations

The services provided under this tariff will include any entrance cable or drop wiring and wire or intrabuilding cable to that point where provisions is made for termination of the Telephone Company's outside distribution network facilities at a suitable location inside a customer-designated premises. Such wiring or cable will be installed by the Telephone Company to the Point of Termination. Moves of the Point of Termination at the customer designated premises will be as set forth in Section 6.4.4 and Section 7.2.3 following.

2.1.6 Service Maintenance

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.7 Changes and Substitutions

Except as provided for equipment and systems subject to FCC Part 68 Regulations at 47 C.F.R. Section 68.110(b), the Telephone Company may, where such action is reasonably required in the operation of its business, substitute, change or rearrange any facilities used in providing service under this tariff. Such actions may include, without limitation:

- substitution of different metallic facilities,
- substitution of carrier or derived facilities for metallic facilities, used to provide other than metallic facilities,
- substitution of metallic facilities for carrier or derived facilities used to provide other than metallic facilities,
- change of minimum protection criteria,
- change of operating or maintenance characteristics of facilities, or
- change of operations or procedures of the Telephone Company.

In case of any such substitution, change or rearrangement, the transmission parameters will be within the range as set forth in Section 15 following. The Telephone Company shall not be responsible if any such substitution, change or rearrangement renders any customer furnished services obsolete or requires modification or alteration thereof or otherwise affects their use or performance. If such substitution, change or rearrangement materially affects the operating characteristics of the facility, the Telephone Company will provide reasonable notification to the customer in writing. Reasonable time will be allowed for any redesign and implementation required by the change in operating characteristics. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with customer to determine reasonable notification procedures.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.8 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service

(A) If a customer fails to comply with Section 2.1.6 preceding or Sections 2.3.1, 2.3.4, 2.3.6, 2.4.1 or 2.5 following including any customers' failure to make payments on the date and times therein specified, the Telephone Company may, on thirty (30) days written notice to the customer by Certified U.S. Mail, take the following actions:

- refuse additional applications for service and/or refuse to complete any pending orders for service, and/or

- discontinue the provision of service to the customer

In the case of discontinuance all applicable charges, including termination charges, shall become due.

(B) If a customer fails to comply with Section 2.2.2 following, the Telephone Company may, upon written request from a customer, or another exchange carrier, terminate service to any subscriber or customer identified as having utilized service provided under this tariff in the completion of abusive or unlawful telephone calls. Service shall be terminated by the Telephone Company as provided for in its general and/or local exchange service tariffs.

In such instances when termination occurs the Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by any customer or Exchange Carrier requesting termination of service against any claim, loss or damage arising from the Telephone Company's actions in terminating such service, unless caused by the Telephone Company's negligence.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.8 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd)

(C) Except as provided for equipment or systems subject to the FCC Part 68 Rules in 47 C.F.R. Section 68.108, if the customer fails to comply with Section 2.2.1 following (Interference or Impairment), the Telephone Company will, where practicable, notify the customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, the Telephone Company may temporarily discontinue service forthwith if such action is reasonable in the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the customer will notified promptly and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in Section 2.4.4 following is not applicable.

(D) When access service is provided by more than one Telephone Company, the companies involved in providing the joint service may individually or collectively deny service to a customer for nonpayment. Where the Telephone Company(s) affected by the nonpayment is incapable of effecting discontinuance of service without cooperation from the other joint providers of Switched Access Service, such other Telephone Company(s) will, if technically feasible, assist in denying the joint service to the customer. Service denial for such joint service will only include calls originating or terminating within, or transmitting, the operating territory of the Telephone companies initiating the service denial for nonpayment. When more than one of the joint providers must deny service to effectuate termination for nonpayment, in cases where a conflict exists in the applicable tariff provisions, the tariff regulations of the end office Telephone Company shall apply for joint service discontinuance.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.8 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd)

(E) If the Telephone Company does not refuse additional applications for service and/or does not discontinue the provision of the services as specified for herein, and the customer's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Telephone Company's right to refuse additional applications for service and/or to discontinue the provision of the services to the non-complying customer without further notice.

2.1.9 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Telephone Company will provide the customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in the normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- equipment or facilities additions,
- removals or rearrangements,
- routine preventative maintenance, and
- major switching machine change-out.

Generally, such activities are not individual customer service specific, but may affect many customer services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine reasonable notification requirements.

2.1.10 Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.11 Provisions and Ownership of Telephone Numbers

The Telephone Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate or change numbers, any other call number designations associated with Access Services, or the Telephone Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business. Should it become necessary to make a change in such number(s), the Telephone Company will furnish to the customer six (6) months notice, by Certified U.S. Mail, of the effective date and an explanation of the reason(s) for such change(s).

2.2 Use

2.2.1 Interference or Impairment

The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company and associated with the facilities utilized to provide services under this tariff shall not:

- interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the Telephone Company, its affiliated companies, or its connecting and concurring carriers involved in its services,
- cause damage to their plant,
- impair the privacy of any communications carried over their facilities, or
- create hazards to the employees of any of them or the public.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.2 Use (Cont'd)

2.2.2 Unlawful and Abusive Use

The service provided under this tariff shall not be used for an unlawful purpose or used in an abusive manner.

Abusive use includes:

- The use of the service of the Telephone Company for a call or calls, anonymous or otherwise, in a manner reasonably expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another;

- The use of the service in such a manner as to interfere unreasonably with the use of the service by one or more other customers.

2.3 Obligations of the Customer

2.3.1 Damages

The customer shall reimburse the Telephone Company for damages to Telephone Company facilities utilized to provide services under this tariff caused by the negligence or willful act of the customer or resulting from the customer's improper use of the Telephone Company facilities, or due to malfunction of any facilities or equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company. Nothing in the foregoing provision shall be interpreted to hold one customer liable for another customer's actions. The Telephone Company will, upon reimbursement for damages, cooperate with the customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the customer shall be subrogated to the right of recovery by the Telephone Company for the damages to the extent of such payment.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.2 Ownership of Facilities and Theft

Facilities utilized by the Telephone Company to provide service under the provisions of this tariff shall remain the property of the Telephone Company. Such facilities shall be returned to the Telephone Company by the customer, whenever requested, within a reasonable period. The equipment shall be returned in as good condition as reasonable wear will permit.

2.3.3 Equipment Space and Power

The customer shall furnish or arrange to have furnished to the Telephone Company, at no charge, equipment space and electrical power required by the Telephone Company to provide services under this tariff at the points of termination of such services. The selection of ac or dc power shall be mutually agreed to by the customer and the Telephone Company. The customer shall also make necessary arrangements in order that the Telephone Company will have access to such spaces at reasonable times for installing, testing, repairing or removing Telephone Company facilities used to provide services.

2.3.4 Availability for Testing

Access to facilities used to provide services under this tariff shall be available to the Telephone Company at times mutually agreed upon in order to permit the Telephone Company to make tests and adjustments appropriate for maintaining the services in satisfactory operating condition. Such tests and adjustments shall be completed within a reasonable time. As set forth in Section 2.4.4(C)(4) following, no credit will be allowed for any interruptions involved during such tests and adjustments.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.5 Limitations of Use of Metallic Facilities

Signals applied to a metallic facility shall conform to the limitations set forth in Technical Reference Publication AS No. 1. In the case of application of dc telegraph signaling systems, the customer shall be responsible, at its expense, for the provision of current limiting devices to protect the Telephone Company facilities from excessive current due to abnormal conditions and for the provision of noise mitigation networks when required to reduce excessive noise.

2.3.6 Balance

All signals for transmission over the facilities used to provide services under this tariff shall be delivered by the customer balanced to ground except for ground start, duplex (DX) and McCulloch-Loop (Alarm System) type signaling and dc telegraph transmission at speeds of 75 baud or less.

2.3.7 Design of Customer Services

Subject to the provision of Section 2.1.7 preceding (Changes and Substitutions), the customer shall be solely responsible, at its own expense, for the overall design of its services and for any redesigning or rearrangement of its services which may be required because of changes in facilities, operations or procedures of the Telephone Company, minimum protection criteria or operating or maintenance characteristics of the facilities.

2.3.8 References to the Telephone Company

The customer may advise end users that certain services are provided by the Telephone Company in connection with the service the customer furnishes to end users; however, the customer shall not represent that the Telephone Company jointly participates in the customer's services.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.9 Claims and Demands for Damages

(A) With respect to claims of patent infringement made by third persons, the customer shall defend, indemnify, protect and save harmless the Telephone Company from and against all claims arising out of the combining with, or use in connection with, the services provided under this tariff, any circuit, apparatus, system or method provided by the customer.

(B) The customer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Telephone Company from and against any suits, claims, losses and damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by third persons arising out of the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or removal of the customer's circuits, facilities, or equipment connected to the Telephone Company's services provided under this tariff including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation claims, actions for infringement of copyright and/or unauthorized use of program material, libel and slander actions based on the content of communications transmitted over the customer's circuits, facilities or equipment, and proceedings to recover taxes, fines, or penalties for failure of the customer to obtain or maintain in effect any necessary certificates, permits, licenses, or other authority to acquire or operate the services provided under this tariff; provided, however, the foregoing indemnification shall not apply to suits, claims, and demands to recover damages for damage to property, death, or personal injury unless such suits, claims or demands are based on the tortious conduct of the customer, its officers, agents, or employees.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.9 Claims and Demands for Damages (Cont'd)

(C) The customer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Telephone Company from and against any suits, claims, losses or damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by the customer or third parties arising out of any act of omission of the customer in the course of using services provided under this tariff.

2.3.10 Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

The customer shall, in cooperation with the Telephone Company, coordinate in planning the actions to be taken to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements

(A) Certification Requirements - Special Access

When the customer orders Special Access Service, and the customer certifies to the Telephone Company in writing that less than ten percent of the traffic is interstate, the service is considered to be intrastate and is provided under this Tariff.

Following initial certification, should the jurisdictional nature of the customer's Special Access Service change, the customer should inform the Telephone Company in writing of the change. The effective date of the change will be the date the Telephone Company receives the customer's notice of change. No charge applies for the jurisdictional change.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(B) Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Certification - Special Access

If a dispute arises concerning the certification of projected interstate traffic as described in (A) above, the Telephone Company will ask the customer to provide the data the customer used to determine that less than ten percent of the traffic is interstate. The customer shall supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Telephone Company request. If the reply results in an jurisdictional change of a Special Access Service, the effective date of the change will be the date the Telephone Company receives the customer's reply. There is no charge when the customer's reply results in a jurisdictional change in the Special Access Service.

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access

For Switched Access Service, the Telephone Company cannot in all cases determine the jurisdictional nature of customer traffic and its related access minutes. In such cases the customer may be called upon to provide a projected estimate of its traffic, split between the interstate and intrastate jurisdictions. The following regulations govern such estimates, their reporting by the customer and cases where the Telephone Company will develop jurisdictional percentages.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(1) General

Except where Telephone Company measured access minutes are used as set forth following, the customer shall report the percentage of interstate use as set forth in (2) and (3) following and such report will be used for billing proposes until the customer reports a different projected interstate percentage for an in-service end office group. When the customer adds BHMC, lines or trunks to an existing end office group, the customer shall furnish a revised projected interstate percentage that applies to the total BHMC, lines or trunks.

When the customer discontinues BHMC, lines or trunks from an existing group, the customer shall furnish a revised projected interstate percentage for the remaining BHMC, lines or trunks in the end office group. The revised report will serve as the basis for future billing and will be effective on the next bill date. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(1) General (Cont'd)

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

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

If the customer does not supply the reports, the Telephone Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the last quarterly report. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the customer, the Telephone Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the order for service as set forth in (2) following.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(1) General (Cont'd)

Pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Order FCC 85-145 released April 16, 1985, interstate usage is to be developed as though every call that enters a customer network at a point within the same state as that in which the called station (as designated by the called station telephone number) is situated is an intrastate communication and every call for which the point of entry is a state other than that where the called station (as designated by the called station telephone number) is situated is an interstate communication.

The PIUs described in (2) and (3) following are applied to usage rated Carrier Common Line, Information Surcharge, Local Switching, Tandem Switched Transport and Residual Interconnection charges. Separate PIUs are required for flat rated Entrance Facilities, Direct Trunked Transport and Multiplexers.

(2) Feature Groups A (FGA) and B (FGB)

(a) When a customer orders FGA or FGB Switched Access Service the customer shall, in its order, state the projected interstate percentage of interstate usage for each FGA or FGB Switched Access Service group ordered. The term group shall be construed to mean single lines or trunks as well. If the customer discontinues some but not all of the FGA or FGB Switched Access Services in a group, it shall provide the projected interstate percentage for such services which are remaining.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(2) Feature Groups A (FGA) and B (FGB) (Cont'd)

(b) For multiline hunt group or trunk group arrangements where either the interstate or the intrastate charges are based on measured usage, the interstate FGA or FGB Switched Access Service(s) information will be used to determine the charges.

For all groups, the number of access minutes (either measured or assumed) for a group will be multiplied by the projected interstate percentage to develop the interstate access minutes. The number of access minutes for the group minus the developed interstate access minutes for the group will be the developed intrastate access minutes.

(3) Feature Groups C (FGC) and D (FGD)

When a customer orders FGC or FGD Switched Access Services(s) the customer may provide the projected interstate usage for each end office in its order. Alternatively, the Telephone Company, where the jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, will determine the projected interstate percentage as follows:

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(3) Feature Groups C (FGC) and D (FGD) (Cont'd)

- For originating access minutes, the projected interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis by end office where the FGC or FGD Switched Access Service access minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate originating access minutes (the access minutes where the calling number is in one state and the called number is in another state) by the total originating access minutes, when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction.

- For terminating access minutes, the data used by the Telephone Company to develop the projected interstate percentage for originating access minutes will be used to develop the projected interstate percentage for such terminating access minutes.

When originating call details are insufficient to determine the jurisdiction for the call, the customer shall supply the projected interstate percentage or authorize the Telephone Company to use the Telephone Company developed percentage. This percentage shall be used by the Telephone Company as the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes. The projected intrastate percentage of use will be obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating minutes from 100 (intrastate percentage = 100 - interstate percentage).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(D) Billing Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access

For Switched Access, if a billing dispute arises concerning the projected interstate percentage, the Telephone Company will ask the customer to provide the data the customer uses to determine the projected interstate percentage. The Telephone Company will not request such data more than once a year. The customer shall supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Telephone Company request.

2.3.12 Determination of Intrastate Charges for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Switched Access Service

When mixed interstate and intrastate Switched Access Service is provided, all charges (i.e., nonrecurring, monthly and/or usage) including optional features charges, will be prorated between interstate and intrastate. The percentage determined as set forth in Section 2.3.11 preceding will serve as the basis for prorating the charges unless the Telephone Company is billing according to actuals by jurisdiction. The percentage of an Access Service to be charged as intrastate is applied in the following manner:

(A) Monthly and Nonrecurring Charges

For monthly and nonrecurring chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent intrastate use times the quantity of chargeable elements times the stated tariff rate.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.12 Determination of Intrastate Charges for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

(B) Usage Sensitive Charges

For usage sensitive (i.e., access minutes and calls) chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent intrastate use times actual use (i.e., measured or Telephone Company assumed average use) times the stated tariff rate.

The intrastate percentage may change as revised usage reports are submitted as set forth in Section 2.3.11 preceding.

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits

(A) Deposits

The Telephone Company will only require a customer which has a proven history of late payments to the Telephone Company or does not have established credit to make a deposit prior to or at any time after the provision of a service to the customer. No such deposit will be required of a customer which is a successor of a company which has established credit and has no history of late payments to the Telephone Company. Such deposit may not exceed the actual or estimated rates and charges for the service for a two month period. The fact that a deposit has been made in no way relieves the customer from complying with the Telephone Company's regulations as to the prompt payment of bills. At such time as the provision of the service to the customer is terminated, the amount of the deposit will be credited to the customer's account and any credit balance which may remain will be refunded.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(A) Deposits (Cont'd)

Such a deposit will be refunded or credited to the account when the customer has established credit or, in any event, after the customer has established a one-year prompt payment record at any time prior to the termination of the provision of the service to the customer. In case of a cash deposit, for the period the deposit is held by the Telephone Company, the customer will receive interest at the same percentage rate as that set forth in (C)(2)(a) or in (C)(2)(b) following, whichever is lower.

The rate will be compounded daily for the number of days from the date the customer deposit is received by the Telephone Company to and including the date such deposit is credited to the customer's account or the date the deposit is refunded by the Telephone Company. Should a deposit be credited to the customer's account, as indicated above, no interest will accrue on the deposit from the date such deposit is credited to the customer's account.

(B) Bill Dates

The Telephone Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by and credits due to the customer under this tariff attributable to services established or discontinued during the preceding billing period. In addition,the Telephone Company shall bill in advance charges for all services to be provided during the ensuing billing period except for charges associated with service usage and for the Federal Government which will be billed in arrears. The bill day (i.e., the billing date of a bill for a customer for Access Service under this tariff), the period of service each bill covers, and the payment date will be as follows:

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(B) Bill Dates (Cont'd)

(1) Access Services Billed to End Users

For Access Services billed to End Users, the Telephone Company will establish a bill day each month for each end user account or advise the customer in writing of an alternate billing schedule. Alternate billing schedules shall not be established on less than 60 days notice or initiated by the Telephone Company more than twice in any consecutive 12 month period.

The bill will cover nonusage sensitive service charges for the ensuing billing period for which the bill is rendered, any known unbilled nonusage sensitive charges for prior periods and unbilled usage charges for the period after the last bill day through the current bill day. Any known unbilled usage charges for prior periods and any known unbilled adjustments will be applied to this bill. Such bills are due when rendered as set forth in the Telephone Company Local Exchange Tariff.

(2) Access Services Billed to Customers Other Than End Users

For Access Services billed to customers other than End Users, the Telephone Company will establish a bill day each month for each customer account or advise the customer in writing of an alternate billing schedule. Alternate billing schedules shall not be established on less than 60 days notice or initiated by the Telephone Company more than twice in any consecutive 12 month period.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(B) Bill Dates (Cont'd)

(2) Access Services Billed to Customers Other Than End Users (Cont'd)

The bill will cover nonusage sensitive service charges for the ensuing billing period for which the bill is rendered, any known unbilled nonusage sensitive charges for prior periods and unbilled usage charges for the period after the last bill day through the current bill day. Any known unbilled usage charges for prior periods and any known unbilled adjustments will be applied to this bill.

Payment for such bills is due in immediately available funds by the payment date, as set forth in (C) following. If payment is not received by the payment date, a late payment penalty will apply as set forth in (C) following.

(C) Payment Dates and Late Payment Penalties

(1) All bills dated as set forth in (B)(2) preceding, for service provided to the customer by the Telephone Company, are due 31 days (payment date) after the bill day or by the next bill date (i.e., same date in the following month as the bill date), whichever is the shortest interval, except as provided herein, and are payable in immediately available funds. If the customer does not receive a bill at least 20 days prior to the 31 day payment due date, then the bill shall be considered delayed. When the bill has been delayed, upon request of the customer the due date will be extended by the number of days the bill was delayed. Such request of the customer must be accompanied with proof of late bill receipt.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(C) Payment Dates and Lay Payment Penalties (Cont'd)

(1) (Cont'd)

If such payment date would cause payment to be due on a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday, payment for such bills will be due from the customer as follows:

- If the payment date falls on a Sunday or on a Legal Holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment date shall be the first non-Holiday day following such Sunday or Legal Holiday.

- If the payment date falls on a Saturday or on a Legal Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the payment date shall be the last non-Holiday day preceding such Saturday or Legal Holiday.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(C) Payment Dates and Lay Payment Penalties (Cont'd)

(2) Further, if no payment is received by the payment date or if a payment or any portion of a payment is received by the Telephone Company after the payment date as set forth in (1) preceding, or if a payment or any portion of a payment is received by the Telephone Company in funds which are not immediately available to the Telephone Company, then a late payment penalty shall be due to the Telephone Company. The late payment penalty shall be the payment or the portion of the payment not received by the payment date times a late factor.

The late factor shall be the lessor of:

(a) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company, or

(b) 0.000292 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company.

(D) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Telephone Company

Late payment charges will apply to amounts withheld pending settlement of the dispute. Late payment charges are calculated as set forth in (C) (2) preceding except that when the customer disputes the bill on or before

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(D) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

the payment date and pays the undisputed amount on or before the payment date, the penalty interest period shall not begin until 10 days following the payment date.

(E) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Customer

If the customer pays the total billed amount and disputes all or part of the amount, the Telephone Company will refund any overpayment. In addition, the Telephone Company will pay to the customer penalty interest on the overpayment. When a claim is filed within 90 days of the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin on the payment date. When a claim is filed more than 90 days after the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin from the date of the claim or the date of the overpayment, whichever is later.

The penalty interest period shall end on the date that the Telephone Company actually refunds the overpayment to the customer. The penalty interest rate shall be the lessor of:

(1) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved, or

(2) 0.000292 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(F) Proration of Charges

Adjustments for the quantities of services established or discontinued in any billing period beyond the minimum period set forth for services in other section of this tariff will be prorated to the number of days based on a 30 day month. The Telephone Company will, upon request, furnish within 30 days of a request and at no charge to the customer such detailed information as may reasonably be required for verification of any bill.

(G) Rounding of Charges

When a rate as set forth in this tariff is shown to more than two decimal places, the charges will be determined using the rate shown. The resulting amount will then be rounded to the nearest penny (i.e., rounded to two decimal places).

2.4.2 Minimum Periods

The minimum period for which services are provided and for which rates and charges are applicable is one month except for those usage rated services set forth in Section 6 (Switched Access Service) and those services set forth in Section 6.1.3 (Switched Access High Capacity DS3 Entrance Facility and High Capacity DS3 Direct Trunked Transport), Section 7.2.4 (Part-time Video and Program Audio), and Section 7.2.8 (High Capacity DS1 and DS3 Service), or as otherwise specified.

The minimum period for which service is provided and for which rates and charges are applicable for a Specialized Service or Arrangement provided on an individual case basis as set forth in Section 12 following, is one month unless a different minimum period is established with the individual case filing.

When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable, whether the service is used or not, as follows:

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.2 Minimum Periods (Cont'd)

(A) When a service with a one month minimum period is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, a one month charge will apply at the rate level in effect at the time service is discontinued.

(B) When a service with a minimum period greater than one month is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, except for DS3 monthly service and DS1 and DS3 Optional Payment Plans as provided for in Section 5.5.1 and Section 7.2.8 following, the applicable charge will be the lesser of (1) the Telephone Company's total nonrecoverable costs less the net salvage value for the discontinued service or (2) the total monthly charges, at the rate level in effect at the time service is discontinued, for the remainder of the minimum period.

2.4.3 Cancellation of an Order for Service

Provisions for the cancellation of an order for service are set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff.

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions

(A) General

A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the customer because of a failure of a facility component used to furnish service under this tariff or in the event that the protective controls applied by the Telephone Company result in the complete loss of service by the customer as set forth in Section 6.2.1 following. An interruption period starts when an inoperative service is reported to the Telephone Company, and ends when the service is operative.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies

In case of an interruption to any service, allowance for the period of interruption, if not due to the negligence of the customer, shall be provided.

For Digital Data Access, SD Codes D1 through D6 and High Capacity, HC1, Special Access Services, any period during which the error performance is below that specified for the service will be considered as an interruption.

Service interruptions for Specialized Service or Arrangements provided under Section 12 following shall be administered in the same manner as those set forth in this section unless other regulations are specified with the individual case filing.

Credit allowances are computed as follows:

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Video and flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements

For Special Access Services other than Program Audio and Video Services and for flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements (i.e., Entrance Facility, Direct Trunked Transport and Multiplexing), no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 30 minutes. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 30 minutes or more at the rate of 1/1440 or the monthly charges for the facility or service for each period of 30 minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Video and flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements (Cont'd)

The monthly charges used to determine the credit shall be as follows:

(a) Two-point Services

For two-point services, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., two channel terminations, channel mileage and optional features and functions).

(b) Multipoint Services

For multipoint services, the monthly charges shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with only that portion of the service that is inoperative (i.e., a channel termination per customer designated premises, channel mileage and optional features and functions.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Video and flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements (Cont'd)

(c) Multiplexed Services

For multiplexed services, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service that is inoperative. When the facility which is multiplexed or the multiplexer itself is inoperative, the monthly charge shall be the total cost of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., the channel termination, channel mileage, Entrance Facility, Direct Trunked Transport and optional features and functions including the multiplexer on the facility to the hub, and the channel terminations, channel mileages and optional features and functions on the individual services from the hub). When the service which rides a channel of the multiplexed facility is inoperative, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service from the hub to a customer premises (i.e., channel termination, channel mileage, Direct Trunked Transport, and optional features and functions).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Video and flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements (Cont'd)

(d) Flat rated Switched Access rate elements

For flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., Entrance Facility, Direct Trunked Transport and Multiplexing).

(2) Program Audio and Video Special Access Services

For Program Audio and Video Special Access Services, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 30 seconds. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 30 seconds or more as follows:

(a) For two-point services, when monthly rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/8460 of the monthly charges for the service for each period of 5 minutes or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(2) Program Audio and Video Special Access Services (Cont'd)

(b) For two-point services, when daily rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/288 of the daily charges for the service for each period of 5 minutes or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

(c) For multipoint services, when monthly rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/8640 of the monthly charges for each channel termination, channel mileage and optional features and functions that are inoperative for each period of 5 minutes or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

(d) For multipoint services, when daily rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the daily rate of 1/288 of the daily charges for channel termination, channel mileage and optional features and functions that are inoperative for each period of 5 minutes or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

(e) For multipoint services, the credit for the monthly or daily charges includes the charges for the distribution amplifier only when the distribution amplifier is inoperative.

(f) When two or more interruptions occur during a period of 5 consecutive minutes, such multiple interruptions shall be considered as one interruption.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(3) Switched Access Service Usage Rated Elements

For Switched Access Service usage rated elements, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 24 hours. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 24 hours or more at the rate of 1/30 of any applicable monthly rate or assumed minutes of use charge for each period of 24 hours or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

(4) Credit Allowances Cannot Exceed Monthly Rate

The credit allowance(s) for an interruption or for a series of interruptions shall not exceed any monthly rate for the service interrupted in any one monthly billing period.

(C) When A Credit Allowance Does Not Apply

No credit allowance will be made for:

(1) Interruptions caused by the negligence of the customer.

(2) Interruptions of a service due to the failure of equipment or systems provided by the customer or others.

(3) Interruptions of a service during any period in which the Telephone Company is not afforded access to the premises where the service is terminated.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(C) When A Credit Allowance Does Not Apply (Cont'd)

(4) Interruptions of a service when the customer has released that service to the Telephone Company for maintenance purposes, to make rearrangements, or for the implementation of an order for a change in the service during the time that was negotiated with the customer prior to the release of that service. Thereafter, a credit allowance as set forth in (B) preceding applies.

(5) Interruptions of a service which continue because of the failure of the customer to authorize replacement of any element of special construction, as set forth in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO 3 for SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION. The period for which no credit allowance is made begins on the seventh day after the customer receives the Telephone Company's written notification of the need for such replacement and ends on the day after receipt by the Telephone Company of the customer's written authorization for such replacement.

(6) Periods when the customer elects not to release service for testing and/or repair and continues to use it on an impaired basis.

(7) An interruption or a group of interruptions, resulting from a common cause, that would result in credit in an amount less than one dollar.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(D) Use of an Alternative Service Provided by the Telephone Company

Should the customer elect to use an alternative service provided by the Telephone Company during the period that a service is interrupted, the customer must pay the tariffed rates and charges for the alternative service use.

(E) Temporary Surrender of a Service

In certain instances, the customer may be requested by the Telephone Company to surrender a service for purposes other than maintenance, testing or activity relating to a service order. If the customer consents, a credit allowance will be granted. The credit allowance will be 1/1440 of the monthly rate for each period of 30 minutes or fraction thereof that the service is surrendered. In no case will the credit allowance exceed the monthly rate for the service surrendered in any one monthly billing period.

2.4.5 Reestablishment of Service Following Fire, Flood or Other Occurrence

(A) Nonrecurring Charges Do Not Apply

Nonrecurring charges do not apply for the reestablishment of service following a fire, flood or other occurrence attributed to an Act of God provided that:

(1) The service is of the same type as was provided prior to the fire, flood or other occurrence.

(2) The service is for the same customer.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.5 Reestablishment of Service Following Fire, Flood or Other Occurrence (Cont'd)

(A) Nonrecurring Charges Do Not Apply (Cont'd)

(3) The service is at the same location on the same premises.

(4) The reestablishment of service begins within 60 days after Telephone Company service is available. (The 60 day period may be extended a reasonable period if the renovation of the original location on the premises affected is not practical within the allotted time period.)

(B) Nonrecurring Charges Apply

Nonrecurring Charges apply for establishing service at a different location on the same premises or at a different premises pending reestablishment of service at the original location.

2.4.6 Title or Ownership Rights

The payment of rates and charges by customers for the services offered under the provisions of this tariff does not assign, confer or transfer title or ownership rights to proposals or facilities developed or utilized, respectively, by the Telephone Company in the provision of such services.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company

When an Access Service is provided by more than one Telephone Company, the Telephone Companies involved will mutually agree upon one of the billing methods as set forth in (B) (1) and (2) following based on the service being provided. The Telephone Companies will notify the customer in writing of the billing method being used. The customer will place the order for the service as set forth in Section 5.3 following dependent upon the billing method.

(A) Non Meet Point Billing - FGA

Non Meet Point Billing under a Revenue Sharing Agreement is the generally accepted billing method for FGA Switched Access Service. At the agreement of the participating Telephone Companies, Meet Point Billing may apply to jointly provided FGA services as set forth in (B) following.

(1) Single Company Billing/Revenue Sharing

The Telephone Companies jointly providing FGA Service will receive an order or a copy of the order, from the customer as specified in Section 5.3.1(A) following. The Telephone Company that provides the dial tone will arrange to provide the service, determine the applicable charges and bill the customer for the entire service in accordance with its Access Services tariff as provided for under a FGA Revenue Sharing Agreement.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing

Meet Point Billing is required when an access service is provided by multiple Telephone Companies for FGB, FGC and FGD Switched Access Services and Special Access.

Each Telephone Company jointly providing the access service will receive an order or a copy of the order from the customer as specified in Section 5.3.2 following and arrange to provide the service.

For usage rated access services, the access minutes of use will generally be determined by the recording company. Where the recording company is not the Bill Rendering Company, the recording company will provide detailed usage records to the Bill Rendering Company to develop the access minutes.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

The Bill Rendering Company in a single bill arrangement for FGB, FGC, and FGD Switched Access Services, is normally the end user's end office, for WATS usage the Bill Rendering Company is normally the WATS Serving Office. The name of the Bill Rendering Company will be included in the meet point billing notification provided to the customer by all the telephone companies on all meet point billed services.

The non Bill Rendering Company(s) is any Telephone Company(s) in whose territory a segment of the Local Transport or Channel Mileage is provided and/or where the customer's Point of Termination is located.

There are two Meet Point Billing Options -- Single Bill and Multiple Bill. These billing options are explained in (1) and (2) following. The Single Bill option is the preferred method. However, when a single bill option can not be agreed to by all telephone companies providing service, the multiple bill option is the default.

Each telephone company must provide meet point billing notification to the customer, in writing, when new service is ordered or thirty days prior to changing an existing meet point arrangement. The notification should include the following:

- the Meet Point Billing Option that will be used,
- the Telephone Company(s) that will render the bills(s)
- The Telephone Company(s) to whom payment(s) should be remitted, and
- The Telephone Company(s) that will provide the bill inquiry function.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

The Telephone Company that renders a meet point bill, the Bill Rendering Telephone Company, will render the bill in accordance with the industry standards as described in the multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing Guidelines (MECAB) and the Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design Guidelines (MECOD). The bill will include cross reference(s) to the other Telephone Company(s) providing service and common circuit identifiers. Should a billing dispute arise, the terms and conditions of the Bill Rendering Telephone Company will apply.

(1) Single Bill Option

The Single Bill option allows the customer to receive one bill for access services that are provided by more than one company. The single bill option provides the following three billing alternatives:

- Single Bill/Multiple Tariff,
- Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing, and
- Single Bill/Single Tariff

These options are described following in (a), (b) and (c) respectively.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Single Bill/Multiple Tariff

The single bill/multiple tariff bill is prepared by the Bill Rendering Company but reflects all rates and charges for each connecting company's part of the service based on each company's access tariff.

The Bill Rendering Telephone Company will:

- determine and include all recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges for each involved Telephone Company;
- identify each involved Telephone Company's rates and charges separately on the bill;
- forward the bill to the customer and provide a copy of the bill or other substantiation of the charges to the connecting Telephone Companies; and

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Single Bill/Multiple Tariff (Cont'd)

- advise the customer how to remit the payment, either directly to each Telephone Company involved in the provision of this meet point billed service, or, as a single payment made to the Bill Rendering Company. If payments are to be sent directly to the Bill Rendering Company, the non Bill Rendering Company(s) will provide the customer with written authorization for the payment arrangement.

(b) Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing

The single bill/pass-through bill is compiled by the Bill Rendering Company. Each Telephone Company will prepare a bill for its portion of the access service and forward it to the Bill Rendering Company. Normally, these connecting telephone company bills are forwarded to the Bill Rendering Company without usage to eliminate possible delays.

Each non Bill Rendering company will:

- prepare its own bill;

- determine its rates and charge(s) for Local Transport and/or Channel Mileage as set forth in (3) following:

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(b) Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing (Cont'd)

- determine and include all applicable recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its access tariff; and

- forward the bill to the Bill Rendering Company for the meet point access services.

The Bill Rendering Company will:

- apply usage data, when needed, to the bill and calculate the charges;

- combine all the bills of the involved Telephone Companies providing the meet point access service;

- forward the bill to the customer; and

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(b) Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing (Cont'd)

- advise the customer how to remit the payment, either directly to each Telephone Company involved in the provision of this meet point billed service; or, as a single payment made to the Bill Rendering Company. If payments are to be sent directly to the Bill Rendering Company, the non Bill Rendering Company(s) will provide the customer with written authorization for the payment arrangement.

(c) Single Bill/Single Tariff

The single bill/single tariff bill provides a meet point bill that is billed completely at the Bill Rendering Company's tariff rates and regulations.

The Bill Rendering Company will:

- determine and include on the access bill all usage data and all other recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges per its access tariff; and

- forward the bill to the customer.

The customer will remit the payment to the Bill Rendering Company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option

Under the multiple Bill Option each company providing the access service will render an access bill to the customer for its portion of the service based on its access tariff rates and regulations. For switched access Multiple bills the end office company is generally the Initial Billing Company (IBC). The IBC is the company that calculates the access minutes to be billed to the customer and provides this data to each connecting company providing service, i.e., the Subsequent Billing Company(s)(SBC). Each company, IBC and SBC, will:

- prepare its own bill;
- determine its charge(s) for Local Transport and/or Channel Mileage as set forth in (3) following;
- determine and include all recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its access tariff:
- reflect its Billing Account Reference (BAR) and all connecting company Billing Account Cross Reference (BACR) code(s); and
- forward its bill to the customer.

The customer will remit payment directly to each Bill Rendering company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges

Each Telephone Company's portion of the Local Transport and Channel Mileage will be determined as follows:

(a) Determine the appropriate Local Transport or Channel Mileage by computing the number of airline miles between the Telephone Company premises (end office, access tandem or serving wire centers for Switched Access or serving wire centers for Special Access) using the V&H method set forth respectively in Sections 6.4.6 and 7.2.5 following.

(b) Determine the billing percentage (BP), as set forth in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, which represents the portion of the service provided by each Telephone Company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(c) For FGA, FGB, and FGD Tandem Switched Transport:

- multiply the number of originating and terminating access minutes of use routed over the facility times the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Tandem Switched Facility or Local Transport Facility rate;

- multiply the Tandem Switched Termination or Local Transport Termination rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes routed over the facility.

- When a tandem office is located within the operating territory of an Issuing Carrier Telephone Company, multiply the Tandem Switching rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes that are switched at the tandem.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(c) (Cont'd)

- The Tandem Switched Termination or Local Transport Termination rate is applied as set forth in Section 6.1.3(A) following. The Switched Access Nonrecurring Charges are applied as set forth in Section 6.4.1(B) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to either the Switched Access Tandem Switched Termination or Local Transport Termination rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

(d) For FGA, FGB, FGC, and FGD Direct Trunked Transport:

- multiply the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Direct Trunked Facility rate.

- The Direct Trunked Termination rate is applied as set forth in Section 6.1.3(A) following. The Switched Access Nonrecurring Charges are applied as set forth in Section 6.4.1(B) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to either the Switched Access Direct Trunked Termination rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(e) For FGA, FGB, FGC, and FGD:

- When the end office (which may be a Remote Switching Module or WATS Serving Office) is located within the operating territory of an Issuing Carrier Telephone Company, if applicable, multiply the Residual Interconnection Charge rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes that are switched at the end office.

- When the Entrance Facility and/or Multiplexing equipment is located within the operating territory of an Issuing Carrier Telephone Company, the Entrance Facility and/or Multiplexing charge will apply.

- The Billing Percentage (BP) is not applicable to the Residual Interconnection Charge, Entrance Facility or Multiplexer.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(f) For Special Access, multiply the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Channel Mileage Facility rate and add the Channel Mileage Termination rate.

The Special Access Channel Mileage Termination rate and nonrecurring charges are applied as set forth in Section 7.2.1(B)(2) and 7.2.2(C) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to either the Channel Mileage Termination recurring rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

(g) When three or more Telephone Companies are involved in providing an Access Service, the intermediate Telephone Company(s) will determine the charges as set forth in (c) through (f) preceding. Additionally, when a segment of the Tandem Switched Facility, Direct Trunked Facility or Channel Mileage Facility is measured to the intermediate office(s), the Tandem Switched Termination, Direct Trunked Termination or Channel Mileage Termination rates are also applied at the intermediate Telephone Company(s) office(s).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(h) Example - Switched Access

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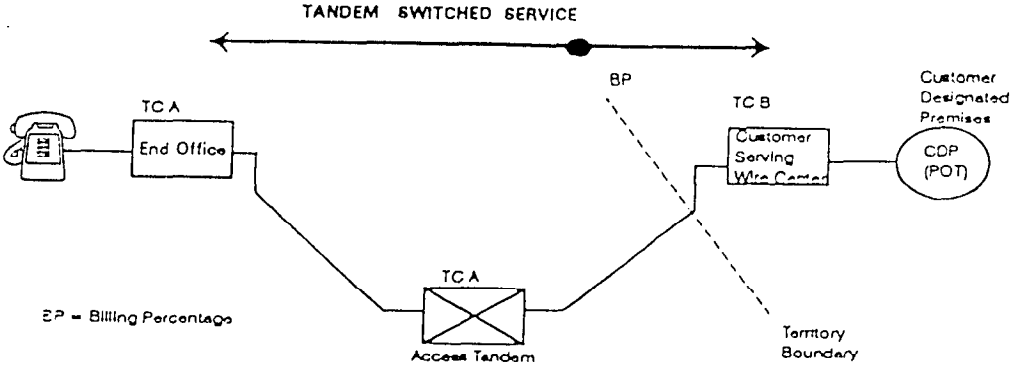
Layout

- FGD Switched Access is ordered to End Office A.
- End Office A is in operating territory of an Issuing Carrier Telephone Company A (TC-A).

Customer designated premises is in operating territory of Telephone Company B (TC-B) which is not an Issuing Carrier.

Telephone Company A
(TC-A)
Operating Territory

Telephone Company B
(TC-B)
Operating Territory



2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(h) Example - Switched Access (Cont'd)

The following example reflects the rate calculations for TC-A, an Issuing Carrier Telephone Company. Rates for TC-B would appear in that company's access tariff.

- Assume:

Airline Miles (ALM) TC-A premises to TC-B Serving Wire Center = 22.1, rounded = 23.

Billing Percentage (BP)
TC-A = 80%
TC-B = 20%

Access Minutes (AM) = 9000

Tandem Switched Facility Rate = TSF

Tandem Switched Termination Rate = TST

Tandem Switching Rate = TS

Residual Interconnection Charge = RIC

Carrier Common Line Charge = CCL

End Office Charges = EO

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(h) Example - Switched Access (Cont'd)

- Telephone Company A charges are:

Tandem Switched Facility charge
= 9,000 min. x 23 mi. x 80% x TSF rate

Tandem Switched Termination Charge
= 9,000 min. x TST rate

Tandem Switching charge
= 9,000 x TS rate

Residual Interconnection Charge
= 9,000 min. x RIC rate

Carrier Common Line Charge
= 9,000 min. x CCL rate

End Office Charges
= 9,000 min. x EO rates

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2.5 Connections

Equipment and Systems (i.e., terminal equipment, multiline terminating systems and communications systems) may be connected with Switched and Special Access Service furnished by the Telephone Company where such connection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in Technical Reference Publications AS No. 1 and in Section 2.1 preceding.

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions

Certain terms used herein are defined as follows:

Access Code

The term "Access Code", with the exception of FGB with an Abbreviated Dial Arrangement (ADA), denotes a uniform five or seven digit access code assigned by the Telephone Company to an individual customer. The five digit access code has the form 10XXX, and the seven digit access code has the form 950-XXXX. Access codes for FGB with an ADA are explained in Section 6.9.2 following.

Access Minutes

The term "Access Minutes" denotes that usage of exchange facilities in intrastate interLATA or intraLATA service for the purpose of calculating chargeable usage. On the originating end of an intrastate interLATA or intraLATA call, usage is measured from the time the originating end user's call is delivered by the Telephone Company to and acknowledged as received by the customer's facilities connected with the originating exchange. On the terminating end of an intrastate interLATA or intraLATA call, usage is measured from the time the call is received by the end user in the terminating exchange. Timing of usage at both originating and terminating ends of an intrastate interLATA or intraLATA call shall terminate when the calling or called party disconnects, whichever event is recognized first in the originating and terminating exchanges, as applicable.

Access Tandem

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Answer/Disconnect Supervision

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

Attenuation Distortion

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

Balance (100 Type) Test Line

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

Bit

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Business Day

The term "Business Day" denotes the time of day that a company is open for business. Generally, in the business community, these are 8:00 or 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., respectively, with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, resulting in a standard forty (40) hour work week. However, Business Day hours for the Telephone Company may vary based on company policy, union contract and location. To determine such hours for an individual company, or company location, that company should be contacted at the address shown under the Issuing Carrier's name listed on Title Page 2 preceding.

Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

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

Call

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

Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier.

CCS

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Central Office

See End Office.

Central Office Maintenance Technician

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

Central Office Prefix

The term "Central Office Prefix" denotes the first three digits (NXX) of the seven digit telephone number assigned to a customer's Telephone Exchange Service when dialed on a local basis.

Channel(s)

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

Channel Service Unit

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

Channelize

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

Clear Channel Capability

The term "Clear Channel Capability" denotes the ability to transport twenty four 64 Kbps over a DS1 Mbps High Capacity Line code format.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

C-Message Noise

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

C-Noticed Noise

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

Coin Station

See Pay Telephone.

Common Line

The term "Common Line" denotes a line, trunk, pay telephone line or other facility provided under the general and/or local exchange service tariffs of the Telephone Company, terminated on a central office switch. A common line-residence is a line or trunk provided under the residence regulations of the general and/or local exchange service tariffs. A common line-business is a line provided under the business regulations of the general and/or local exchange service tariffs.

Communications System

The term "Communications System" denotes channels and other facilities which are capable of communications between terminal equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Customer(s)

The term "Customer(s)" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this tariff, including Interexchange Carriers (ICs), other Local Exchange Carriers, and, where applicable, End Users.

Customer Designated Premises

The term "Customer Designated Premises" denotes the premises specified by the customer for the provision of Access Service.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Customer Message

The term "Customer Message" used herein for Feature Group A Switched Access Service denotes a completed call over an intrastate Feature Group A Switched Access Service. A completed call includes both completed calls originated to and terminated from a Feature Group A Switched Access Service. A customer message begins in the originating direction when the off-hook supervision provided by the premise of the ordering customer is received by Telephone Company recording equipment. A customer message begins in the terminating direction when answer supervision is received by Telephone Company recording equipment indicating the called party has answered. A customer message ends in the originating direction when disconnect supervision is received by Telephone Company recording equipment from the premise of the ordering customer. A customer message ends in the terminating direction when disconnect supervision is received by Telephone Company recording equipment from either the premise of the ordering customer or the called party.

The term "Customer Message" used herein for Feature Group C and D Switched Access Service denotes a completed intrastate call originated by a customer's end user. A customer message begins when answer supervision from the premise of the ordering customer is received by Telephone Company recording equipment indicating that the called party has answered. A message ends when disconnect supervision is received by Telephone Company recording equipment from either the premise of the ordering customer or the customer's end user premise from which the call originated.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Data Transmission (107 Type) Test Line

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

Decibel

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

Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting

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

Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Referenced to 0

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

Detail Billing

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

Digital Switched 56 Service

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Direct-Trunked Transport

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

Dual Tone Multifrequency Address Signaling

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

Echo Control

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

Echo Path Loss

The term "Echo Path Loss" denotes the measure of reflected signal at a 4-wire point of interface without regard to the send and receive Transmission Level Point.

Echo Return Loss

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

Effective 2-Wire

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Effective 4-Wire

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

End Office

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

End User

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Enhanced Service

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

Entrance Facility

The term "Entrance Facility" denotes a Switched Access Service dedicated Local Transport Facility between the customer's serving wire center and the customer designated premises.

Entry Switch

See First Point of Switching.

Envelope Delay Distortion

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

Equal Level Echo Path Loss

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Exchange

The term "Exchange" denotes a unit generally smaller than a local access and transport area, established by the Telephone Company for the administration of communications service in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one or more central offices together with the associated facilities used in furnishing communications service within that area. The exchange includes any Extended Area Service area that is an enlargement of a Telephone Company's exchange area to include nearby exchanges. One or more designated exchanges comprise a given local access and transport area.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Expected Measured Loss

The term "Expected measured Loss" denotes a calculated loss which specified the end-to-end 1004-Hz loss on a terminated test connection between two readily accessible manual or remote test points. It is the sum of the inserted connection loss and test access loss including any test pads.

Extended Area Service

See Exchange.

Field Identifier

The term "Field Identifier" denotes two to four characters that are used on service orders to convey specific instructions. Field identifiers may or may not have associated data. Selected Field Identifiers are used in Telephone Company billing systems to generate nonrecurring charges.

First Point of Switching

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

Foreign Exchange (FX) Service

Foreign Exchange Service permits an end user to obtain dial tone and related features from an exchange other than the exchange in which the end user is located.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Frequency Shift

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

Grandfathered

The term "Grandfathered" denotes Terminal Equipment, Multiline Terminating Systems and Protective Circuitry directly connected to the facilities utilized to provide services under the provisions of this tariff, and which are considered grandfathered under Part 68 of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations.

Host Central Office

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

Hub

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

Immediately Available Funds

The term "Immediately Available Funds" denotes a corporate or personal check drawn on a bank account and funds which are available for use by the receiving party on the same day on which they received and include U.S. Federal Reserve bank wire transfers, U.S. Federal Reserve notes (paper cash), U.S. coins, U.S. Postal Money Orders and New York Certificates of Deposit.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Impulse Noise

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

Individual Case Basis (ICB)

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

Inserted Connection Loss

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

Installations and Repair Technician

The term "Installation and Repair Technician" denotes a Telephone Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, outside of the Telephone Company Central Office and generally at the customer designated premises.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms "Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier" denote any individual, partnership, association, jointstock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in intrastate communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

Intermediate Hub

A wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for customers served by that wire center and wire centers that subtend the hub, as specified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Intermodulation Distortion

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

Interstate Communications

The term "Interstate Communications" denotes both interstate and foreign communications.

Intrastate Communications

The term "Intrastate Communications" denotes any communications within a state subject to oversight by a state regulatory commission as provided by the laws of the state involved.

Legal Holiday

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

Line Side Connection

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Local Access and Transport Area (LATA)

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

Local Calling Area

The NXX's throughout which an end user may make calls without the imposition of MTS or MTS-like charges.

Loop Around Test Line

The term "Loop Around Test Line" denotes an arrangement utilizing a Telephone Company central office to provide a means to make certain two-way transmission tests on a manual basis. This arrangement has two central office terminations, each reached by means of separate telephone numbers and doe snot require any specific customer premises equipment. Equipment subject to this test arrangement is at the discretion of the customer.

Loss Deviation

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

Major Fraction Thereof

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Message

The term "Message" denotes a "call" as defined preceding.

Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line

The term "Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides a 1004 Hz tone at 0 dBmO for one-way transmission measurements towards the customer's premises from the Telephone Company end office.

Mobile Telephone Switching Office (MTSO)

The term "Mobile Telephone Switching Office (MTSO)" denotes a Cellular Mobile Carrier (CMC) switching system that is used to terminate mobile stations for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks interfacing with the public switched network.

Network Control Signaling

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

Nonsynchronous Test Line

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

North American Numbering Plan

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

Off-hook

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

On-hook

The term "On-hook" denotes the idle condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

Open Circuit Test Line

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

Originating Direction

The term "Origination Direction" denotes the use of access service for the origination of calls form an End User Premises to an Access Users' Premises.

Pay Telephone

The term "Pay Telephone" denotes a location where Telephone Company equipment is provided in a public or semipublic place where Telephone Company customers can originate telephonic communications and pay the applicable charges by (1) inserting coins into the equipment, or (2) using a credit card, or (3) third party billing the call or (4) calling collect.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Phase Jitter

The term "Phase Jitter" denotes the unwanted phase variations of a signal.

Point of Termination

The term "Point of Termination" denotes the point of demarcation within a customer-designated premises at which the Telephone Company's responsibility for the provision of Access Service ends.

Premises

The term "Premises" denotes a building or buildings on continuous property (except Railroad Right-of-Way, etc.) not separated by a public highway.

Remote Switching Modules/Systems

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

Return Loss

The term "Return Loss" denotes a measure of the similarity between the two impedances at the junction of two transmission paths. The higher the return loss, the higher the similarity.

Registered Equipment

The term "Registered Equipment" denotes the customer's premises equipment which complies with and has been approved within the Registration Provisions of Part 68 of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Registered Equipment

The term "Registered Equipment" denotes the customer's premises equipment which complies with and has been approved within the Registration Provisions of Part 68 of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations.

Service Access Code

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

Service Switching Point (SSP)

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

Serving Wire Center

The term "Serving Wire Center" denotes the wire center from which the customer designated premises would normally obtain dial tone from the Telephone Company.

Seven Digit Manual Test Line

The term "Seven Digit Manual Test Line" denotes an arrangement which allows the Customer to select balance, milliwatt and synchronous test lens by manually dialing a seven digit number over the associated access connection.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Shortage of Facilities or Equipment

The term "Shortage of Facilities or Equipment" denotes a condition which occurs when the Telephone Company does not have appropriate cable, switching capacity, bridging, or multiplexing equipment, etc., necessary to provide the Access Service requested by the customer.

Short Circuit Test Line

The term "Short Circuit Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides for an ac short circuit termination of a trunk or line by means of a capacitor of at least four microfarads.

Signaling Point (SP)

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

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

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

Signal Transfer Point (STP)

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

Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Signal-to-C-Notched Noise Ratio

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

Singing Return Loss

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

Special Order

The term "Special Order" denotes an order for a Billing and Collection Service.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

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

Super-Intermediate Hub

A wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed for customers served by all wire centers in the LATA. A Super-intermediate Hub can be restricted to one or more designated NPAs within a LATA and/or to wire centers that are owned by the same telephone company as the hub. Super-intermediate Hubs and the wire centers they serve are identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.

Synchronous Test Line

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

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Tandem Switched Transport

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

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of Access service for the completion of calls from an Access Users' premises to an End User Premises.

Terminus Hub

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

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

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

Transmission Path

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

Trunk

The term "Trunk" denotes a communications path connection two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Trunk Group

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

Trunk Side Connection

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

Two-Wire to Four-Wire Conversion

The term "Two-Wire to Four-Wire Conversion" denotes an arrangement which converts a four-wire transmission path to a two-wire transmission path to allow a four-wire facility to terminate in a two-wire entity (e.g., a central office switch).

V and H Coordinates Method

The term "V and H Coordinates Method" denotes a method of computing airline miles between two points by utilizing an established formula which is based on the vertical and horizontal coordinates of the two points.

WATS Serving Office

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

Wire Center

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

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