

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Americatel)
Corporation and Startec Global Operating Company)
for Approval of a Pro Forma Merger) **Case No. TM-2008-0146**

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: November 13, 2007

Effective Date: November 13, 2007

This order directs the Staff of the Commission to file a pleading informing the Commission when it will file its recommendation in this matter.

According to the verified pleadings in this case, Americatel Corporation (“Americatel”) is a Delaware corporation headquartered in Florida which is authorized to provide various forms of telecommunications services in the continental United States and has been certificated to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Missouri for nearly ten years. Startec Global Operating Company (“Startec”) is a Delaware corporation headquartered in Maryland which is authorized to provide various forms of telecommunications services throughout the continental United States and Hawaii and has been certificated to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Missouri for about six months.

On November 6, 2007, Americatel and Startec filed a verified application with the Commission seeking the Commission’s approval of a *pro forma* corporate restructuring plan whereby Americatel and Startec would be merged, with Americatel emerging as the surviving entity. They also request that the Commission grant a waiver of the

Commission's rules governing changes to a customer's telecommunications carrier to the extent they are inconsistent with the FCC's rules governing the sale of a carrier's customer base.

As a result of the proposed merger, Startec would cease to exist and Americatel would provide telecommunications services to Startec's existing customers using the same network, billing systems, customer service operations, rates, terms, and conditions currently used by Startec, but would continue to use the Startec brand name for those customers. The joint applicants allege that this is in the public interest since it will streamline and eliminate inefficiencies from the business and administrative operations of Americatel and Startec, strengthen competition in Missouri by helping Americatel's business to grow and by putting Americatel in a better position to expand its service, and benefit customers by permitting Americatel to integrate Startec's assets into its own services to create new, "best-of-class" offerings.

Bearing in mind that the joint applicants anticipate completing the proposed merger on or before March 31, 2008, the Commission will order Staff to file a pleading informing the Commission when it will file its recommendation.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Staff of the Commission shall, by no later than November 30, 2007, file a pleading informing the Commission when it will file its recommendation in this matter.

2. This order shall become effective on November 13, 2007.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written in a cursive style.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 13th day of November, 2007.