

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Agreement, certain terms have been defined in this Appendix and elsewhere in this Agreement to encompass meanings that may differ from, or be in addition to, the normal connotation of the defined word. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, any term defined or used in the singular shall include the plural. The words "shall" and "will" are used interchangeably throughout this Agreement and the use of either connotes a mandatory requirement. The use of one or the other shall not mean a different degree of right or obligation for either Party. A defined word intended to convey its special meaning is capitalized when used. Other terms that are capitalized, and not defined in this Agreement, shall have the meaning set forth in the Act, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. The definitions contained in this Appendix are meant to accurately describe the meaning accorded the term as required by the Act and as used in this Agreement. In the event of any disagreement between a definition of the term in the Act, in this Appendix, or in any other part of the Agreement (including the Attachments), the definition in the Act shall supersede any definition in the Agreement or Appendices, and any specific definition in an Appendix other than this Appendix shall supersede the definition in this Appendix. Throughout this Agreement and its Appendices, various diagrams are used. The diagrams are illustrative only, and, in the event of any disagreement between the diagram and the words of this Agreement, the words of this Agreement shall control.

"Act" means the Communications Act of 1934 [47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.], as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, codified throughout 47 U.S.C.

"Access Service Request" (ASR) is an industry standard form and supporting documentation used by the Parties to order Switched Access Service and/or to add, establish, change or disconnect Trunks for the purposes of Interconnection.

"ACNA" means Access Customer Name Abbreviation and is a three digit alpha code assigned to identify carriers (including both ILECs AND CLECs) for billing and other identification purposes.

"Advanced Intelligent Network" or "AIN" is a Telecommunications network architecture in which call processing, call routing and network management are provided by means of centralized databases.

"Affiliate" is as defined in the Act.

"Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions" (ATIS) is a North American telecommunication industry standards forum which, through its committees and working groups, creates and publishes standards and guidelines designed to enable interoperability for telecommunications products and services. ATIS Standards and Guidelines, as well as the standards of other industry fora, are referenced herein as baseline requirements documentation.

"Alternate Billing Service" (ABS) means a service that allows end user customers to bill calls to accounts that may not be associated with the originating line. There are three types of ABS calls: calling card, collect and third number billed calls.

"Applicable Law" means all laws, statutes, common law, regulations, ordinances, codes, rules, guidelines, orders and permits, including those relating to the environment or health and safety, of any Governmental Authority that apply to the Parties or the subject matter of this Agreement.

"Automated Message Accounting" (AMA) is a structure inherent in switch technology that initially records Telecommunication message information. AMA format is contained in the Automated Message Accounting document published by Telcordia (formerly known as Bellcore) as GR-1100-CORE, which defines and amends the industry standard for message recording.

“Automatic Number Identification” or (ANI) identifies the telephone number associated with the line from which a call originates. ANI usually identifies the same number as the Calling Party Number (CPN).

“Automatic Route Selection” (ARS) is a service feature that provides for automatic selection of the least expensive or most appropriate transmission facility for each call based on criteria programmed into a circuit switch routing table or system.

“Billing” involves the provision of appropriate usage data by one Telecommunications Carrier to another to facilitate end user customer Billing with attendant documentation. It also involves the exchange of information between Telecommunications Carriers to process claims and adjustments.

“Billed Number Screening” (BNS) means a validation of Toll Billing Exception (TBE) data and performance of public telephone checks; i.e., determining if a billed line is a public (including those classified as semi-public) telephone number.

“Business Day” means Monday through Friday, excluding holidays in which banks and government offices are closed.

“Calling Party Number” (CPN) means a Common Channel Signaling (CCS) parameter, as for example a Signaling System 7 (SS7) parameter, whereby the ten (10) digit number or other number of the calling Party is forwarded from the End Office through the network.

“Carrier” see Telecommunications Carrier.

“Carrier Access Billing System” (CABS) is defined in a document prepared under the direction of the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF) of ATIS. The CABS document is published by Telcordia Technologies in Volumes 1, 1A, 2, 3, 3A, 4 and 5 as Special Reports SR-OPT-001868, SR-OPT-001869, SR-OPT-001871, SR-OPT-001872, SR-OPT-001873, SR-OPT-001874, and SR-OPT-001875, respectively, and contains the recommended guidelines for the Billing of switched access service and other connectivity issues.

“Central Office” means a building or space within a building where transmission facilities or circuits are connected or switched.

“Centrex” means a Telecommunications Service that uses Central Office switching equipment for call routing to handle direct dialing of calls, and to provide many private branch exchange-like, features.

“Collocation” is as described by Applicable Law.

“Commercial Mobile Radio Service” (CMRS) is as defined in the Act.

“Commingling” means the connecting, attaching, or otherwise linking of an unbundled Network Element, or Combination of unbundled Network Elements, to one or more facilities or services that MCI has obtained at wholesale from SBC MISSOURI, or the combining of an Unbundled Network Element, or a combination of Unbundled Network Elements, with one or more such facilities or services. “Commingle” means the act of commingling.

“Commission” means the Missouri Public Service Commission.

“Common Channel Signaling” (CCS) means a method of exchanging call set-up and network control data over a digital signaling network used to transport supervision signals, control signals and data messages. It is a special network, fully separate from the transmission path of the public switched network that carries the actual call. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the preferred CCS protocol used by the Parties shall be SS7.

“Common Language Location Identifier” (CLLI) codes provide a unique 11-character representation of a network interconnection point. The first 8 characters identify the city, state and building location, while the last 3 characters identify the network component.

“Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act” (CALEA) refers to the duties and obligations of Carriers to assist law enforcement agencies by intercepting communications and records, and installing pen registers and trap and trace devices.

“Competitive Local Exchange Carrier” (CLEC) is any Local Exchange Carrier certified to provide Local Exchange Telecommunications Service in any area where it is not an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier.

“Conduit” means a tube or other similar enclosure that may be used to house copper, fiber or coaxial communications cables or communications-related power cables. Conduits may be underground or above ground (for example, inside buildings) and may contain one or more inner ducts. An inner duct is a separate tube or enclosure within a Conduit.

“Control Office” is the operations center or office designated by either Party as its single point of contact for the provisioning and maintenance of its portion of this Agreement.

“Coordinated Cutover” means the coordination of all cutover activities that may be associated with porting of a telephone number from the old service provider to the new service provider, which coordination may include, but not limited to, notification of when the old service provider starts the cutover and finishes the cutover, coordination of testing, and working with the new service provider to ensure that the cutover is properly performed and completed.

“Cross Connection” means an intra-Wire Center channel of the appropriate bandwidth and media, connecting separate pieces of Telecommunications Equipment, including jumpers and intraoffice cables.

“Customer Usage Data” means the Telecommunications Services usage data of an end user customer measured in minutes, sub-minute increments, message units, or otherwise, that is recorded by one Party and forwarded to the other Party.

“Custom Local Area Signaling Service Features” (CLASS) means certain call-management service features available to end user customers within a Local Access and Transport Area (“LATA”), including but not limited to: Automatic Call Back; Automatic Recall; Call Trace; Calling Number Delivery; Customer Originated Trace; Distinctive Ringing/Call Waiting; Selective Call Forward; and Selective Call Rejection.

“Desired Due Date” means the desired service activation date as requested by MCI on a service order.

“Dialing Parity” is as defined in the Act.

“Digital Signal Level” is one of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

“Digital Signal Level 0” (DS-0) is the 64 Kbps zero-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

“Digital Signal Level 1” (DS-1) is the 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS-1 is the initial level of multiplexing.

“Digital Signal Level 3” (DS-3) is the 44.736 Mbps third-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS-3 is defined as the third level of multiplexing.

“End Office Switch” or “End Office” means a Switch that directly terminates traffic to and receives traffic from local exchange service customers. An End Office Switch does not include a PBX.

“Enhanced Extended Link” (“EEL”) consists of a Combination of an unbundled Loop and unbundled Dedicated Transport, together with any facilities, equipment, or functions necessary to combine those unbundled Network Elements, with or without multiplexing capabilities.

“Enhanced Service Provider” (ESP) is a provider of enhanced services as those services are defined in the Act.

“Exchange Access” is as defined in the Act.

“Exchange Message Interface” (EMI) (formerly Exchange Message Record - EMR) is the standard used for exchange of Telecommunications message information among Telecommunications Carriers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement and study data. EMI format is contained in Telcordia Practice BR-010-200-010, CRIS Exchange Message Record.

“Exchange Service” means Telephone Exchange Service, as defined in the Act.

“Feature Group D” or “FGD” is access available to all customers, providing Trunk side access to a Party’s End Office Switches with an associated uniform 101XXXX access code for Customer use in originating and terminating communications.

“Governmental Authority” means any federal, state or local, court, government, department, commission, board, bureau, agency, official or other regulatory, administrative, legislative or judicial authority with jurisdiction over the subject matter at issue.

“Group Record” means information in LIDB and/or the LIDB administrative system that is common to all telephone numbers in an NPA-NXX or all special billing numbers in an NPA-0/1XX.

“Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier” (ILEC) is as defined in the Act.

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

“Integrated Digital Loop Carrier” or “IDLC” means a subscriber loop carrier system that is twenty-four (24) local Loop transmission paths combined into a 1.544 Mbps digital signal which integrates within the switch at a DS1 level.

“Integrated Services Digital Network” (ISDN) means a digital circuit switched network service. Basic Rate Interface-ISDN (BRI-ISDN) provides for a digital channelized transmission of two 64 Kbps bearer channels and one 16 Kbps data channel (2B+D) end-to-end digital connectivity for the transmission of voice or data on either or both bearer channels and packet data on the data channel. Primary Rate ISDN provides for 23 bearer channels and 1 data channel. For BRI, the bearer channels operate at 64 Kbps and the data channel at 16 Kbps. For PRI, all 24 channels operate at 64 Kbps or 1.5 Mbps.

“Interconnection” is the linking of two networks for the mutual exchange of traffic. This term does not include the transport and termination of traffic.

“Interexchange Carrier” (IXC) means a Telecommunication Carrier that provides interLATA or intraLATA Telephone Toll Services.

“InterLATA” is as defined in the Act.

“Interlata Traffic” describes Telecommunications between a point located in a Local Access and Transport Area (LATA) and a point located outside such area.

“Intralata Toll Traffic” describes IntraLATA Traffic between two locations within one LATA where one of the locations lies outside the local calling area defined by the tariff on file with the Commission.

“Local Access Transport Area” (LATA) is as defined in the Act.

“Local Exchange Carrier” (LEC) is as defined in the Act.

“Local Exchange Routing Guide” (LERG) is a Telcordia Reference document used by Telecommunications Carriers to identify NPA-NXX routing and homing information as well as network Element and equipment designations.

“Local Routing Number” (LRN) is a ten (10) digit number that is assigned to the network switching elements (Central Office – Host and Remotes as required) for the routing of calls in the network. The first six (6) digits of the LRN will be one of the assigned NPA NXX of the switching element. The purpose and functionality of the last four (4) digits of the LRN have not yet been defined but are passed across the network to the terminating switch.

“Local Service Ordering Guide” (LSOG) is a document developed by the OBF to establish industry-wide ordering and billing processes.

“Local Service Request” (LSR) means the industry standard forms and supporting documentation used for ordering local services.

“Main Distribution Frame” (MDF) means the distribution frame of the Party providing the loop used to Interconnect cable pairs and line and trunk equipment terminals.

“MECAB” refers to the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing document developed by the Billing Committee of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions’ (ATIS) Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF). The MECAB document, published by ATIS as ATIS/OBF-MECAB- Issue 7, February 2001, contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of access and interconnection services provided to a customer by two or more providers or by one provider in two or more states within a single LATA.

“MECOD” refers to the Multiple Exchange Carriers Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines for Access Services document developed by the Interconnection Services Ordering & Provisioning (ISOP) Committee of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions’ (ATIS) Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF). The MECOD document, published by ATIS as ATIS/OBF-MECOD-Issue 5, February 2002, establishes methods for processing orders for access service which is to be provided to an Interexchange Carrier (IC) by two or more Exchange Carriers (ECs).

“Meet Point” is a point of Interconnection between two networks, designated by two Telecommunications Carriers, at which one carrier’s responsibility for service begins and the other carrier’s responsibility ends.

“Meet-Point Billing” (MPB) refers to the billing arrangement whereby two or more Telecommunications Carriers jointly provide Switched Exchange Access Service to an IXC, with each LEC billing the IXC its tariffed rate for the portion of Switched Exchange Access Service it provided to the IXC.

“Network Data Mover” (NDM) is an industry standard protocol for the electronic transfer of information.

“Network Element” is as defined in the Act.

“Non-Qualifying Service” is a service that is not a Qualifying Service (defined below).

“North American Numbering Plan” (NANP) A numbering architecture employed in the United States, Canada and certain Caribbean countries in which every station in the NANP Area is identified by a unique ten-digit address consisting of a three-digit NPA code, a three digit central office code of the form NXX, and a four-digit line number of the form XXXX.

“Numbering Plan Area” (NPA) also called area code. An NPA is the 3-digit code that occupies the A, B, C positions in the 10-digit NANP format that applies throughout the NANP Area. NPAs are of the form NXX, where N represents the digits 2-9 and X represents any digit 0-9. In the NANP, NPAs are classified as either geographic or non-geographic. a) Geographic NPAs are NPAs which correspond to discrete geographic areas within the NANP Area. b) Non-geographic NPAs, also known as a “Service Access Codes” (SAC Codes) are NPAs that do not correspond to discrete geographic areas, but which are instead assigned for services with attributes, functionalities, or requirements that transcend specific geographic boundaries. The common examples of non-geographic NPAs in the N00 format include 500, Toll Free Service NPAs, 700, and 900.

“Number Portability Administration Center” (NPAC) means one of the seven regional number portability centers involved in the dissemination of data associated with ported numbers. The NPACs were established for each of the seven, original Bell Operating Company regions so as to cover the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories in the North American Numbering Plan area.

“NXX” or “Central Office Code” is the three-digit switch entity indicator that is defined by the fourth through sixth digits of a 10-digit telephone number within the NANP. Each NXX Code contains 10,000 station numbers.

“Originating Point Code” (OPC) means a code assigned to identify CLEC’s system(s) that originate SS7 messages, including LIDB Service Queries.

“Parity” means the provision of a service or access to service that is at least equal in quality, timing, priority, functionality and capabilities to that which SBC MISSOURI provides itself, its customers, subsidiaries, Affiliates or any third party.

“Party” means either SBC MISSOURI or MCI. “Parties” means both SBC MISSOURI and MCI.

“Plain Old Telephone Service” (POTS) means basic telephone service.

“Public Switched Network” or “Public Switched Telecommunications Network” (PSTN) includes all switches and transmission facilities, provided by any Telecommunications Carriers that use the NANP in connection with the provision of Telecommunications Services.

“Qualifying Service” is a telecommunications service that competes with a telecommunications service that has been traditionally the exclusive or primary domain of Incumbent LECs, including, but not limited to, local exchange service, such as plain old telephone service, and access services, such as digital subscriber line services and high-capacity circuits.

“Rate Center” means the specific geographic area that has been designated by a given LEC as being associated with a particular NPA-NXX code that has been assigned to the LEC for its provision of Telephone Exchange Service. The

Rate Center is the finite geographic point identified by a specific V&H coordinate, which is used by that LEC to measure, for billing purposes, distance sensitive transmission services associated with the specific Rate Center.

“Rating Point” means the V&H coordinates associated with a particular telephone number for rating purposes.

“Remote Terminal” or “RT” means a controlled environmental vault, hut, or cabinet, which may or may not contain fiber fed digital loop carrier (DLC).

“Service Management System” (SMS) means an off-line system used to access, create, modify or update information in a database.

“Signaling System 7” (SS7) means a signaling protocol used by the CCS network.

“Switch” means a mechanical, electrical or electronic device which opens and closes circuits, completes or breaks an electrical path, or select paths or circuits.

“Switched Exchange Access Service” means the offering of transmission or switching services to Telecommunications Carriers for the purpose of the origination or termination of Telephone Toll Service. Switched Exchange_Access Services include, but are not limited to, Feature Group A, Feature Group B, Feature Group D, 800/888 access, and 900 access and their successors and/or similar Switched Exchange_Access Services.

“Synchronous Optical Network” (SONET) is an optical interface standard that allows inter-networking of transmission products from multiple vendors. The base rate is 51.84 Mbps (“OC-1/STS-1”) and higher rates are direct multiples of the base rate, up to 13.22 Gbps.

“Tandem Office Switch” or “Tandem” means a Switch used to connect and switch Trunk circuits between and among other Central Office Switches. A Tandem Switch does not include a PBX.

“Technically Feasible”, including burden of proof, is as defined in applicable FCC regulations and Applicable Law.

“Telecommunications” is as defined in the Act.

“Telecommunications Carrier” is as defined in the Act.

“Telecommunications Equipment” is as defined in the Act.

“Telecommunications Service” is as defined in the Act.

“Telephone Exchange Service” is as defined in the Act.

“Telephone Toll Service” is as defined in the Act.

“TELRIC” means Total Element Long-Run Incremental Cost.

“Third Party” means any person other than a Party.

“Toll Free Service” is service provided with any dialing sequence that invokes toll-free, 800-like, service processing (e.g., 800 or 800-like services). Toll Free Service includes, but is not limited to, calls placed to 800/888 NPA Service Access Codes (SAC).

“Trunk” means a communication line connecting two switching systems.

“Wire Center” means the physical structure where SBC MISSOURI terminated subscriber outside cable plant (i.e. their local lines) with the necessary testing facilities to maintain them. This is usually the same location as a Class 5 central office. A Wire Center might have one or several Class 5 central offices, also called public exchanges or simply switches.