

COMPETITIVE ACCESS PROVIDERS SERVICES TARIFF

CHECK SHEET

Sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>
1	Original	20	Original	40	Original
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12	Original	31	1 st Revised*	51	1 st Revised*
13	1 st Revised*	32	1 st Revised*	52	Original
14	1 st Revised*	33	Original	53	1 st Revised*
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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)

Mutual Traffic Exchange: A compensation arrangement between certified local exchange service providers where local exchange service providers pay each other "in kind" for terminating local exchange traffic on the other's network.

Network Services: The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

Non-Recurring Charges: The one-time initial charges for services or facilities, including but not limited to charges for construction, installation, or special fees, for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

Off-Hook: The active condition of Switched Access or a telephone exchange service line.

Operating Company Number (OCN): – A code used in the telephone industry to identify a telephone company.

Optional Expanded Area Service Traffic (OEAS): Optional service found in large urban areas financed by separate charge on end users that elect service as defined by a tariffed approved by the Commission.

On-Hook: The idle condition of switched access or a telephone exchange service line.

Out of Band Signaling: An exchange access signaling feature which allows customers to exchange call control and signaling information over a communications path which is separate from the message path.

Point of Presence: Location where the Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

Premises: The space occupied by a Customer or Authorized User in a building or buildings or on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

Presubscription: An arrangement whereby an End User may select and designate to the Company an Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Carriers it wishes to access, without an Access Code, for completing both intraLATA toll calls and/or interLATA calls. The selected IXC(s) are referred to as the End User's Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC).

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COMPETITIVE ACCESS PROVIDERS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company

- A. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of or associated with the ordering (including the reservation of any specific number for use with a service), installation (including delays thereof), provision, furnishing, preemption, termination, maintenance, repair or restoration of any service or facilities of its Services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, other defects, or representations by the Company, or use of these services or damages arising out of the failure to furnish the service whether caused by act or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances for interruption not to exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge for the service for the period during which the service was affected. The extension of such allowances for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer and the sole liability of the Company. The Company will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages to Customer as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or the acts or omissions or negligence of the Company's employees or agents.

- B. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction action, or request of The United States government or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any military authority; preemption of existing service in compliance with national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; criminal actions; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockouts, work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)

- E. The Customer shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person(s), and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, condition, location, or use of any installation or equipment provided by the Company. The Company reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of these provisions as a condition precedent to such installations.
- F. The Company shall not be liable for any defacement of or damage to Customers Premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's agents or employees. No agents or employees of other Carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees of the Company.
- G. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the End-User against any claim, loss or damage arising from End-User's or others use of services furnished under this tariff, including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the material, data, information, or other content transmitted via the Company's service; patent infringement claims arising from combining or using the service offered by the Company with facilities or equipment furnished by the End-User or others; or all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the End-User or others, in connection with any service provided by the Company pursuant to this tariff.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)

- J. The Company makes no warranties or representation, express or implied, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.
- K. The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service, or for damages associated with service, Channels, or equipment which result from the operation of Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or service which are interconnected with Company services.
- L. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations. The Customer and End User shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to, or death of, any person or persons, or for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, locations or use of service furnished by the Company at such locations.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)

M. The Company shall not be liable for the Customer's failure to fulfill its obligations to take all necessary steps including, without limitation, obtaining, installing and maintaining all necessary equipment, materials and supplies, for interconnecting the terminal equipment or communications system of the Customer, or any third party acting as its agent, to the Company's Network. The Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the Customer shall ensure that its equipment and/or system or that of its agent is properly interfaced with the Company's service, that the signals emitted into the Company's Network are of the proper mode, band-width, power, data speed, and signal level for the intended use of the Customer and that the signals do not damage Company equipment, injure its personnel or degrade service to other Customers. If the Customer or its agent fails to maintain and operate its equipment and/or system or that of its agent properly, with resulting imminent harm to Company equipment, personnel, or the quality of service to other Customers, the Company, may, upon written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense. If this fails to produce satisfactory quality and safety, the Company may, upon written notice, terminate the Customer's service without liability.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.4.4 Inspections

- A. Upon reasonable notification of the Customer, and at reasonable times, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2.B for the installation, operation, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions occurring during such inspections.
- B. If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel from harm. The Company will, upon request 24 hours in advance, provide the Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

2.5 Payment Arrangements

2.5.1 Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service furnished to the Customer, or the Customer's agents, End Users or customers. All charges due by the Customer are payable to the Company. Any objections to billed charges must be reported promptly to the Company.

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A. Taxes

The Customer is responsible for the payment of any sales, use, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) excluding taxes on the Company's net income imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Access Services. All such taxes shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service, (cont'd.)

F. (cont'd)

3. Upon ten (10) days' written notice to the Customer, after failure of the Customer to comply with a request made by the Company for security for the payment of service in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A, above; or
4. Seven (7) days after sending the Customer written notice of noncompliance with any provision of this tariff if the noncompliance is not corrected within that seven (7) day period. The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligation to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.

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2.5.4 Cancellation of Application for Service

Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun.

The special charges described will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

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SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

5.2 Rate Categories

5.2.1 There are several rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:

- Common Line (T)
- Switched Transport |
- End Office Switching |
- Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Access Service |
- Optional Features (T)

The Company provides originating and terminating switched access service through a single blended rate based on aggregate traffic volumes from the following cost categories:

Common Line

The Common Line cost category establishes the charges related to the use of Company-provided end user common lines by customers and end users for intrastate access.

Switched Transport

The Switched Transport cost category establishes the charges related to the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer designated premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications.

End Office Switching

The End Office Switching cost category establishes the charges related to the use of end office switching equipment, the terminations in the end office of end user lines, the terminations of calls at Company Intercept Operators or recordings, the Signaling Transfer Point (STP) costs, and the SS7 signaling function between the end office and the STP.

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SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

5.4 Rates and Charges

5.4.1 Blended Carrier Switched Access (Cont'd)

	<u>Current</u>	(I)
Originating (per MOU)	\$0.018466	
Terminating (per MOU)	\$0.018466	
		(I)

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SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

5.4 Rates and Charges, (Cont'd.)

5.4.2 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query (Cont'd)

	<u>Current</u>	(I)
Per Query	\$0.0055	

5.4.3 Switched Access Optional Features

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All Optional Features are offered on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

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