DS1 SERVICE

A. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

DS1 Service is a two-point High Capacity Digital service that allows customers to transmit digital information through their private telephone networks. It is furnished between two customer designated locations or between a customer designated location and a Telephone Company designated Hub Wire Center where multiplexing is offered.

DS1 facilities are dedicated facilities which provide for the two-way transmission of isochronous bipolar serial data at a rate of 1.544 Mbps.

The following rate elements are applicable to DS1 Service:

1. <u>Special Access Line</u>

   The Special Access Line provides the transmission facilities to a customer designated location or the facilities between a customer designated location and the serving wire center.

   There are two levels of DS1 Special Access Lines. The "First System" Special Access Line is for the first DS1 service ordered by a customer between his designated locations or a Hub Wire Center. When the same customer requests additional DS1 service on the same service order, to be installed at the same time and between the same locations as the "First System" DS1 service, the "Additional System" Special Access Line at a lessor rate will apply. Customers who subscribe to the DS1 Optional Payment Plan as described in B. following may order the "Additional System" Special Access Lines at any time at the same location as the "First System," but the terminating point may be different.

2. <u>Transport Facility</u>

   The Transport Facility rate element provides for the transmission facilities between the serving wire centers associated with two customer designated locations, between the wire center associated with the customer designated location and the Telephone Company Hub Wire Center where multiplexing is offered, or between two Telephone Company Hub Wire Centers. The Transport Facility rate element is distance sensitive and based on airline mileage between two wire centers.

3. <u>Transport Termination</u>

   Transport Termination provides the equipment and arrangements necessary to terminate the Transport Facility at a serving wire center.

4. <u>Multiplexing Arrangement</u>

   Multiplexing provides the equipment for converting a single DS1 circuit to 24 voice grade circuits or for converting 24 voice grade circuits to a single DS1 circuit.

5. <u>Automatic Protection Switch</u>

   The Automatic Protection Switch consists of special switching equipment placed at both ends of a duplicate DS1 facility for automatically switching to a duplicate (standby) facility in the event the active facility is inoperative. Duplicate facilities may terminate at a serving wire center, a customer designated location, or both. The Automatic Protection Switch provided under this Guide is only provided at a serving wire center. If the duplicate facility terminates at a customer designated location, the customer will be responsible for providing the associated Automatic Protection Switch and ensuring it is compatible with the Telephone Company provided switch, if appropriate. The duplicate facilities are not a part of this element.

DS1 SERVICE

B. DS1 OPTIONAL PAYMENT PLAN (OPP)

1. Description

A customer may elect to participate in an Optional Payment Plan (OPP) arrangement for DS1 service. The OPP allows a customer to order the "First System" DS1 Special Access Line rate element over a one, three or five year payment period at rates set forth in E. following. The OPP applies to the "First System" DS1 Special Access Line ordered between a customer designated location and its serving wire center or Hub Wire Center. When the same customer orders "Additional System" DS1 service at the same location, the standard nonrecurring and monthly rates for each "Additional System" will apply.

The Telephone Company will only initiate revisions to the rates to reduce the currently effective monthly rate. Rate changes may occur as a result of Commission action.

When the customer orders a "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line at a location, the same customer can then order "Additional System" DS1 lines at the same location at any time and without regard to the opposing end of the circuit. However, the opposing end of the circuit must terminate within the same exchange as the customer's location. The customer will be rated a "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line at a location and the same customer an "Additional System" DS1 line rate for any subsequent DS1 line at the same location even if the terminating points of the DS1 circuits are different. This ordering and rating arrangement will apply to each Special Access Line per location of a DS1 OPP circuit only.

Under an OPP only, each DS1 circuit can be rated on a per Special Access Line "First or Additional System" basis. When a DS1 circuit is assessed a "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line at each customer designated location, both DS1 OPP lines must have the same payment period. All other associated rate elements or additional features are subject to the standard tariffed rates and regulations. When ordering "Additional System" DS1 Special Access Lines, the customer must specify his "First System" DS1 OPP circuit identification number at each location in order for the "Additional System" DS1 SAL rate to apply.

2. Payment Plan Rate Regulations

a. Payment periods of one year, three year and five year are available to all customers at the applicable rates specified in E. following.

b. "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line rates will not be greater than standard month-to-month "First System" DS1 Special Access Line rates.

c. The three year and five year plan rates will be less than the one year plan rates. Decreases to the one year plan will flow through to the three year and five year plans.

d. The customer must specify the payment period at the time the service is ordered.

e. When the customer orders a move with no lapse in service and no change to the customer of record he will be able to keep the same OPP payment period in force. Any other move will be treated as a disconnect of the OPP.

DS1 SERVICE

B. DS1 OPTIONAL PAYMENT PLAN (OPP) (Cont'd)

3. Expiration of OPP

At the expiration of an OPP payment period, the Telephone Company will automatically renew the customer at the same OPP payment period unless the customer chooses to convert to a different OPP, convert to month-to-month standard Guide rates, or to discontinue service in compliance with the rules specified in 6. following.

Should the customer choose to convert to month-to-month standard Guide rates, existing "Additional System" DS1 Special Access Lines under the OPP must also be converted to comply with the standard arrangements rules and regulations specified in C. following. The customer will be required to submit a discontinuance of service order and establishment of new service order for the conversion. If no other changes are ordered, only the Initial Service Ordering Charge will apply per order. The ordering and installation of further "Additional System" DS1 Special Access Lines will also convert to the standard arrangements.

4. Early Termination Liability

When a "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line is discontinued prior to the end of the payment period, two levels of termination liability may apply based on the remainder of the OPP payment period in effect at the time of disconnect as indicated below.

One Year OPP

50% of any remaining portion of the first year's recurring charges.

Three Year OPP

50% of any remaining portion of the first year's recurring charges. In addition, for any remaining portion of the second and third year, the customer will be liable for 10% of the total monthly charges in that time period.

Five Year OPP

50% of any remaining portion of the first year's recurring charges. In addition, for any remaining portion of the second through fifth year, the customer will be liable for 20% of the total monthly charges in that time period.

5. Early Termination Without Liability

During the OPP payment period, should the currently effective rate for a customer's "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line increase, the customer may, at his option, terminate the service without penalty or liability.

6. Notification of Discontinuance

Notice of discontinuance must be given by the customer at least thirty (30) days prior to actual discontinuance. Monthly charges will apply for a period of thirty (30) days from the date the Telephone Company receives discontinuance notification or until the requested discontinuance date, whichever period is longer.

DS1 SERVICE

B. DS1 OPTIONAL PAYMENT PLAN (OPP) (Cont'd)

7. Conversions

a. For conversion of an existing standard DS1 service to an OPP arrangement of choice, the customer will be required to submit an order discontinuing service and an order to establish new service. Continuous provisioning and billing of the service(s) to the same customer will be provided. If no other changes to the service(s) are ordered, only the Initial Service Ordering Charge will apply for the conversion.

b. During an OPP period, the customer may elect to convert to a new OPP period of the same or different length. Conversion to a new OPP period will be allowed without penalty or application of any nonrecurring charges or ordering charges if the expiration date of the new OPP period is greater than the remainder of the original OPP period.

c. When a customer converts to an OPP, the monthly rates will be as set forth in E. following for the "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line.

d. As specified in a., under an OPP a "First System" DS1 OPP Special Access Line must exist at a customer location in order for the "Additional System" DS1 Special Access Line to apply at the same location. Should it become necessary for the customer to convert an "Additional System" DS1 line existing under an OPP arrangement to a "First System" DS1 OPP line to meet these requirements, the following ordering conditions and charges will apply. Conversion credit will not be given for the time in service associated with the discontinued "First System" DS1 OPP line.

- The Subsequent Service Ordering Charge will apply when the conversion is to a "First System" DS1 OPP payment period equal to or greater than the discontinued DS1 circuit and remains connected at the same location. Both ends, each Special Access Line, of the converted DS1 circuit must have the same payment period and termination liability charges will not apply to convert the existing line(s).

DS1 SERVICE

C. APPLICATION OF RATES

1. Ordering Charges

The Service Ordering Charges as set forth in Section 3 of the applicable Local Exchange tariff will apply to the ordering of DS1 service.

2. DS1 Special Access Line

a. Monthly Rates

One Special Access Line charge applies per customer designated location at which the DS1 facility is terminated. This charge applies even if the facilities to the customer designated location do not transit a serving wire center. The charge also applies if the customer designated location and the serving wire center are co-located in a Telephone Company building.

b. Installation of a DS1 Special Access Line

(1) Standard Arrangements

There are two levels of charges for the installation of the DS1 Special Access Line. The "First System" charge is assessed per Special Access Line for the first DS1 service ordered by a customer between his designated locations or a Hub Wire Center. When the same customer requests additional DS1 service on the service order, to be installed at the same time and between the same locations as the "First System" DS1 service, the lesser charge under "Additional System" will apply.

(2) Optional Payment Plan (OPP)

Customers subscribing to the Optional Payment Plan arrangements will not be assessed a nonrecurring change (NRC) for initial installation of a "First System" DS1 Special Access Line. For each "Additional System" DS1, the NRC as set forth following will apply. In addition, under an OPP, the "Additional System" DS1 Special Access Line, may be ordered at any time by the same customer between the same location and its serving wire center or Hub Wire Center as the "First System" DS1 line.

The NRC for installation of a "First System" DS1 Special Access Line will apply to existing DS1 OPP customers when required for changes or service rearrangements.

DS1 SERVICE

C. APPLICATION OF RATES (Continued

3. Transport Facility

The mileage used to determine the monthly rate for the Transport Facility is calculated on the airline distance between the serving wire centers involved. Where the calculated miles include a fraction, the value is always rounded up to the next full mile. Where the calculated value is zero, no Transport mileage is charged.

When a Hub Wire Center is involved, the Transport mileage will be measured from the Hub Wire Center to the serving wire center of each customer designated location connected to the hubbed facilities. Mileage is calculated for each section and rates are applied accordingly.

The rates for the mileage are applied per airline mile.

4. Transport Termination

One Transport Termination charge applies for the termination of each end of a Transport Facility for DS1 service.

5. Multiplexing Arrangement

A nonrecurring Installation Charge and monthly rates as set forth in E. following are applicable to the DS1 to Voice Multiplexing Arrangement.

6. Automatic Protection Switch

A nonrecurring Installation Charge and monthly rates as set forth in E. following are applicable to the Automatic Protection Switch.

DS1 SERVICE

C. APPLICATION OF RATES

7. Special Access Surcharge

A monthly surcharge of $25.00 per voice grade circuit equivalency will be assessed to each DS1 Special Access Line when the service is capable of interconnecting with the local telecommunications network. Twenty-four (24) voice grade circuits equate to one (1) DS1 Special Access Line.

The DS1 service will be exempted from the monthly Surcharge if the customer provides the Telephone Company with written certification that the termination of the circuit(s) is one of the following:

a. The dial tone end of a foreign central office line.

b. A termination used for closed circuit radio or television transmission.

c. A termination of a line used for Telex purposes.

d. A termination of a line which by nature of its operating characteristics and connection could not make use of common lines.

e. A termination that has been configured through software programming or physical restrictions which the customer certifies to the Telephone Company is not connected to a PBX or other device capable of interconnecting the service to the local telecommunications network.

In order for the Telephone Company to determine the application of the surcharge with respect to specific services, the customer must report the intended use of each voice equivalent circuit DS1 service. When any circuit is reported wholly used in any manner described in a. through e. preceding, the surcharge will not apply. If the intended use is not reported, the surcharge will apply.

If, at any time after the installation of a service which is subject to the surcharge, the customer reports that the service is being used consistently with any exception listed above, the Telephone Company will credit the customer for the surcharge. Credit will not be given beyond the receipt date of the certification for exemption.

D. TREATMENT OF EXISTING CUSTOMERS

1. Customers currently subscribing to DS1 service under Individual Case Basis (ICB) rates will be allowed to continue their service at their existing rates for the length of their individual contracts. At the end of the contract period, if the customer chooses to continue his DS1 service, the Guide rates in effect at that time will apply.

2. Customers subscribing to DS1 service under an ICB contract who wish to convert to a DS1 Optional Payment Plan of a length the same or longer than their current contract may do so. The DS1 OPP rates as shown in E. following will apply and the customer will not be assessed a termination liability charge. Conversion regulations as set forth in B.7. preceding will apply.

3. Any changes from existing ICB contracts other than stated in 2. above, will be considered a discontinuance of service and termination liability charges will apply.

DS1 SERVICE

E. RATES AND CHARGES

		Installation Charge	Monthly Rate
1.	Special Access Line - Standard Arrangement		
	a. First System	$944.03	$270.33
	b. Each Additional System	132.75	185.00
2.	Special Transport Facility - Per Airline Mile	--	18.95
3.	Special Transport Termination	--	48.00
4.	DS1 to Voice Multiplexing	828.41	218.35
5.	Automatic Protection Switch	732.53	89.10

6. Optional Payment Plan

	One Year Monthly Rate	Three Year Monthly Rate	Five Year Monthly Rate
"First System" Special Access Line	$256.81	$231.13	$205.45

F. CLEAR CHANNEL CAPABILITY

An arrangement that allows the customer to transport 1.536 Mbps of information through a DS1 with no constraint on the quantity or sequence of one (mark) and zero (space) bits utilizing the Bipolar with Eight Zero Substitution method of providing bit sequence independence.

Regulations and rates for this service are located in Telephone-Pa. P.U.C. No. 9, Section 5.