DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Accessories

Any device which is mechanically attached to, or used with the facilities furnished by the Company and which is independent of, and not connected electrically to the conductors in the communications path of the exchange and toll network.

Additional Termination Point

An Additional Termination Point (ATP) is a point, other than the Rate Demarcation Point (RDP), on the same customer's property to which the Company is responsible for installing and maintaining network services and which will be evidenced by a NI. The location of the ATP is determined by the customer who is responsible for ICB charges associated with its construction.

Authorized Protective Connecting Module

A protective unit designed by the Company and manufactured under the control of Company quality assurance procedures which is to be incorporated in a conforming answering device.

Basic Rate Interface Service

Bell Atlantic® IntelliLinQ℠-BRI Basic Rate Interface Service provides Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) capabilities from an ISDN-equipped switch in the central office. Basic Rate Interface Service consists of two "B" channels and one "D" channel (2B+D) which are defined as:

The B channel is a 64-Kilobit-per-second (kbps) channel used for information transfer between users. The B channel may be used in conjunction with circuit switching service.

The D channel is a 16-kilobit-per-second packet-switched channel that carries signaling and control for the B channels and also supports customer packet traffic at speeds up to 9.6 kbps.

Central Office

A switching unit by means of which local and toll intercommunication is established between telephones connected to the exchange system.

Central Office Connecting Facility

A facility furnished to an Other Common Carrier by the Company (in accordance with the Company's "Facilities for Other Common Carriers" Tariffs) between the terminal location of the Other Common Carrier and a point of connection on the Company's premises.

DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

Central Office Designation

A three-digit number associated with a telephone number for the purpose of identifying the central office from which a telephone is served.

Central Office District

A specified territorial unit established by the Company for the administration of exchange service. There may be one or more central office districts within an exchange area.

Centrex Control Switching Equipment

Switching equipment, located on the Company's premises, used to provide Centrex service furnished in accordance with Centrex service provisions of this Product Guide.

Circuit Switching

A switching technique in which an entire circuit or, in a digital switch (ISDN), a specific selection of time slots is dedicated to a given call.

Communications Systems

Channel and other facilities which are capable, when not connected to the exchange and toll network, of two-way communications between customer-provided terminal equipment or Company facilities.

Conforming Answering Device

A customer-provided device which automatically answers incoming calls, transmits a prerecorded voice message or appropriate audible signal to the calling party, records a voice message from the calling party if so designed and arranged, and automatically disconnects from the line in a prearranged manner on completion of the last of the functions for which it was designed and arranged as described in this paragraph. The conforming answering device may include remote interrogation and/or device function control. A conforming answering device must incorporate an authorized protective connecting module and must bear a valid conformance number.

Conformance Number

An identifying number assigned by the Company to a particular model of conforming answering device incorporating an authorized protective connecting module when that model of device is in conformance with the provisions set forth by the Company in its Technical Reference for conforming answering devices.

DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

Customer

The person, firm or corporation responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Terms of Service of the Company.

Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment

Devices, apparatus, and their associated wiring which are provided by a customer and used with a network control signaling unit or other equipment furnished by the Company. This does not include customer-provided communications systems.

Dial Switching System

A Company central office based customer switching system that provides intrasystem communication and exchange access services.

Direct Electrical Connection

A physical connection of the electrical conductors in the communications path.

Disabled Person

A person who because of a physical impairment requires special terminal equipment to use basic exchange service. Physical impairment may be speech, hearing, motion or sensory impairment or a combination thereof.

Domestic Establishment

The premises occupied or reserved for the use of one family, including relatives, servants and other persons residing with the family and participating in the common use of such facilities as the dining room, kitchen, living room, etc. Such premises, when occupied by any other group of persons functioning in the same manner as a family, are also generally considered a domestic establishment.

Exchange

A unit established by the Company for the administration of communication service in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one or more central offices which may be located within or without the territorial boundaries of the exchange.

Exchange Area

The territory served by an exchange.

DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

Exchange Access Line

A line connecting a central office with telephone equipment within the same central office district.

Flat Rate Exchange Service

A form of exchange service under which originated local messages are not measured.

General Plant Distribution System

The General Plant Distribution System consists of the Company's network facilities (as opposed to customer premises equipment and Premises Wire) including poles, cable, and conduit that is used to provide telecommunications services and to connect customers to the Company facilities as necessary to provide the telecommunications services and connections requested by the customer.

Individual Case Basis (ICB)

A condition in which the Terms of Service, rates and charges for an offering, under the provisions of this Product Guide, are developed based on the circumstances in each case.

Individual Exchange Access Line

An exchange line other than a branch exchange trunk designed to connect the service of only one customer with the central office.

Integrated Services Digital Network

Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) is part of the evolving end-to-end digital telecommunications network architecture which provides for the simultaneous access, transmission and switching of voice, data and image services via channelized transport facilities over a limited number of standard user-network interfaces.

Interbuilding Channel

Generally denotes facilities to connect station termination composed of terminal equipment located in different buildings on the customer's property.

Interface

That point on the premises of the customer at which provision is made for connection of customer-provided facilities to facilities provided by the Company.

DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

Local Access and Transport Area

Local Access and Transport Areas (LATAs) are geographically defined areas within which the Company provides exchange and interexchange telecommunication and exchange access services as specified in this Product Guide.

Local Exchange Service

Service which provides for telephone communication within the local service area at the rates and under the terms of service specified in this Product Guide.

Local Message Unit

The unit of measurement employed in charging for measured local message use.

Local Service Area

The area within which customers connected to a particular exchange may make telephone calls without the application of toll charges.

Message Rate Exchange Service

A form of exchange service under which all originated local messages are measured and charged for in accordance with this Product Guide.

Multicentral Office District Exchange Area

An exchange area containing more than one central office district, to all of which the same local and toll rate treatment applies.

Network Control Signaling

The transmission of signals used in the telephone system which perform functions such as supervision (control, status and charging signals), address signaling, e.g., dialing, calling and called number identification, audible tone signals (call progress signals indicating reorder or busy conditions, alerting, coin denominations, coin collect and coin return tones) to control the operation of switching machines in the telephone system.

Network Control Signaling Unit

Either customer or Company-provided terminal equipment used to control the network control signaling function. Such equipment must either be registered or grandfathered in accordance with the provisions of Part 68 of the Federal Communications Commission's Registration Program. Responsibility for the maintenance of the network control signaling unit by the Company shall be limited to those which are furnished and installed by it.

DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

Network Interface

A Network Interface (NI) is a registered jack or equivalent device that is located on the customer's side of the protector and is installed and maintained by the Company. It denotes that point on the customer's premises where all premises services and facilities are connected to the Network.

OCC Terminal Location

A location from which the OCC furnishes and administers common carrier communications services to its patron(s) and at which the OCC has the capability of testing the facilities operated or terminated at the location.

Other Common Carrier (OCC)

Common Carriers engaged in providing such private line, voice, data or other services as such carriers may be authorized to provide.

Other Telephone Company

A company engaged in the business of furnishing public switched network telephone services which is not a Bell Operating Company.

(D)

Patron

A subscriber to the services of an answering bureau or an Other Common Carrier, including authorized or joint users of those services.

Premises Work

Work performed on a customer's property by a Company employee or representative at the customer's request and not covered by other Product Guide charges. Only work performed on the Company side of the RDP is covered by this Product Guide.

Prime Service Vendor

The term "Prime Service Vendor" denotes the status of the Company when contracting directly with the user of TSP service.

DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

Property

Real estate either owned or leased with or without a structure on it, not separated by property owned or leased by others, or separated by a public thoroughfare or body of water.

Protector

The Protector which is part of the Company's Network and which is installed and maintained by the Company is used for grounding and bonding of Network wire/cable. It shall not be employed, used, modified or disturbed in any way by the customer/agent.

Rate Demarcation Point (RDP)

The Rate Demarcation Point (RDP) is the location established by the Company to which the Company is responsible for installing and maintaining network services and may be evidenced by a NI. The location of the RDP will be beyond the protector on the customer's side and will be dependent upon the physical layout of the particular premises. It will be extended past the point of facilities entrance (protector), only as far as necessary to provide customer access.

Service Point

When used in connection with interexchange mileage services and channels, denotes an exchange which normally serves the exchange areas in which service of the customer is located or an exchange in which an interexchange channel is terminated in a Company office at the request of the customer.

Subcontractor

The term "Subcontractor" denotes the status of the Company when contracting directly with a Prime Service Vendor to provide TSP to a service user.