DIGITAL DATA SERVICE

A. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE

This Product Guide contains terms and conditions, rates and charges for Digital Data Service Channel Terminations other than Non-Competitive End User Channel Terminations, Channel Mileage and certain Optional Features and Functions ordered for such Channel Terminations, including Multiplexing. Ordering options for other Special Access Services needed to complete a circuit are available under Company FCC Tariffs as described in Part 0, Section 1.

Subject to the limitations specified in Part 0, Section 8D, Digital Data Service is available in Region 1, Region 11, Region 14 and Region 16.

B. DESCRIPTION

A Digital Data Service (**DDS**) channel is a channel for duplex four-wire transmission of synchronous serial data at the rate of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2*, 56 or 64* kbps. The actual bit rate is a function of the channel interface selected by the Customer. The channel provides a synchronous service with timing provided by the Company through the Company's facilities to the Customer in the received bit stream.

Digital Data channels are only available via Company designated hubs and are provided between Customer designated premises, between a Customer designated premises and a Company Hub, or between a Customer designated premises and a wire center where connection to Company provided frame relay services and ATM-cell relay services occurs. Subrating is not available at the 19.2 kbps speed, and the 64 kbps speed requires B8ZS Line Code Formatted Signal.

In Region 14, facilities for DDS may also be provided on a multipoint basis.

C. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS PACKAGES

The technical specifications and technical specification packages for Digital Data Service are set forth in Technical Reference TR-NWT-000335, Issue 3.

The Company will provide a channel/circuit capable of meeting a monthly average performance equal to or greater than 99.875% error-free seconds while the channel is in service, if it is measured through a CSU equivalent which is designed, manufactured and maintained to conform with the specifications contained in Technical Reference PUB 62310.

D. Channel interfaces for Digital Data Service may be found at the common language product of iconectiv.com.

* Not available in the operating territories of Region 11.

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E. OPTIONAL FEATURES AND FUNCTIONS

1. DDS Bridging

Provides an arrangement to bridge DDS facilities. Different speeds cannot be mixed on the same bridge. This function is provided on a per port basis.

2. Secondary Channel

a. Region 1

Secondary Channel (**SC**) is an optional arrangement which provides a derived lower speed Digital Data companion channel which is independent of the primary Digital Data Service channel. SC allows Customers to perform Network Management, diagnostic and maintenance applications on their Digital Data Networks.

SC is provided only at the 2.4, 4.8, 9.6 and 56 kbps DDS speeds and is available as a point-to-point or multipoint service except for multipoint service at 56 Kbps. Due to transmission equipment restrictions, SC cannot be provided on 56 Kbps circuits that require the installation of Loop Repeater equipment.

The SC option is only available on new orders for service. The addition of SC to an existing Digital Data Service will be treated as a disconnect of the existing service and a new connect for the service with SC.

The technical specifications for this feature are as described in Technical Reference TR-NPL-000157, Issue 2.

b. Region 11

Channel conditioning, provided from suitably equipped Hubs, that permits a 56 kbps channel to be used with a compatible Customer-provided Data Service Unit which can derive a lower speed secondary channel at a synchronous rate of 2.666 kbps as described in Technical Reference TR-NPL-000157, Issue 2. The secondary channel operates in parallel with the primary 56 kbps channel and can provide simultaneous two-way transmission. The SCC is used for diverse network capabilities including, but not limited to, providing a lower speed data channel or access to a network management system to perform on line diagnostics and testing, data monitoring, traffic measurement, etc. This feature is available on a point to point or multipoint basis, where facilities permit, but is not available with DDS channels which require regenerative repeaters in the loop to the Customer premises. Customers must agree to out-of-service periods required to add this feature to an existing 56 kbps channel.

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E. OPTIONAL FEATURES AND FUNCTIONS (Cont'd)

2. Secondary Channel (Cont'd)

c. Region 14

This feature is offered on an optional basis to Customers of DDS. It is a separate, slower speed digital channel that operates in parallel with the companion DDS primary channel. The secondary channel allows for remote control and testing of the network and peripheral devices without taking the network out of service and without lowering the speed of the primary DDS channel. This feature is not available with 64 Kbps DDS.

Rates and charges as set forth in Part D, Section 8 will apply on a per DDS SAL basis (each end of a two-point circuit and all ends of a multi-point circuit).

The provisioning of this option to existing DDS requires the discontinuance of the existing DDS and the establishment of new DDS for both ends of a two-point circuit and all ends of a multi-point circuit. The nonrecurring charges associated with the installation of DDS will apply.

3. Digital Data Subrate Multiplexer (Region 14)

Used with cascading multiplexing, the Digital Data Subrate Multiplexer is an arrangement that multiplexes the following quantities of subrate digital data circuits into a single DSO digital port: 1) twenty 2.4 Kbps, 2) ten 4.8 Kbps or 3) five 9.6 Kbps. In turn, the DSO digital port is then multiplexed to a single DS1 digital circuit using the Digital Data Carrier Multiplexer described in Part E, Section 3.