

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

A. GENERAL

The definitions contained herein apply to terms used throughout the tariffs of the Telephone Company.

B. REGULATIONS

Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN)

The Advanced Intelligent Network is a telecommunications platform that utilizes the infrastructure of the existing switch-based network and Common Channel Signaling (CCS7) architecture. The AIN architecture introduces centralized computer devices to host service applications that are integrated with Stored Program Control switch-resident software, CCS7 and Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) protocol.

Answering Connection

An Answering Connection is a secondary connection of the patron's telephone service line in the answering facilities of the answering bureau when the primary connection of the patron's service is at another location.

Billed Number Screening

Billed Number Screening denotes an arrangement whereby at the time of call origination, billed to a third party, station-to-station collect or person-to-person collect messages are screened for nonacceptance.

Central Office

A Central Office is an operating switching unit by means of which telephonic communication is established between stations connected to such an office.

Centrex Line

A Centrex Line is a line connecting stations to Centrex Service switching equipment normally located in a Telephone Company central office which provides Local Exchange Service. It includes all facilities necessary for the provision of Centrex Service and Local Exchange Service up to and including the network interface.

Certificated Resale Carrier

A Certificated Resale Carrier denotes a communications common carrier certificated, if required by the appropriate regulatory agency, and in compliance with, 1) the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and/or 2) the Public Service Commission Law of Maryland, as amended, and the Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission of Maryland.

Class of Service

Class of Service is the type of calling associated with exchange service, such as measured or message rate, or monthly usage options. In addition, class of service is broken down between residence and business.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

Composite Data Service

Composite data service is the combined use of terminal and customer-provided data switching equipment with the use of communications services of the Telephone Company by a composite data service vendor to perform data switching for others.

Composite Data Service Vendor

A composite data service vendor, as used in connection with exchange services is a customer that has been certificated by the Public Service Commission of Maryland and/or the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to acquire and operate facilities to perform data switching for others. A customer shall be classified as a composite data service vendor only with respect to the use of exchange service which is utilized for the provision of composite data service.

A composite data service vendor, as used in connection with Channel Service, except Series 5000 Channels, and Wide Area Telephone Services (WATS), is a customer that has been certificated by the Public Service Commission of Maryland to acquire and operate facilities to perform data switching for others. A customer shall be classified as a composite data service vendor only with respect to the use of those Channel Services, except Series 5000 Channels, and WATS Services which are utilized for the provision of composite data service.

Concentrator Connection

A Concentrator connection is a connection of the patron's telephone service line in concentrator equipment located on the Telephone Company's premises.

Data Switching

Data Switching, as used in connection with composite data service, is the switching of data (nonvoice) messages by the interchange, controlling and routing of data messages between two or more stations, via Telephone Company facilities, wherein the information content of the message remains unaltered.

Direct Connection

A direct connection is the first appearance of the patron's telephone service line in the telephone answering facilities of the answering bureau and is the only connection of such line.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

Exchange

An exchange is a geographical area established for the administration of communication services and consists of one or more central offices together with associated facilities used in providing exchange service.

Exchange Area

An exchange area is the entire area within which are located the stations which a customer may call at the rates and charges specified in the Local Exchange Services Tariff.

Exchange Line

An exchange line is a line connecting stations to a Telephone Company central office which provides Local Exchange Service. An exchange line includes all facilities for the provision of Local Exchange Service up to and including the network interface.

Exchange Service

Exchange service includes Centrex Service and Local Exchange Services.

Extension Channel

An extension channel extends existing service to a different building or premises.

Flat Rate Service

Flat rate service is a classification of Local Exchange Service under which a customer pays a specified monthly charge entitling him to an unlimited number of messages to stations in the local service portion of his exchange area.

Grade of Service

Grade of service is a term associated with Local Exchange Service. It includes individual lines and two-party lines.

Grandfathered Equipment

Grandfathered equipment is nonregistered equipment that was directly connected to the telecommunications network without a Telephone Company-provided protective connecting arrangement or data access arrangement in accordance with Telephone Company tariffs on or before the grandfather eligibility date as specified in Part 68 of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

Intercommunication

Intercommunication is an arrangement whereby two or more stations within the same system and associated with exchange service, may communicate with each other without the use of exchange or long distance facilities.

Interexchange Service

An interexchange service is one with connections in two or more exchanges.

Intraexchange Service

An intraexchange service is one with all service points in the same exchange.

Local Exchange Service

Local Exchange Service is an exchange service which permits calling to stations in the customer's exchange area.

Local Message

A local message is a communication between a calling station and any other station within the service portion of the exchange area of the calling station. For charging purposes a local message may be equated to one or more message units depending on the length of conversation.

Main Station

A main station is the first station or the first appearance in a station of an exchange service, which enables the customer to establish communications connections through the telecommunications network.

Measured Rate Service

Measured rate service is a classification of Local Exchange Service in connection with which all local exchange message use is measured on a per-minute basis for the purpose of charging for the service.

Message Rate Service

Message rate service is a classification of Local Exchange Service in connection with which all local exchange message use is measured in terms of message units for messages to stations in the local service portion of the customer's exchange area.

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B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

Message Unit

A message unit is a unit of measurement by which the charges for certain local messages from message Rate Services are ascertained. Each message is charged for at one message unit, except as otherwise specified in this Company's applicable tariffs or product guides. (C)

Multiline Connecting System Area

A multiline connecting system area denotes a premises or multipremises within the same building or continuous property.

Network Interface

The network interface is a standard registration jack, or equivalent, provided by the Telephone Company as part of WATS, Channel Service or exchange service. Customer access to the facilities of the Telephone Company, shall be through the network interface.

Occasion

The term occasion, as used in this Company's tariffs for application of specified charges, relates to a type of activity to be performed for a customer and is not necessarily related to work performed on the customer's premises.

Patron

A patron, when used in connection with composite data service, denotes a customer to the data (nonvoice) switching services of a composite data service vendor.

Premises

A premises is the continuous property except railroad right-of-way, etc., occupied by a customer either under lease or ownership. In the same building occupied by others in addition to the customer, the premises is all space occupied by the customer regardless of whether such space is continuous or separated by intervening floors or rooms. All space must be accessible from within the building by halls, stairs or elevators. In the case of shared service, premises of participants in the sharing arrangement within a multiline connecting system area are considered the same as that of the customer.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

Private Branch Exchange (PBX) Trunk

A PBX trunk connects switching equipment normally located on the customer's premises to a Telephone Company central office which provides Local Exchange Service. It includes all facilities necessary to provide Local Exchange Service up to and including the Network Interface.

Rate Center

A rate center is a geographical point upon which are based the airline distances for the determination of long distance message telecommunications rates and interexchange channel rates.

Same Building

The term same building, denotes a structure under one roof, and two or more structure connected by an enclosed passageway, suitable for use by persons, and in which the wire or cable of the Telephone Company can be safely run.

For the application of same building, an enclosed passageway may not cross a public thoroughfare. An alley or driveway separating two structures connected by an enclosed passageway shall not be considered a public thoroughfare.

Sharing Entity

A sharing entity denotes a customer who establishes a nonprofit sharing arrangement with others for shared use of its communications services. The customer may, but does not have to, use the communications services.

Station

A station is the network control signaling unit or other terminal equipment on the customer's premises which enables the customer to establish the communications connections and to effect communications through such connections.

Termination of Services and Equipment

Except as otherwise specified, telephone services and equipment are termed disconnected or terminated when the customer orders and notifies the Telephone Company that such services and equipment are not required, or the customer requests that such services and equipment be relocated to a different premises within the same building or to a different building.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

Tie Trunk

A tie trunk is a channel facility connecting two different switching equipment entities.

Tie Trunk Terminal

A tie trunk terminal is equipment associated with a branch exchange, Centrex or similar equipment for connection of a tie trunk. The following types of tie trunk terminals may be provided:

Basic Tie Trunk

This provides for connection of a standard feature tie trunk that operates on a cut-through call-originating basis.

Basic Senderized Tie Trunk

This provides for connection of a standard feature tie trunk that operates on a senderized call-originating basis.

Advanced Tie Trunk

This provides for connection of a full feature tie trunk that operates on a cut-through call-originating basis.

Advanced Senderized Tie Trunk

This provides for connection of a full feature tie trunk that operates on a senderized call-originating basis.

Wire Center

A wire center is a Telephone Company building in which is housed one or more central offices.

Wire Center Serving Area

A wire center serving area is that portion of an exchange served by a wire center.

