

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

OF

NETWORK BILLING SYSTEMS, L.L.C.

155 Willowbrook Boulevard
Wayne, New Jersey 07470

RESALE INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

This Tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of non-facilities based resold intrastate long distance telecommunications services provided by Network Billing Systems, L.L.C. ("NBS") within the State of Ohio. This Tariff is on file with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission"). Copies may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company's principal place of business: 155 Willowbrook Boulevard Wayne, New Jersey 07470.

Issued: May 19, 2003
Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.
155 Willowbrook Boulevard
Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

CHECK SHEET

The Sheets 1 through 42 inclusive of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s).

<u>SHEET</u>	<u>REVISION</u>	<u>SHEET</u>	<u>REVISION</u>
1	Original	26	Original
2	Second Revised*	27	Original
3	Original	28	First Revised
4	Original	29	Original
5	Original	30	Original
6	Original	31	First Revised*
7	First Revised*	32	First Revised*
8	Original	33	First Revised*
9	Original	34	First Revised*
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12	Original	37	First Revised*
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18	Original		
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 Issued: April 3, 2009

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 (973) 256-2020
 TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

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CONCURRING CARRIERS

None

CONNECTING CARRIERS

None

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

None

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

- (C) To signify **changed** condition or regulation
- (D) To signify **deleted or discontinued** rate, regulation or condition
- (I) To signify a change resulting in an **increase** to a Customer's bill
- (M) To signify that material has been **moved from** another Tariff location
- (N) To signify a **new** rate, regulation condition or sheet
- (R) To signify a change resulting in a **reduction** to a Customer's bill
- (T) To signify a change in **text** but no change to rate or charge

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TARIFF FORMAT

- A. **Sheet Numbering** - Sheet numbers appear in the heading of each sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, occasionally, when a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 14 and 15 would be 14.1.
- B. **Sheet Revision Numbers** - Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th revised Sheet 14 cancels the 3rd Revised Sheet 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the Commission follows in its Tariff approval process, the most current sheet number on file with the Commission is not always the sheet in effect. Consult the Check Sheet for the sheet currently in effect.
- C. **Paragraph Numbering Sequence** - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of code is subservient to its next higher level:
- 2.
 - 2.1.
 - 2.1.1.
 - 2.1.1.A.
 - 2.1.1.A.1.
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).
- D. **Check Sheets** - When a Tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the Tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the Tariff with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc., remains the same, just revised revision levels on some sheets). The Tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find if a particular sheet is the most current on file with the Commission.

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APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This Tariff contains the rates, terms and conditions applicable to the provision of specialized resold intrastate common carrier telecommunications services by Network Billing Systems, L.L.C. between various locations within the State of Ohio.

All services are interstate offerings. Intrastate service is an add-on service available only if the Customer subscribes to the Company's interstate offerings.

All telephone companies are subject to the commission's rules for minimum telephone service standards (MTSS) found in chapter 4901:1-5 of the Administrative Code. Customers have certain rights and responsibilities under the Minimum Telephone Service Standards. These safeguards can be found in the Appendix to Ohio Adm. Code 4901:1-5-03, which is entitled "Telephone Customer Rights and Responsibilities." These rights and responsibilities include complaint handling, ordering or changing service, service repair, payment of bills, and disconnection and reconnection of service.

(N)

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SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Account Code:

A numerical code, one or more of which are available to a Customer to enable identification of individual users or groups of users on an account and to allocate costs of service accordingly.

Called Station:

The terminating point of a call (i.e., the called number).

Calling Card:

A card issued by Company containing such account numbers assigned to its Customer which enables the charges for calls made to be properly billed on a pre-arranged basis.

Commission:

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Company:

Network Billing Systems, L.L.C. ("NBS")

Credit Card:

A valid bank or financial organization card, representing an account to which the costs of products and services purchased by the card holder may be charged for future payment. Such cards include those issued by VISA or MasterCard.

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SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS, Continued

Customer:

The person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders or uses service and is responsible for payment of charges and compliance with tariff regulation.

Dedicated Access:

Non-switched access between a Customer's premises and the point of presence of the Company's underlying carrier.

Disconnect or Disconnection:

The termination of a circuit connection between the originating station and the called station or the Company's operator.

Subscriber:

See "Customer" definition.

"800" Number:

An interexchange service offered pursuant to this tariff for which the called party is assigned a unique 800-NXX-XXXX or 888-NXX-XXXX or 887-NXX-XXXX number, or any other NPA, and is billed for calls terminating at that number.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY

- 2.1.1. Company's services are furnished for telecommunications originating and/or terminating in any area within the State of Ohio.
- 2.1.2. Company is a non-facilities-based provider of resold interexchange telecommunications to Customers for their direct transmission and reception of voice, data, and other types of communications.
- 2.1.3. Company resells access, switching, transport, and termination services provided by interexchange carriers.
- 2.1.4. Subject to availability, the Customer may use account codes to identify the users or user groups on an account. The numerical composition of the codes shall be set by Company to assure compatibility with the Company's accounting and billing systems and to avoid the duplication of codes.
- 2.1.5. The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise provided, and are available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.
- 2.1.6. The Company reserves the right to refuse further service due to non-payment in accordance with Chapter 4901:1-5-17 O.A.C.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.2. LIMITATIONS OF SERVICE

- 2.2.1. Service is offered subject to availability of the necessary facilities and/or equipment and subject to the provisions of this Tariff.
- 2.2.2. Company reserves the right to disconnect service without incurring liability in accordance with Chapter 4901:1-5-17, O.A.C.
- 2.2.3. The Company does not undertake to transmit messages, but offers the use of its facilities when available, and will not be liable for errors in transmission or for failure to establish connections.
- 2.2.4. The Customer obtains no property right or interest in the use of any specific type of facility, service, equipment, telephone number, process or code. All rights, titles and interests remain, at all times, solely with the Company.
- 2.2.5. Prior written permission from the Company is required before any assignment or transfer. All regulations and conditions contained in this Tariff shall apply to all such permitted assignees or transferees, as well as all conditions of service.
- 2.2.6. The Company reserves the right to refuse an application for service by a present or former Customer who is indebted to the Company for service previously rendered pursuant to this Tariff until the indebtedness is satisfied.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.3. USE

- 2.3.1. Service may be used for the transmission of communications by the Customer for any lawful purpose for which the service is technically suited.
- 2.3.2. Service may not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any purpose for which any payment or other compensation is received by the Customer, except when the Customer is a duly authorized and regulated common carrier. This provision does not prohibit an arrangement between the Customer, authorized user or joint user to share the cost of service.
- 2.3.3. Application for service may be made verbally or in writing. The name(s) of the Customer(s) desiring to use the service must be set forth in the application for service.
- 2.3.4. The Company strictly prohibits use of the Company's services without payment or an avoidance of payment by the Customer by fraudulent means or devices including providing falsified calling card numbers or invalid calling card numbers to the Company, providing falsified or invalid credit card numbers to the Company or in any way misrepresenting the identity of the Customer.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY

- 2.4.1. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects in transmission occurring in the course of furnishing service or other facilities and not caused by the negligence of the Customer, commences upon activation of service and in no event exceeds an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the Customer for the period of service during which such mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects in transmission occur. For the purpose of computing such amount, a month is considered to have thirty (30) days. To the extent permitted by law, the Company will in no event be responsible for any indirect, incidental, consequential, reliance, special, lost revenue, lost savings, lost profits, or exemplary or punitive damages, regardless of the form of action, whether in contract, tort, negligence of any kind whether active or passive, strict liability or otherwise. The terms of this Section shall apply notwithstanding the failure of any exclusive remedy.
- 2.4.2. Company is not liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service.
- 2.4.3. Except as expressly warranted in writing by Company, Company makes no warranty or guarantee, express or implied, and Company expressly disclaims any implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY, Continued

2.4.4. Company shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Customer against:

- A. Claims for libel, slander, infringement of copyright or unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name or service mark arising out of the material, data, information or other content transmitted over Company's facilities; and
- B. Claims for patent infringement arising from combining or connecting company's facilities with apparatus and systems of the Customer; and
- C. All other claims arising out of any act or omission of the Customer in connection with any service provided by Company.

2.4.5. The Company is not liable for any defacement of, or damage to, the equipment or premises of a Customer resulting from the furnishing of services when such defacement or damage is not the result of the Company's negligence.

2.4.6. Company shall not be liable for and the Customer indemnifies and holds harmless from any and all loss claims, demands, suits, or other action or liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party or person, for any personal injury to, death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage, defacement or destruction of the premises of the Customer or any other property, whether owned by the Customer or by others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, location or use of equipment or wiring provided by Company where such installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, condition, location or use is not the direct result of Company's negligence.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY, Continued

- 2.4.7. No agents or employees of connecting, concurring or other participating carriers or companies shall be deemed to be agents or employees of the Company without written authorization.
- 2.4.8. The Company is not liable for any failure of performance hereunder due to causes beyond its control, including, but not limited to, unavoidable interruption in the working of its circuits or those of another common carrier; acts of nature, storms, fire, floods, or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction, action, or request of the United States Government, or any other governmental entity having jurisdiction over the Company or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality or any one or more of such instrumentality or any one of more of such governmental entities, or of any civil or military authority; national emergencies, insurrections, riots, rebellions, wars, strikes, lockouts, work stoppages, or other labor difficulties; or notwithstanding anything in this Tariff to the contrary, the unlawful acts of the Company's agents and employees, if committed beyond the scope of their employment.
- 2.4.9. The Company shall not be liable for damages or adjustments, refunds, or cancellation of charges unless the Customer has notified the Company, in writing, of any dispute concerning charges, or the basis of any claim for damages, after the invoice is rendered by the Company for the call giving rise to such dispute or claim, unless ordered by the Commission pursuant to Ohio law. Any such notice must set forth sufficient facts to provide the Company with a reasonable basis upon which to evaluate the Customer's claim or demands.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.4. LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY, Continued

- 2.4.10. The Company shall not be liable for any damages, including usage charges, that the Customer may incur as a result of the unauthorized use of its communications equipment. The unauthorized use of the Customer's communications equipment includes, but is not limited to, the placement of calls from the Customer's premises and the placement of calls through Customer-controlled or Customer-provisioned equipment that are transmitted or carried over the Company's network services without the authorization of the Customer. The Customer shall be fully liable for all such charges.
- 2.4.11. The above tariff language (and any and all language which appears in this tariff addressing liability of Company or its customers) does not constitute a determination by the Commission that a limitation of liability imposed by the Company should be upheld in a court of law. Acceptance for filing by the Commission recognizes that it is a court's responsibility to adjudicate negligence and any direct, indirect and consequential damage claims. It is also the court's responsibility to determine the validity of the exculpatory clause(s).

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.5 FULL FORCE AND EFFECT

Should any provision or portion of this Tariff be held by a court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Tariff will remain in full force and effect.

2.6. INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE

2.6.1. Credit allowance for interruptions of service which are not due to Company's testing or adjusting, to the negligence of the Customer, or to the failure of channels, equipment and/or communications equipment provided by the Customer, are subject to the general liability provisions set forth in Section 2.4., herein. It shall be the obligation of the Customer to notify Company of any interruptions of service. Before giving such notice, the Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission of the Customer, not within the Customer's control.

2.6.2. For purposes of credit computation for leased facilities, every month shall be considered to have 720 hours. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of a continuous duration of less than two (2) hours.

2.6.3. The subscriber shall be credited for an interruption of two (2) hours or more at the rate of 1/720th of the monthly charge for the facilities affected for each hour or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

Credit formula: $Credit = (A/720) \times B$

A - outage time in hours

B - total monthly charge for affected utility

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.7. RESTORATION OF SERVICE

The use and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with part 64, Subpart D of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations which specifies the priority system for such activities.

2.8. MINIMUM SERVICE PERIOD

Customers may cancel service at any time, unless prohibited by a Customer executed agreement.

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2.9. PAYMENTS AND BILLING

- 2.9.1. Charges for service are applied on a recurring basis. Service is provided and billed on a monthly (30 day) basis. The billing date is dependent on the billing cycle assigned to the Customer. Service continues to be provided until canceled by the Customer.
- 2.9.2. The Customer is responsible in all cases for the payment of all charges for services furnished to the Customer. Charges are based on actual usage, and are billed monthly in arrears.
- 2.9.3. Billing is payable upon receipt and past due thirty (30) days after issuance and posting of invoice. Bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the date of posting are subject to a 1.5 percent late payment charge for the unpaid balance, as set forth in Section 2.11, and may be subject to additional collection agency fees. In no event will a bill be due sooner than fourteen (14) days after the postmarked date of the bill.
- 2.9.4. A charge will apply whenever a check or draft presented for payment of service is not accepted by the institution on which it is written as set forth in Section 2.10 of this Tariff.
- 2.9.5. Billing disputes should be addressed to Company's customer service organization via telephone to (888) 301-1721 or via mail addressed to Network Billing Systems, LLC, 155 Willowbrook Boulevard Wayne, New Jersey 07470. Customer service representatives are available from 8:30 AM to 4:59 PM Eastern Time. Messages may be left for Customer Services from 5:00 PM to 8:29 AM Eastern Time, which will be answered on the next business day, unless in the event of an emergency which threatens customer service, in which case Customer Service Staff may be paged.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.9. PAYMENTS AND BILLING, Continued

2.9.6. In the case of a dispute between the Customer and the Company for service furnished to the Customer, which cannot be settled with mutual satisfaction, the Customer can take the following course of action:

- A. First, the Customer may request, and the Company will perform, an in-depth review of the disputed amount. The undisputed portion and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis or the service may be subject to disconnection.
- B. Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-5-05 O.A.C., the Company shall provide a report of each complaint's resolution within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the complaint to the Customer, when the complaint was made directly by the Customer, or to the Customer and Commission staff, when the complaint was referred to the Company by Commission staff. If the investigation is not complete within ten (10) business days of receipt of the complaint, the Company shall provide an interim report to the Customer or to the Customer and Commission staff, as set forth above. The report shall contain the information required by Chapter 4901:1-5-05 O.A.C.
- C. The Company shall inform the Customer or the Customer and Commission staff of the results of the investigation orally or in writing, unless the Customer or Commission staff request the results to be presented in writing. The Company shall inform the Customer of its right to a written report if the report is presented orally.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.9. PAYMENTS AND BILLING, Continued

- D. If there is still disagreement over the disputed amount after the investigation and review by a manager of the Company, the Customer may appeal to the Ohio Public Utilities Commission for its investigation and decision. The Company will provide the Customer with the address, local/toll free numbers and TDD/TTY number of the Commission's Public Interest Center.

The address and telephone number of the Commission are:

Attn: P.I.C.
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793
Telephone: 1-800-686-7826 (voice)
1-800-686-1570 (TDD)

- 2.9.7. The Company's bills and billing practices will comply with Chapter 4901:1-5-15 O.A.C.

2.10. RETURNED CHECK CHARGE

When a Customer's check is not honored by the financial institution and the check is returned to the Company due to "insufficient funds" in the Customer's account or for similar reasons, a charge of \$20.00 shall apply, unless the Customer can establish that the charge should not be assessed.

2.11. LATE PAYMENT FEES

A late payment charge of 1.5 percent per month will be applied to charges not paid by their due date. Late payment charges will be applied without discrimination.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.12. CANCELLATION BY CUSTOMER

- 2.12.1. Customer may cancel service by providing written or oral notice to Company.
- 2.12.2. Customer is responsible for usage charges while still connected to the Company's service, even if the customer utilizes services rendered after the Customers request for cancellation has been made, notice and the payment of associated local exchange company charges, if any, for service charges.
- 2.12.3. When a Customer cancels an application for service prior to the start of service or prior to any special construction, no charges will be imposed except for those specified below:

Where the Company has notified a Customer or prospective customer of the possibility that special expenses may be incurred in connection with provisioning their service, and then the Company does incur such expenses. Expenses could include special construction, or where special arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun before the Company received a cancellation notice. The charge will be equal to the costs actually incurred, less net salvage.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.13. CANCELLATION BY COMPANY

- 2.13.1. Company reserves the right to refuse or disconnect service to Customer without notice to the Customer and without incurring liability in the following circumstances set forth in 4901:1-5-17(G):
- A. When an emergency may threaten the health or safety of a person. If service is disconnected, the Company shall act promptly to assure restoration of service as soon as possible;
 - B. In the event of a Customer's use of telecommunications equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's equipment, its service to others, or the safety of the Company's employees or Customers; or
 - C. In the event of tampering with any facilities or equipment furnished and owned by the Company.
- 2.13.2 The Company may disconnect a Customer's service for non-payment of service upon seven day's notice to the Customer, as set forth in Chapter 4901:1-5-17(B), (J) and (K).

Issued: May 19, 2003
Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.
155 Willowbrook Boulevard
Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.13. CANCELLATION BY COMPANY, Continued

- 2.13.3. The Company will notify or attempt to notify a Customer, through any reasonable means, before service is disconnected for the following reasons as set forth in Chapter 4901:1-5-17(D) and (E):
- A. A violation of or noncompliance with the Company's rules or tariffs on file with the Commission, except non-payment for service;
 - B. A failure to comply with municipal ordinances or other laws pertaining to telecommunications services;
 - C. Refusal to permit the Company necessary access to its facilities or equipment; or
 - D. When the customer has committed a fraudulent practice as set forth and defined in this Tariff.
- 2.13.4. The Company may not discontinue a Customer's service when the Customer pays the Company the total amount due (or an amount agreed upon between the Company and the Customer to prevent disconnection) on the Customer's account by the close of business on the disconnection date listed on the disconnection notice.
- 2.13.5. The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this section does not relieve the Customer of any obligations to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance. The remedies available to the Company set forth herein shall not be exclusive and the Company shall at all times be entitled to all the rights available to it under law or equity.
- 2.13.6. At the Customer's request and upon notification by the Customer that the Customer's calling card is being used fraudulently, the Company shall cancel the Customer's calling card and issue a new card and personal identification code to the Customer. The Company will take appropriate steps to determine the requesting Customer's identity.

Issued: May 19, 2003

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

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2.13. CANCELLATION BY COMPANY, Continued

- 2.13.7. If a Customer informs the Company that collect and third-party calls are fraudulently being billed to the Customer, the Company will investigate the Customer's claim through the fraud department of its underlying carrier. If the Customer's claim is meritorious, the Company will make adjustments in the Customer's bills as appropriate and refer the Customer to their Local Exchange Company, which may place blocks on the Customer's third-party and collect calling capability.

Issued: May 19, 2003
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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
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TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.14. INTERCONNECTION

- 2.14.1. Service furnished by Company may be interconnected with services or facilities of other authorized communications common carriers and with private systems, subject to the technical limitations established by Company. Any special interface of equipment or facilities necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities of Company and other participating carriers shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- 2.14.2. Interconnection between the facilities or services of other carriers shall be under the applicable terms and conditions of the other carriers' tariffs. The Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting Customer-provided terminal equipment or communications equipment with Company's facilities. The Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way and other such arrangements necessary for interconnection.

Issued: May 19, 2003
Issued By:

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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued**2.15. DEPOSITS AND ADVANCE PAYMENTS**

- 2.15.1 Applicants for service may be required to provide the Company a security deposit. Existing customers may be required to reestablish credit pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4901: 1-17-04. All deposits will be handled in accordance with the provisions of the Rules 4901: 1-17 and 4901: 1-5-13 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The deposit requested will be in cash or the equivalent of cash, and will be held as a guarantee for the payment of charges. A deposit does not relieve the Customer of the responsibility for the prompt payment of bills on presentation. A deposit may be waived if, according to Company's assessment, the applicant is a satisfactory credit risk.
- 2.15.2 Company may require a deposit from an existing business Customer as a condition to the further provision of Service if, according to Company's assessment, the Customer has become a credit risk.
- 2.15.3 Company will calculate the maximum deposit required from an applicant for Service or an existing customer by using the "individual service history method" outlined in Rule 4901:1-5-13 of the MTSS, which involves calculating the amount of the deposit based on the known or estimated service history of the individual who is being assessed a deposit.
- A. Under this method, the amount of a deposit assessed for toll service shall not exceed two hundred and thirty per cent of the estimated or, where the customer or service applicant has either an existing or a previous toll service account billing history with the toll service provider, the historic monthly average total charge for all regulated toll services provided (or to be provided) to the customer by the company or companies on whose behalf the deposit is assessed.

Issued: May 19, 2003

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
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TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued

2.15. DEPOSITS AND ADVANCE PAYMENTS, Continued

2.15.4 Customer's may satisfy deposit requirements as follows:

- A. In cash,
- B. By an acceptable bank letter of credit,
- C. Through an acceptable third-party guarantee (Residential Service Customers only),
- D. Other forms of security acceptable to Company.

2.15.5. The Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment for special construction before a specific service or facility is furnished. In general, the advance payment will not exceed an amount equal to the non-recurring charge(s) for special construction for the service or facility. The advance payment will be credited to the Customer's initial bill.

2.16. CREDITWORTHINESS

Company may require, in accordance with the provisions of Rules 4901:1-17-03 and 4901:1-5-13, any applicant or Customer to establish and maintain credit.

Company will comply with the provisions of Rules 4901:1-17-03 and 4901:1-17-06 with respect to acceptance and release of guarantors and written guarantor agreements.

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Issued: March 21, 2005

Effective Date: March 21, 2005

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.
155 Willowbrook Boulevard
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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, Continued**2.17. TAXES**

The Customer is responsible for payment of all state, local and 9-1-1 taxes, surcharges, utility fees, or other similar fees for which the end user is directly responsible, and that may be levied by a governing body or bodies in conjunction with or as a result of a service furnished under a tariff on file with the Commission. These charges will appear as separate line items on the Customer's bill, and are not included in the quoted rates. Any such line item charges will be reflected in the Company's tariff. The Company will not assess separately any taxes, fees or surcharges, other than government-approved sales taxes imposed directly on the end-users without seeking Commission approval under the appropriate procedures required by the Commission. The Company shall comply with Commission procedures by sending notice to all Customers informing them of the new line item charges.

Issued: May 19, 2003

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

Issued By:

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Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.
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TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

3.1. TIMING OF CALLS

- 3.1.1. The Customer's long-distance usage charge is based on the actual usage of Company's service. Usage begins when the receiver of the called number is answered. The moment of the called party's answer is determined by hardware supervision in which the local telephone company sends a signal to the underlying carrier's switch or the software utilizing audio tone detection. The timing of the call occurs when the called party answers and terminated when either party hangs up.
- 3.1.2. The *minimum call duration for billing purposes, unless otherwise stated, is sixty (60) seconds with (60) second billing increments thereafter.*
- 3.1.3. Any portion of an applicable increment, after the appropriate minimum time for the call, will be rounded upward to the next increment. Calls less than the minimum length will be rounded to the minimum length.
- 3.1.4. There is no billing for incomplete calls.

3.2. NBS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

- 3.2.1. The rate for Company's service is based on the following factors:
- A. The type of service subscribed to; and
 - B. The duration of the call.

Issued: May 19, 2003

Effective Date: July 3, 2003

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE, Continued

3.2. NBS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, Continued

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Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.
155 Willowbrook Boulevard
Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE, Continued

3.2. NBS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, Continued

(D)

(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.
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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE, Continued

3.2. NBS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, Continued

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(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE, Continued

3.2. NBS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, Continued

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(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 4 – RATES

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES

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Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

Jonathan Kaufman, Manager
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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES

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(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES, Continued

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(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES, Continued

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(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
(973) 256-2020
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SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES, Continued

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Issued: April 3, 2009
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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES, Continued

(D)

(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

Issued By:

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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1 SERVICE CHARGES, Continued

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(D)

Issued: April 3, 2009

Effective Date: April 6, 2009

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Wayne, New Jersey 07470
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TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

SECTION 4 – RATES, Continued

4.1. SERVICE CHARGES, Continued

4.1.5. Individual Case Basis (ICB) Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a Service offered under this Tariff. Rates quoted in response to such competitive requests may be different than those specified for such Services in this Tariff. ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis.

Issued: May 19, 2003
Issued By:

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(973) 256-2020
TRF No. 90-6129-TP-TRF

Effective Date: July 3, 2003