

**REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF INTRASTATE CHARGES**

**APPLICABLE TO THE PROVISION OF**

**SWITCHED ACCESS PROVIDER SERVICES**

**OF**

**WHOLESALE CARRIER SERVICES, INC.**

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations and rates applicable to the furnishing of competitive access service and facilities for telecommunications services provided by Wholesale Carrier Services, Inc. within the State of Ohio. This tariff is on file with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the company's principal place of business.

CHECK SHEET

Sheets of this rate sheet are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s).  
Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original rate sheet and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

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**SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- C - To signify changed listing, rule, or condition which may affect rates or charges.
- D - To signify discontinued material, including listing, rate, rule or condition.
- I - To signify increase.
- L- To signify material relocated from or to another part of the tariff schedules with no change in text, rate, rule or condition.
- N - To signify new material including listing, rate, rule or condition.
- R - To signify reduction
- T - To signify a change in wording of text but not change in rate, rule or condition.

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**RATE SHEET FORMAT**

**A. Sheet Numbering** - Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the rate sheet. 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 rate sheet 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 coding is subservient to the 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).

SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS

Certain terms used generally throughout this rate sheet for the Access Services of this Company are defined below.

Access Code: A uniform seven digit code assigned by the Company to an individual Customer. The seven digit code has the form 950-XXXX or 101XXXX.

Access Service: Switched Access to the network of an Interexchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications.

Access Service Request (ASR): The industry service order format used by Access Service Customers and access providers as agreed to by the Ordering and Billing Forum.

Access Tandem: An Exchange Carrier's switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between local switching centers and Customers' premises.

Authorized User: A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to use Access Services or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to use Access Services.

Carrier, Common Carrier or CMRS: See Interexchange Carrier or Exchange Carrier.

Co-Carrier: Any other Telecommunications provider authorized by the Commission to provide local exchange service in the state.

Commission: The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Common Channel Signaling (CCS): A high-speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. It is used to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between signaling points in the CCS network.

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)**

Company: Wholesale Carrier Services, Inc., or WCS, issuer of this rate sheet

Constructive Order: Delivery of calls to or acceptance of calls from the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services constitutes a Constructive Order by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. Similarly the selection by a Company's End User of the Customer as the presubscribed IXC constitutes a Constructive Order of switched access by the Customer.

Customer: The person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders Service and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's rate sheet regulations. The Customer could be an interexchange carrier, a wireless provider, or any other carrier authorized to operate in the state.

8XX Data Base Access Service: The term "8XX Data Base Access Service" denotes a toll-free originating Trunkside Access Service when the 8XX Service Access Code (i.e., 800, 822, 833, 844, 855, 866, 877, or 888 as available) is used.

End User: Any individual, association, corporation, governmental agency or any other entity other than a Carrier which subscribes to intrastate service provided by an Exchange Carrier.

Entrance Facility: A trunk facility connecting the Customer's point of presence with the local switching center.

Exchange Carrier: Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in the provision of local exchange telephone service.

Firm Order Confirmation (FOC): Acknowledgment by the Company of receipt of an Access Service Request from the Customer and commitment by the Company of a Service Date.

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)**

Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Interexchange Common Carrier: Any individual, partnership, association, joint stock company, trust, or corporation engaged in state or foreign communication for hire by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

LATA: A local access and transport area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192 for the provision and administration of communications services.

Line Information Data Base (LIDB) : The data base which contains base information such as telephone numbers, calling card numbers and associated billed number restriction data used in connection with the validation and billing of calls.

Local Access: The connection between a Customer's premises and a point of presence of the Exchange Carrier.

Local Switching Center: The switching center where telephone exchange service Customer station Channels are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice Trunks.

Meet Point: A point of interconnection that is not an end office or tandem.

Meet Point Billing: The arrangement through which multiple Exchange Carriers involved in providing Access Services, divide the ordering, rating, and billing of such services on a proportional basis, so that each Exchange Carrier involved in providing a portion of the Access Service agrees to bill under its respective rate sheet.

**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)**

Network Services: The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

Non-Recurring Charges: The one-time initial charges for services or facilities, including but not limited to charges for construction, installation, or special fees, for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

Off-Hook: The active condition of Switched Access or a telephone exchange service line.

On-Hook: The idle condition of switched access or a telephone exchange service line.

Out of Band Signaling: An exchange access signaling feature which allows customers to exchange call control and signaling information over a communications path which is separate from the message path.

Point of Presence: Location where the Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

Premises: The space occupied by a Customer or Authorized User in a building or buildings or on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

Presubscription: An arrangement whereby an End User may select and designate to the Company an Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Carriers it wishes to access, without an Access Code, for completing both intraLATA toll calls and/or interLATA calls. The selected IXC(s) are referred to as the End User's Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC).

**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)**

Recurring Charges: The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Service Order: The written request for Network Services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format devised by the Company; or, in the alternative, the submission of an Access Service Request by the Customer in the manner specified in this rate sheet.

Service(s): The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

Signaling Point of Interface: The Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer.

Signaling System 7 (SS7): The common Channel Out of Band Signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Switched Access Service: Access to the switched network of an Exchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications. Switched Access is available to carriers, as defined in this rate sheet.

Trunk: A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS****2.1 Undertaking of the Company****2.1.1 Scope**

WCS's services offered pursuant to this Rate Sheet are furnished for Switched Access Service. WCS may offer these services over its own or resold facilities.

WCS installs, operates, and maintains the communications services provided herein in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth under this Rate Sheet. WCS may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities as required in the Commission's rules and orders, when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to the WCS network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service agreement.

The Company's services and facilities are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise indicated, and are available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

The Company's Tariff is in concurrence with all applicable State and Federal Laws, and with the Commission's applicable Rules and Regulations and Orders. Any provisions contained in this Tariff that are inconsistent with the foregoing mentioned will be deemed inoperative and superseded.

**2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities**

- A. The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company when necessary because of lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- B. The furnishing of service under this rate sheet is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the company may obtain from other Carriers from time to time, to furnish service as required at the sole discretion of the Company.
- C. The provisioning and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)****2.1.3 Terms and Conditions**

- A. Except as otherwise provided herein, service is provided and billed on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, and shall continue to be provided until canceled by the Customer, in writing, on not less than 30 days notice. Unless otherwise specified herein, for the purpose of computing charges in this rate sheet, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. Customers seeking to cancel service have an affirmative obligation to block traffic originating from or terminating to the Company's network. By originating traffic from or originating traffic to the Company's network, the Customer will have constructively ordered the Company's switched access service.
- C. The Customer agrees to operate Company-provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void Company liability for interruption of service and may make the Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to section 2.1.3.D below.
- D. The Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.
- E. This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of Ohio without regard for its choice of laws provision.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company**

- A. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of the furnishing of its Services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, other defects, or representations by the Company, or use of these services or damages arising out of the failure to furnish the service whether caused by act or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances for interruption as set forth in 2.6 below.
  
- B. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a Customer or by any others, for damages associated with the ordering (including the reservation of any specific number for use with a service), installation (including delays thereof), provision, termination, maintenance, repair interruption or restoration of any service or facilities offered under this rate sheet, and subject to the provisions of the Company's liability, if any, shall be limited as provided herein in Sections 2.1.4 C through N.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)

- C. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: , fire, explosion or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction action, or request of The United States government or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any military authority; preemption of existing service in compliance with national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockouts work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.
  
- D. The Company shall not be liable for (a) any act or omission of any entity furnishing the Company or the Company's Customers facilities or equipment used for the interconnection with Access Services; or (b) for the acts or omissions of other Common Carriers.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)**

- E. The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the Customer or due to the failure or malfunction of Customer-provided equipment or facilities.
  
- F. The Company shall not be liable for any defacement of or damage to Customers Premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's agents or employees. No agents or employees of other participating Carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees' of the Company.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)

- G. Notwithstanding the Customer's obligations as set forth in Section 2.3 below, the Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer, or by others authorized by it to use the service, against any claim, loss or damage arising from Customer's use of services furnished under this rate sheet, including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the material, data, information, or other content transmitted via the Company's service; and patent infringement claims arising from combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with apparatus and systems of the Customer or others; all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the Customer or others, in connection with any service provided by the Company pursuant to this rate sheet.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)**

- H. The Company makes no warranties or representation, express or implied, including warranties or merchant's ability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.
  
- I. The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service, or for damages associated with service, Channels, or equipment which result from the operation of Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or service which are interconnected with Company services.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)****2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)**

- J. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations. The Customer and End User shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to, or death of, any person or persons, or for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, locations or use of service furnished by the Company at such locations.
- K. The Company shall not be liable for the Customer's failure to fulfill its obligations to take all necessary steps including, without limitation, obtaining, installing and maintaining all necessary equipment, materials and supplies, for interconnecting the terminal equipment or communications system of the Customer, or any third party acting as its agent, to the Company's Network. The Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the Customer shall ensure that its equipment and/or system or that of its agent is properly interfaced with the Company's service, that the signals emitted into the Company's Network are of the proper mode, band-width, power, data speed, and signal level for the intended use of the Customer and in compliance with the criteria set forth in Section 2.1.6 following, and that the signals do not damage Company equipment, injure its personnel or degrade service to other Customers. If the Customer or its agent fails to maintain and operate its equipment and/or system or that of its agent properly, with resulting imminent harm to Company equipment, personnel, or the quality of service to other Customers, the Company, may, upon written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense. If this fails to produce satisfactory quality and safety, the Company may, upon written notice, terminate the Customer's service without liability.

Approval of limitation of liability language by the PUC does not constitute a determination by the Commission that the limitation of liability imposed by the Carrier should be upheld in a court of law. Approval by the Commission merely recognizes that since it is a courts responsibility to adjudicate negligence and consequent damage claims, it is also the court's responsibility to determine the validity of the exculpatory clause.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

**2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities**

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities within its control that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable, notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

**2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities**

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available services to a Customer within 30 days after approving an application for service. The Company does not guarantee availability by any such date and shall not be liable for any delays in commencing service to any Customer.
- B. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not, nor may the Customer permit others to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- C. Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the Company provided it.
- D. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges imposed on the Company by another entity, for visits to the Customer Premises when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities (cont'd.)

- E. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this rate sheet, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this rate sheet and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Notwithstanding the above, the Company shall not be responsible for:
1. the transmission of signals by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission;
  2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
  3. network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer-provided network control signaling equipment.
- F. The Company intends to work cooperatively with the Customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.
- G. The Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate or change telephone numbers, any other call number designations associated with Access Services, or the Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

2.1.7 Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in unusual locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)**

2.1.8 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this rate sheet remains in the Company, its agents, contractors or suppliers.

**2.2 Prohibited Uses**

2.2.1 The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purposes or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits.

2.2.2 The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and applicable state regulations, policies, orders, and decisions; and if the Reseller intends to provide intrastate services, is certified with the appropriate state entity.

2.2.3 The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer****2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for:**

- A. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this rate sheet;
- B. reimbursing the Company for damage to, or loss of, the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company. The Company will, upon reimbursement for damages to its facilities or equipment, cooperate with the Customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the Customer shall be subjugated in the Company's right of recovery of damages to the extent of such payment;
- C. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed personnel, equipment, space, and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the Customer Premises, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such Premises;
- D. obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Access Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in 2.3.1.C above. Any costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company-provided facilities, shall be owned entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to, the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this subsection prior to accepting an order for service;

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)****2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for (cont'd.):**

- E. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the Premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may need to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing, and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g. friable asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
- F. complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses, and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer Premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible obtaining under Section 2.3.1.D above; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the Customer Premises at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company; and
- G. not creating or allowing to be placed or maintained any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)**

**2.3.2 Claims**

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses for:

- A. any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to employees or invitees of either the Company or the Customer, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invitees;
- B. any claim, loss, damage, expense or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, without limitation, use of the Company's services and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between the Customer and the Company.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting**

The jurisdictional reporting requirements will be as specified below. When a Customer orders Access Service, its projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) must be provided in whole numbers to the Company. These whole number percentages will be used by the Company to apportion the use and/or charges between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received as set forth herein. Reported or default PIU factors are used only where the call detail is insufficient to determine the appropriate jurisdiction of the traffic.

- A. Originating Access: Originating access minutes is only traffic originating from the Company Local Switching Center(s). The Customer should provide the Company with a projected PIU factor on a quarterly basis.

If no PIU for originating minutes is submitted as specified herein, then the projected PIU will be set on a default of 3 months prior actual usage of interstate traffic and a default of 3 months prior actual usage of intrastate traffic.

- B. Terminating Access: For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the Customer should provide the Company with a projected PIU factor by supplying the Company with an interstate percentage of terminating access minutes on a quarterly basis, as described in Sections 2.3.3.D below.

If no projected PIU factor is submitted by the Customer, then the projected PIU will be set on a default of 3 months prior actual usage of interstate traffic and a default of 3 months prior actual usage of intrastate traffic.

- C. Except where the Company measured access minutes are used as set forth above, the Customer reported Projected PIU factor as set forth above will be used until the Customer reports a different projected PIU factor, as set forth below.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (cont'd.)**

- D. Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer should update its interstate and intrastate jurisdictional report. The Customer should forward to the Company, to be received no later than 15 days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate and intrastate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June, and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate use, based solely on the traffic originating from or terminating to the Company Local Switching Center. The revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months' billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. If the Customer does not supply the reports for those services where reports are needed, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as that provided previously. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the Customer, the Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in 2.3.3A and 2.3.3B above.
- E. Jurisdictional Reports Verification: For Switched Access Service, if a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected PIU factor, the Customer will provide the data issued to determine the projected PIU factor. The Customer will supply the data within 30 days of the Company request.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (cont'd.)**

The Customer shall keep records of call detail from which the percentage of interstate and intrastate use can be ascertained and, upon request of the Company, shall make the records available for inspection as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages. The Company reserves the right to conduct an audit at any time during the year. The Customer, as its own expense, has the right to retain an independent auditing firm.

The company has certain obligations pertaining only to the provision of Switched Access Service. These obligations are as follows:

**2.3.4 Network Management**

The Company will administer its network to provide acceptable service levels to all telecommunications users of the Company's network services. Generally, service levels are considered acceptable only when both End Users and Customers are able to establish connections with little or no delay encountered within the Company's network. The Company maintains the right to apply protective controls, i.e., those actions, such as call gapping, which selectively cancel the completion of any traffic carried over its network, including that associated with a Customers Switched Access Service. Generally, such protective measures would only be taken as a result of occurrences such as a failure or overload of Company or customers facilities, natural disasters, mass calling or national security demands.

**2.3.5 Design and Traffic Routing of Switched Access Service**

The Company shall design and determine the routing of Switched Access Service, including the selection of the first point of switching and the selection of facilities from the interface to any switching point and to the end offices where busy hour minutes of capacity are ordered. The Company shall also decide if capacity is to be provided by originating only, terminating only, or two-way trunk groups. Finally, the Company will decide whether trunk side access will be provided through the use of two-wire or four-wire trunk terminating equipment. Selection of facilities and equipment and traffic routing of the service are based on standard engineering methods, available facilities and equipment and the Company's traffic routing plans. If the Customer desires different routing or directionality than that determined by the Company, the Company will work cooperatively with the Customer in determining (1) whether the service is to be routed directly to an end office or through an access tandem switch and (2) the directionality of the service.

**2.3.6 Provision of Service Performance Data**

Subject to availability, end-to-end service performance data available to the Company through its own service evaluation routines, may also be made available to the Customer based on previously arranged intervals and format. The data provides information on overall end-to-end call completion and non-completion performance e.g., Customer equipment blockage, failure results and transmission performance. The data does not include service performance data which is provided under the tariff sections, testing services results.

**2.3.7 Trunk Group Measurements Reports**

Subject to availability, the Company will make available trunk group data in the form of usage in CCS, peg count and overflow to the Customer based on previously agreed to intervals.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels****2.4.1 General**

A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company.

**2.4.2 Station Equipment**

A. The Customer is responsible for providing and maintaining any terminal equipment on the Customer Premises. The electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by, and maintained at the expense of, the Customer. All such terminal equipment must be registered with the FCC under 47 C.F.R., Part 68 and all wiring must be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations. The Company will, where practicable, notify the Customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, nothing contained herein shall be deemed to impair the Company's right to discontinue forthwith the use of a service temporarily if such action is reasonable under the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the Customer will be promptly notified and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in Section 2.6 following is not applicable.

B. The Customer is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company-provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense.

**2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities**

A. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Access Services and the Channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.

B. Access Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the tariffs of the other communications carriers which are applicable to such connections.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (Cont'd.)****2.4.4 Inspections**

- A. Upon reasonable notification of the Customer, and at reasonable times, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2.B for the installation, operation, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions occurring during such inspections.
- B. If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel from harm. The Company will, upon request 24 hours in advance, provide the Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

**2.5 Payment Arrangements****2.5.1 Payment for Service**

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for services and facilities furnished by the Company to the Customer or its Joint or Authorized Users.

**A. Taxes**

The Customer is responsible for the payment of any sales, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) excluding taxes on the Company's net income imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Access Services. All such taxes shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)****2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges**

Unless otherwise specified herein, bills are due and payable upon receipt.

The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by, and credits due to, the Customer under this Tariff attributable to services established, provided, or discontinued during the preceding billing period. Any known unbilled charges for prior periods and any known adjustments also will be applied to the current bill.

Non-Recurring Charges are due and payable within 30 days after the invoice date.

The Company shall present invoices for all Charges monthly to the Customer.

Amounts not paid within 30 days after the date of invoice will be considered past due. The Company will assess a late payment charge equal to 1.5% per month for any past due balance that exceeds 30 days.

If a service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.3 following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

In the event that the Company resolves the billing dispute in favor of the Customer who has withheld payment of the disputed amount pending resolution of the disputed bill, the Company will credit the Customer's account for the disputed amount in the billing period following the resolution of the dispute.

In the event that the Company resolves the billing dispute in favor of a Customer who has paid the total amount of the disputed bill, the Company will credit the Customer's account for any overpayment by the Customer in the billing period following the resolution of the dispute.

In the event that the Company resolves the billing dispute in favor of a Customer who has paid the total amount of the disputed bill but canceled the Service, the Company will issue a refund.

All adjustments or refunds provided by the Company to the Customer at the Customer's request, or provided by the Company to the Customer by way of compromise of a billing dispute, and which are accepted by the Customer, are final and constitute full satisfaction, settlement, and/or compromise of all of the Customer's claims for the billing period for which the adjustment or refund was issued.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)****2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (cont'd.)**

The customer shall notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within 90 days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure. The address of the Commission is as follows:

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-3793  
Phone: (614) 466-3292

The Company will also remit interest for all such credited amounts. Interest will be paid at the rate currently in effect.

**2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service**

- A. Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, other than charges that are in dispute, the Company may, by giving requisite prior written notice to the Customer discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- B. Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, by giving 30 days' prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- C. Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- D. Upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue service without incurring any Liability.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)**

2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (cont'd.)

- E. Reserved for Future Use.
- F. The Company may discontinue the furnishings of any and/or all service(s) to Customer, without incurring any liability:
  - 1. Immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services. The Company may discontinue service pursuant to this sub-section 2.5.3.F.1.(a-e), if
    - (a) The Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, credit-worthiness, past or current use of Common Carrier communications services, or its planned use of the Company's service(s); or

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)****2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (cont'd.)****F. (cont'd)****1. (cont'd)**

- (b) The Customer states that it will not comply with a request of the Company for security for the payment for service(s) in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A above; or
- (c) The Customer has been given written notice by the Company of any past due amount (which remains unpaid in whole or in part) for any of the Company's other Common Carrier communications services to which the Customer either subscribes or had subscribed or used, other than charges that are in dispute; or
- (d) The Customer uses, or attempts or use, service with the intent to void the payment, either in whole or in part, of the rate sheet charges for the service by:
  - I. Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections to the Company's service not authorized by this rate sheet, or
  - II. Using tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, electronic devices; or
  - III. By delivering calls to or accepting calls from the Company's End User locations over Company switched local exchange services; or
  - IV. Continuing to have Company End Users presubscribed to the Customer; or
  - V. Any other Fraudulent means or devices; or

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)****2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (cont'd.)****F. (cont'd)**

2. Upon ten (10) days' written notice to the Customer, after failure of the Customer to comply with a request made by the Company for security for the payment of service in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A, above; or
3. Seven (7) days after sending the Customer written notice of noncompliance with any provision of this rate sheet if the noncompliance is not corrected within that seven (7) day period. The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligation to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.

- G. In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed the Company, the Customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred except for dispute provisions if applicable.

**2.5.4 Cancellation of Application for Service**

Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the installation charges, and all charges others levy against the company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun. Such charges shall not apply per constructive order as indicated in the tariff.

The special charges described will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service**

Interruptions in service which are not due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this rate sheet by, the Customer or the operation or malfunction of the facilities, power, or equipment provided by the Customer, will be credited to the Customer as set forth in 2.6.1 for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

The credit allowance will be calculated by the Company after the Customer notifies the Company of service interruption. The amount of the allowance will depend on the length of the outage and the service impacted. Service Outage conditions are defined as complete loss of call origination and/or receipt capability. Credit Allowances, if any, will be deducted from the charges payable by the IXC and will be expressly indicated on the next invoice. A Service Outage begins when the IXC reports the outage to the Company.

A Service Outage ends when the affected circuit and/or associated Company equipment is fully operational in accordance with the technical specifications.

Credit allowances do not apply to outages (i) caused by the IXC; (ii) due to failure of equipment provided by the IXC; (iii) during any period in which the Company is not given access to the service premises; (iv) failures of LEC facilities or equipment which are carrying the failures resulting from the activities or negligence of LEC employees; (v) inability to gain access to the IXC's equipment; and (vii) due to mutually agreed upon maintenance and repair.

Credit Allowances received by the Company from the LEC for Off-Net facility outages which affects the IXC's Switched Services will be passed through to the IXC in the form of a credit on the next invoice.

Interruptions of 24 hours or more, are reported to or detected by the Company, and which are not due to negligence or willful act of the Customer are credited to the Customer at the pro rata monthly charge involved for each twenty-four hours or fraction thereof of interruption. Credit is not allowed for interruptions to service of less than 24 hours. Credit allowances for service outages that exceed 24 hours in duration will be rounded up to the next whole 24 hours.

For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days. A credit allowance for up to 48 hours is applied on a pro rata basis against the monthly recurring charges. A credit of at least one third of a month will be made for interruptions of 48 to 72 hours, and a credit of at least two-thirds of a month will be made for interruptions of 72 to 96 hours, with a full month credit for interruptions in excess of 96 hours. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of circuit will receive a credit.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Cont'd.)

2.6.1 Limitations on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A. interruptions due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this rate sheet by, the Customer, Authorized User, Joint-User, or other Common Carrier providing service connected to the service of Company;
- B. interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including, but not limited to, the Customer or other Common Carriers connected to the Company's facilities;
- C. interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment;
- D. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- E. interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- F. interruptions of service during any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- G. interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)****2.7 Transfers and Assignments**

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties (a) to any subsidiary, parent Company or affiliate of the Company (b) pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

**2.8 Notices and Communications**

- 2.8.1 Delivery of calls to or acceptance of calls from the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services constitutes an order by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. Similarly the selection by a Company's End User of the Customer as the presubscribed IXC constitutes an order of switched access by the Customer. In these cases, an invoice will be the first communication from the Company to the Customer. In other instances a Service Order may be used.
- 2.8.2 The Customer shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- 2.8.3 The Company shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Company may designate a separate address, on each bill for service, to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.8.4 All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this rate sheet shall be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following deposit of the notice, communication, or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- 2.8.5 The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)**

**2.9 Meet Point Billing**

Meet Point Billing applies when more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service. All recurring and nonrecurring charges for services provided by each Exchange Telephone Company are billed under each company's applicable rates. The Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).

SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE

3.1 General

This section sets forth the regulations and order related charges for Access Service Requests (ASR) for Switched Access Service, as defined in this rate sheet. These charges are in addition to other applicable charges set forth in other sections of this rate sheet.

3.1.1 Ordering Conditions

Customer may order switched access through a Constructive Order, as defined herein, or through an ASR.

The format and terms of the ASR will be as specified in the Industry Access Service Order Guidelines, unless otherwise specified herein.

3.1.2 Minimum Period of Service

The minimum period for which Access Service is provided and for which charges are applicable is one month.

A. The following changes will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and a request for installation of a new service. All associated Non-Recurring Charges will apply for the new service, and a new minimum period will be established:

1. A change in the identity of the Customer of record; or
2. A move by the Customer to a different building.

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SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE, (Cont'd.)

3.2 **Miscellaneous Charges**

Customer Requested Due Date Change	Note 1
Customer Requested Expedite	Note 1
Cancellation (after 3 business days from order placement)	Note 1
Design Change, DS0/DS1	Note 1
Design Change, DS3 and higher	Note 1
Administrative Processing	Note 1

Note 1 – The Company’s switched access rates mirror the current intrastate switched access rates of the underlying Incumbent Local Exchange Company (“ILEC”) as set forth in that ILEC’s PUCO Switched Access Tariff (AT&T Ohio Tariff No. 20 and Verizon North’s Ohio Tariff No. 2).

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE****4.1 General**

Switched Access Service, which is available to Customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a Customer's Premises and an End User's Premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching and transport facilities. Switched Access Service provides the ability to originate calls from an End User's Premises to a Customer's Premises, and to terminate calls from a Customer's Premises to an End User's Premises.

Switched Access Service is available when originating or terminating calls from or to an end user which subscribes to the Company's Local Exchange Services.

Rates and charges are set forth in Section 5. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in Section 5.

**4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements****4.2.1 Feature Group Access**

FG Access is provisioned at the DS-1 level and provides trunk-side access to Local Switching Center switches, for the Customer's use in originating and terminating communications. Basic FG Access service will be provided with Multi-Frequency In Band Signaling (SS7 is also available, where capabilities exist).

All traffic is routed to and from the Company's local switching center via the Customer's tandem provider or via end office trucking, where available. Delivery of calls to, or acceptance of calls from, the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services shall constitute an agreement by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. The Company reserves the right to require the Customer to submit an ASR for switched access.

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (Cont'd.)**

**4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements, (Cont'd.)**

**4.2.2 Manner of Provision**

Trunks used for Switched Access Service may be configured for one-way (either originating only or terminating only) or for two-way directionality.

**4.2.3 Call Types**

The following Switched Access Service call types are available:

- A. Originating FG Access
- B. Originating 800 FG Access
- C. Terminating FG Access

**4.2.4 Originating FG Access**

The access code for FG Access switching is a uniform access code of the form 1+ or 011+ or 101XXXX. For 101XXXX dialing a single access code will be the assigned number of all FG Access provided to the Customer by the Company. When the access code is used, FG Access switching also provides for dialing the digit 0 for access to the Customer's operator service, 911 for access to emergency service, and/or the end of dialing digit (#) for cut-through access to the Customer's premises. The Company will provide originating FG access consistent with dialing parity obligations.

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (Cont'd.)****4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements, (Cont'd.)****4.2.5 Originating 800 FG Access**

800 Data Base Access Service is a service offering utilizing originating Trunk side Switched Access Service. When an 8XX + NXX + XXXX call is originated by an End User, the Company will perform Customer identification based on screening of the full ten-digits of the 8XX number to determine the Customer location to which the call is to be routed.

**4.2.6 Terminating FG Access**

FG Access, when used in the terminating direction, may only be used to access end users who are subscribing to the Company's Local Exchange Services. Calls in the terminating direction will not be completed to 950-0XXX or 950-1XXX access codes, local operator assistance (0- and 0+), Directory Assistance, (411 or 555-1212) service codes 611 and 911 and 101XXXX access codes.

**4.3 Reports and Testing**

4.3.1 Design Layout Report: At the request of the Customer, the Company will provide to the Customer the makeup of the facilities and services provided from the Customer's Premises to the first point of switching. This information will be provided in the form of a Design Layout Report. The Design Layout Report will be provided to the Customer at no charge.

4.3.2 Acceptance Testing: At no additional charge, the Company will, at the Customer's request, cooperatively test, at the time of installation, the following parameters: loss, C-notched noise, C-message noise, 3-tone slope, d.c. continuity and operational signaling.

SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES

5.1 General

This section contains the specific regulations governing the rates and charges that apply for Switched Access Services:

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service:

- Non-Recurring Charges: One-time charges that apply for a specific work activity.
- Recurring Charges: Fixed charges apply each month and depend on the number and type of facilities in place.
- Usage Charges: Charges that are applied on a per access minute basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

Switched Access Service, which is available to Customers for their use in furnishing their services to End Users, provides a two-point electronic communications path between a Customers premises and an End Users premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching and trunking facilities, and for the use of common subscriber plant of the Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an End Users premises to a Customers premises in the LATA where it is provided.

**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)**

**5.2 Rate Categories**

5.2.1 There are three rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:

- Local Switching
- Local Transport
- Common Line

5.2.2 Local Switching

Local Switching provides for the use of end office switching equipment. Included in Local Switching are:

The Common Switching, which provides the local end office switching functions and optional features.

Transport Termination, which provides for the trunk side arrangements which terminate the Local Transport facilities. The number of Transport Terminations provided will be determined by the Company.

Where end offices are appropriately equipped, international dialing may be provided. International dialing provides the capability of switching international calls with service prefix and address codes having more digits than are capable of being switched through a standard equipped end office.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)****5.2 Rate Categories, (Cont'd.)****5.2.3 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query**

The Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query Charge, will apply for each Toll-Free 8XX call query received at the Company's (or its provider's) Toll-Free 8XX data base.

**5.2.4 Local Transport**

The Local Transport rate category provides the transmission facilities between the Customer premises and the end office switch(es) where the Customer traffic is switched to originate or terminate its communications.

Local Transport is a two-way voice frequency transmission path composed of facilities determined by the Company. The two-way voice frequency path permits the transport of calls in the originating direction (from the End User end office switch to the Customer's premises) and in the terminating direction (from the Customer's premises to the end switch), but not simultaneously. The voice frequency transmission path may be comprised of any form or configuration of plant capable of and typically used in the telecommunications industry for the transmission of voice and associated telephone signals within the frequency bandwidth of approximately 300 to 3000 Hz.

The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer in determining (1) whether the service is to be directly routed to an end office switch or through an access tandem switch, and (2) the directionality of the service.

**Transmission Paths**

The number of Transport transmission paths provided is based on the Customer's order and is determined by the Company. The following paragraph's describe the Local transport rate elements:

Local Transport – Entrance Facility  
Tandem Switched Transport  
Direct Trunked Transport

**Interconnection**

Interconnection of non-Company switched access transport facilities is available between an end office and a Customer point of presence where such facilities are provided.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)****5.2 Rate Categories, (Cont'd.)****5.2.5 Local Transport – Entrance Facility****A.1 Local Transport – Entrance Facility**

A Local Transport-Entrance Facility provides the communication path between a Customer's premises and the Company serving wire center of that premises for the sole use of the Customer. The Local Transport-Entrance facility category is comprised of a DS1 rate. A Local Transport Entrance-Facility is required whether the Customer's premises and the serving wire center are located in the same or different buildings.

**A.2 Local Transport – Tandem Switched Transport**

- (a) The Tandem Switching element includes the access tandem switching associated with Tandem-Switched Transport traffic and is assessed per access minute switched through the tandem.
- (b) The Tandem Switched Termination element includes the non-distance sensitive portion of Switched Transport, and is assessed on a per access minute of use basis.
- (c) Tandem Switched Transport Facility element includes the distance sensitive portion of Switched Transport and is assessed on a per access minute of use per mile basis.

In addition, Tandem Switched Transport requires dedicated tandem trunk ports, end office trunk ports, and common multiplexing.

A Dedicated Tandem Trunk Port is provided for all facilities terminated on

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)****5.2 Rate Categories, (Cont'd.)****5.2.5 Local Transport – Entrance Facility (cont'd)**

the serving wire center side of the access tandem when the customer has requested tandem routing.

Common multiplexing is provided on a usage sensitive basis in conjunction with Tandem Switched Transport. Switched access facilities are connected to the tandem as DS1/T-1 circuits. Multiplexing is required to convert common switched facilities from an operating speed of 44,736 Mbps to an operating speed of 1.544 Mbps.

The End Office Trunk Ports used by multiple customers provides for the termination of common transport trunks in common end office trunk ports in conjunction with tandem routed traffic. The End Office Trunk Port rate is assessed on a usage sensitive basis on tandem routed switched access.

**Local Transport – Direct Trunked Transport**

The Local Transport-Direct Trunked Transport provides the transmission path from the serving wire center of the Customer's premises to an end office as an option from the service wire center to a tandem. This transmission path is dedicated to the use of a single Customer.

The Local Transport-Direct Trunked Transport rate category is comprised of the sum of a monthly fixed rate and a monthly per mile rate based on the facility provided.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)****5.2 Rate Categories, (Cont'd.)****Toll Free (800) Data Base Access Service**

**Toll Free Data Base Access Service is a service offering that utilizes originating trunk side Switched Access Service to deliver Toll Free calls to the Company's Interexchange Carrier Customers. The service provides for the forwarding of end user dialed Toll Free calls to a Company Service Switching Point which will initiate a query to the database to perform the Customer Identification and delivery function. The call is forwarded to the appropriate Interexchange Carrier Customer based on the dialed Toll-Free number. Records exchange, rating, and billing for Toll Free Data Base Access Service is subject to the provisions of the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing Guidelines (MECAB).**

**5.2.6 Common Line**

The Common Line rate category provides for the use of End Users' Company-provided common lines by Customers for access to such End Users to furnish Intrastate Communications.

No telephone number or detailed billing will be provided with Carrier Common Line Access. Directory listings and intercept arrangements are not included in the rates and charges for Carrier Common Line Access.

Intrastate rates apply only to that portion of Carrier Common Line Service provided for intrastate usage.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)****5.3 Billing of Access Minutes**

When recording originating calls over FG Access with multi-frequency address signaling, usage measurement begins when the first wink supervisory signal is forwarded from the Customer's facilities. The measurement of originating call usage over FG Access ends when the originating FG Access entry switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating End User's Local Switching Center - (indicating that the originating End User has disconnected), or the Customer's facilities, whichever is recognized first by the entry switch.

For terminating calls over FG Access with multi-frequency address signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when a seizure signal is received from the Carrier's trunk group at the Point of Presence within the LATA. The measurement of terminating call usage over FG Access ends when a disconnect signal is received, indicating that either the originating or terminating user has disconnected.

When recording originating calls over FG Access with SS7 signaling, usage measurement begins with the transmission of the initial address message by the switch for direct trunk groups and with the receipt of an exit message by the switch for tandem trunk groups. The measurement of originating FG Access usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

For terminating calls over FG Access with SS7 signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating recording switch receives the initial address message from the terminating End User. On directly routed trunk groups or on tandem routed trunk groups, the Company switch receives the initial address message and sends the indication to the Customer in the form of an answer message. The measurement of terminating FG Access call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

5.4 Rates and Charges -

These are rates for both AT&T Ohio and Verizon service territories

5.4.1 Local Transport

	<u>Non-Recurring</u>	<u>Monthly Recurring</u>
(A) <u>Entrance Facility</u>		
(1) Per DSI		Note 1
(B) Direct Transport		
(1) Dedicated Transport		
(A) Termination		
First	Note 1	
Each Add'l	Note 1	
(B) Facility		
Per Mile	Note 1	
Tandem Port	Note 1	
Trunk Port	Note 1	
(C) <u>Common Transport</u>		
(1) Trunk Charges		
First	Note 1	
Each Add'l	Note 1	

Note 1 – The Company’s switched access rates mirror the current intrastate switched access rates of the underlying Incumbent Local Exchange Company (“ILEC”) as set forth in that ILEC’s PUCO Switched Access Tariff (AT&T Ohio Tariff No. 20 and Verizon North’s Ohio Tariff No. 2).

**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges, (Cont'd.)**

	<u>AT&amp;T</u>	<u>Verizon</u>
800 Database Query, Per Call	Note 1	Note 1
Switched Transport		
Tandem-Switched Termination (per access minute)	Note 1	Note 1
Tandem-Switched Facility (per access minute per mile)	Note 1	Note 1
Tandem Switching (per access minute per tandem)	Note 1	Note 1
Common Transport Multiplexing (per access minute)	Note 1	Note 1
End Office Switching		
Local Switching (per access minute)	Note 1	Note 1
Common Trunk Port (per access minute)	Note 1	Note 1

Note 1 -- The Company's switched access rates mirror the current intrastate switched access rates of the underlying Incumbent Local Exchange Company ("ILEC") which serves the territory in which the traffic originates or terminates, as set forth in that ILEC's PUCO Switched Access Tariff (AT&T Ohio Tariff No. 20, Part 21. and Verizon North's Ohio Tariff No. 2).

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SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

5.5 Miscellaneous Services and Charges

IntraLATA PIC Change Charge

IntraLATA Presubscription Change Charge, per  
business or residence line, trunk, or port:

- Manual PIC Change	\$5.50
- Electronic PIC Change	\$1.25

The Company will waive one-half of the intraLATA PIC change charge, whether electronic or manual, when such changes are performed simultaneously with an interLATA PIC change.

**SECTION 6 – RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE**

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Issued by:

**Chris S. Barton, President  
5471 N. University Drive  
Coral Springs, Florida 33067**

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**SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION****7.1 General**

The Company will provide the following services:

- Recording Service
- Billing Name and Address (BNA)

**RECORDING SERVICE**

Recording is the entering on magnetic tape or other acceptable media the details of customer messages originated through switched access service. Recording is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The company will provide recording service in association with the offering of Feature Groups B for 900 Access Service, C, and D Switched Access Service for customer messages that can be recorded by company-provided automatic message accounting equipment. In addition, where the company records the customer messages on manual tickets, the company will provide recording service for the manual tickets and at offices where the company provides Feature Group A switched access service and has the ability to record the Feature Group A call detail with automatic message accounting equipment and mark the recorded call detail as Feature Group A call detail for a specific customer, the company will provide the recording service for Feature Group A switched access service. At the request of the customer, recording service will be provided for Feature Group D switched access service on an end office and type of call basis. Type of call means message telecommunications service (MTS) including 700 and 900 service, calls originating and/or terminating over a WATS access line, and station message detail recording for MTS and calls originating from a WATS access line.

The company will provide recording service in its operating territory. The minimum territory for which the company will provide recording service is all the appropriately equipped offices in a state operating territory for which the customer has ordered Feature Group A, B for 900 service, C, or D switched access service. A state operating territory of a particular telephone company includes all its LATAs or market areas which are located in the same state including the areas in contiguous states which are assigned to such LATAs or market areas and served by the same company.

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**SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)****7.2 Recording Service (Cont'd)**

For Feature Group B or 900 Access Service, C, and D Switched Access Service, the term "customer message" used herein denotes an intrastate call originated by a customer's end user. Station message detail recording is an optional feature which provides a record of customer messages originated by MTS and WATS access lines. Such detail will be provided as part of Feature Group D end office and type of call recording service when requested by the customer. For Feature Group A switched access service, the term "customer message" used herein denotes a call over an intrastate Feature Group A switched access service. A call includes both calls originated to and terminated from a Feature Group A switched access service. The beginning and ending of a customer message are determined pursuant to the written instructions of the customer.

**7.2.1 Undertaking of the Company**

- A. The company will record all customer messages carried over Feature Group B for 900 access service, C, and D switched access service that are available to company-provided recording equipment or operators. The company will record all customer messages, including interLATA intrastate messages and interLATA interstate messages, carried over a Feature Group A switched access service. Unavailable customer service messages (i.e. certain Feature Group C operator and TOPS messages which are not accessible by company-provided equipment or operators) will not be recorded. The recording equipment will be provided at locations selected by the company.
- B. A standard format for the provision of the recorded customer message detail will be established by the company and provided to the customer. If, in the course of company business, it is necessary to change the format, the company will notify the involved customers six months prior to the change. Assembly and editing, provision of customer detail, data transmission to a customer location, special orders for recording and program development will be provided to the customer on a contractual basis.

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**SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)****7.2 Recording Service (Cont'd)**

- C.** Recorded customer message detail which is used at the request of the customer to provide message processing and message bill processing service is not retained by the company for longer than 45 days. The rates for unbilled message detail and the billed message detail is retained for reference in place of the recorded customer message detail. For recorded customer message detail not used by message processing service at the customer's request, the company will make every reasonable effort to recover recorded customer message detail previously made available to the customer and make it available again for the customer. The charges as set forth in the rate schedule, following, will apply for all such detail provided. Such a request must be made within thirty (30) days from the date the details were initially made available to the customer.

**7.2.2 Liability of the Company**

Notwithstanding 7.2.1. preceding, the company's liability for recording service is as follows:

Unless there an expressed written agreement to the contrary, in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, no liability for damages to the customer or other person or entity other than as set forth in (A) and (B) preceding shall attach to the company for its action or the conduct of its employees in providing recording service.

**7.2.3 Obligations of the Customer**

The customer shall order recording service under a special order.

The customer shall order recording service at least one month prior to the date when the customer message detail is to be recorded, unless customer's request requires that recording service be provided by end office and type of call, then the ordering interval will be determined on an individual case basis.

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**SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)****7.2 Recording Service (Cont'd)****Payment Arrangements and Audit Provision****A. Notice and Scope**

- 1 Upon forty-five (45) days' prior written notice by the customer to the company (or such shorter period as the parties may mutually agree upon), the customer or its authorized representative shall have the right to commence an audit during normal business hours and at intervals of no more than one audit in any six month period. The audit will be limited to all such records and accounts as may, under recognized accounting practices, contain information bearing upon amounts subject to being billed to the customer's end users by the company as part of its provision of billing and collection services and the charges to the customer for other services provided by the company pursuant to this tariff.
- 2 The written notice of audit shall identify the date upon which it is to commence, the location, the customer's representatives, the subject matter of the audit, and the materials to be reviewed.
- 3 The written notice of audit shall be directed to the company's representative at the address stipulated by such representative.
- 4 The company may, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the customer's notice of audit, postpone commencement by written notice for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) days, but only for good cause. The company shall also indicate the new date for commencement of said audit.
- 5 Upon completion of the audit, the customer's auditors are to provide an oral report of their findings to the company prior to their departure, followed by a letter within thirty (30) days confirming findings.

## SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)

## 7.2 Recording Service (Cont'd)

**B. Payment of Expense**

Each party shall bear its own expenses in connection with the conduct of an audit. Special data extractions required by the customer for its representative to conduct the audit will be paid for by the customer. "Special data extraction" for auditing purposes shall mean programming, clerical and computer time required to create an output record (from existing data files) that cannot normally be created from current software programs in the production program library.

**C. Requests for Examinations**

1 In addition to audits, the customer, or its representatives, may request, from time to time, the opportunity to conduct an examination, as defined in (ii) following. The company will make reasonable efforts to accommodate requests for examination and to cooperate in the conduct of an examination.

2 An "examination" shall, for purposes of this section, constitute a reasonable inquiry on a single issue or a specific topic related to billing and collection service for a stated reason.

Upon concurrence by both parties that errors or omissions exist, adjustment shall be made by the proper party to compensate for any errors or omissions disclosed by such examination or audit.

**D. Audit Provision**

All information received or reviewed by the customer or its authorized representative is to be considered confidential and is not to be distributed, provided or disclosed in any form to anyone not involved in the audit, nor is such information to be used for any other purposes.

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SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)

7.2 Recording Service (Cont'd)

E. Minimum Period and Minimum Monthly Charges

The minimum period for which recording service without sorting is provided and for which charges apply is one month.

F. Cancellation of a Special Order

A customer may cancel a special order for recording service on any date prior to the service date. The cancellation date is the date the company receives written or verbal notice from the customer that the special order is to be canceled. The verbal notice must be followed by written confirmation within ten (10) days. The service date for recording service is the date the customer requests the recordings to start.

G. Changes to Special Orders

When a customer requests material changes to a pending special order for recording service, the pending special order will be canceled and the requested changes will be undertaken if they can be accommodated by the company under a new special order.

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SECTION 7 - BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)

7.3 Billing Name and Address Service

Billing Name and Address (BNA) service is the provision of the complete billing name, street address, city or town, state and zip code for a telephone number assigned by the company.

BNA service is provided for the sole purpose of permitting the customer to bill its telephonic communications services to its end users and may not be resold or used for any other purpose, including marketing activity such as market surveys or direct marketing by mail or by telephone.

The customer may not use BNA information to bill for merchandise, gift certificates, catalogs, or other services or products.

BNA services is provided on both a manual and a mechanized basis. On a manual basis, the information will be provided by voice telecommunications or by mail, as appropriate. On a mechanized basis, the information will be entered on magnetic tape containing recorded customer messages.

## SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)

## 7.4 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)

BNA information is furnished for sent-paid, collect, bill to third number, 700 and 900 service messages and messages charged to a calling card that is resident in the company's database. In addition, BNA information for messages originated from data terminal numbers (DTNs) of data communications services is furnished on a manual basis only.

## 7.4.1 Undertaking of the Company

## Undertaking of the Company

- A. A request for information on over 100 and up to 500 telephone numbers should be mailed to the company. The company will provide the response by first class U.S. Mail within ten (10) business days.
- B. Upon receipt of a magnetic tape of recorded customer messages, the company will, at the request of the customer, provide BNA service on a mechanized basis. The tape of messages may be provided by the customer or, where the customer subscribes to recording service as set forth in 8.2 preceding, may be the output from that service. The company will enter the BNA information on the recorded message tape and send the tape to the customer by first class US Mail. Other methods of delivering the data may be negotiated, and charges based on cost will apply.
  - A. The company will provide a response to customer-provided tapes by mail within six (6) business days of receipt. The company will process and mail tapes which are the output of recording service every fifth business day.
  - D. The company will specify the format in which requests and tapes are to be submitted.
  - E. The BNA information will be provided for the calling number furnished to the extent a billing name and address exists in the company customer records information system, including non-published and non-listed numbers. If the billing name and address information for a specific calling number is confidential due to legal, national security, and user or regulatory imposed requirements, the company will provide an indicator on the confidential records.

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**SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)****7.4 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)**

- F. The company will provide the most current BNA information resident in its database. Due to normal end user account activity, there may be instances where the BNA information provided is not the BNA that was applicable at the time the message was originated.

**7.4.2 Obligations of the Customer**

- A. With each order for BNA service, the customer shall identify the authorized individual and address to receive the BNA information.
- B. A customer which orders BNA service on a mechanized basis and which intends to submit tapes of record messages for processing must provide the company with an acceptable test tape or transmission which includes all call types for which BNA information may be requested.
- C. The customer shall institute adequate internal procedures to insure that BNA information, including that related to non-published and non-listed telephone numbers, is used only for the purpose set forth in this tariff and that BNA information is available only to those customer personnel or agents with a need to know the information. The customer must handle all billing name and address information designated as confidential by the company in accordance with the company's procedures concerning confidential information. The company will provide to the customer a statement of its procedures concerning confidential information.
- D. The customer shall not publicize or represent to others that the company jointly participates with the customer in the development of the customer's end user records, accounts, databases or market data, records, files and databases or other systems it assembles through the use of BNA service.

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**SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)****7.4 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)**

- E. When the customer orders BNA service for both interstate and intrastate messages, the projected percentage of interstate use must be provided in a whole number to the company. The company will designate the number obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage from 100 (100 - projected interstate percentage = intrastate percentage) as the projected intrastate percentage. This whole number percentage will be used by the company to apportion the rates and nonrecurring charges between interstate and intrastate in those circumstances where the recorded message detail is not sufficient to permit the company to determine the appropriate jurisdiction. This percentage will remain in effect until a revised report is received as set forth below.**

Effective on the first of January, April, July, and October of each year the customer may update the jurisdictional report. The customer shall forward to the company, to be received no later than 20 calendar days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June, and September, respectively. Except where jurisdiction can be determined from the recorded message detail, the revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months billing and will be effective on the bill date in the following month (i.e. February, May, August, and November). No prorating or backbilling will be done based on the report. If the customer does not supply the report, the company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the last quarterly report. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the customer, the company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the order for service.

- F. The company shall use reasonable efforts to provide accurate and complete lists. The company makes no warranties, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of these lists.**

SECTION 7 – BILLING AND COLLECTION (CONT'D)

7.4 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)

7.4.3 Rate Regulations

- A. Service Establishment Charges apply for the initial establishment of BNA service on a manual basis, for the initial establishment of BNA service on a mechanized basis and for establishment of a master BNA list for a customer.
- B. A charge applies for each request for BNA information for a telephone number or DTN number on a manual basis. A charge, as described below in Section F., applies for each message processed to supply BNA information on a mechanized basis.

The company will keep a count of the requests and of the messages processed. The company will bill the customer in accordance with these counts whether or not the company was able to provide BNA information for all request and messages.

- C. Where the recorded message detail is sufficient to determine a message is an intrastate message, the rates set forth in rate schedule Section F. following will apply to each such message.
- D. Usage for which the recorded message detail is insufficient to determine jurisdiction will be prorated by the company between interstate and intrastate.
- E. When a customer cancels an order for BNA service after the order date, the service establishment charge applies.

F. Rates:	
Recording, per customer message	Note 1
ANI, per attempt	Note 1
BNA	
service establishment charge	Note 1
query charge per telephone number	Note 1

Note 1 – The Company's switched access rates mirror the current intrastate switched access rates of the Underlying Incumbent Local Exchange Companies ("ILEC") which serves the territory in which the traffic originates or terminates, as set forth in that ILEC's PUCO Switched Access Tariffs (AT&T Ohio Tariff No. 20, Part 21 and Verizon North's Ohio Tariff No. 2)