

REGULATIONS AND RATES

LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WITHIN TEXAS

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Issued By:

Gary L. Mann
General Manager

CHECK SHEET

The pages listed below are effective as of the date shown. The original and revised pages contain all changes from the original tariff in effect on the date shown on each page.

<u>Page</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Revision</u>
Title	Original				
Page					
001	Eighth Revised*	034	Original	067	First Revised
002	Original	035	Original	068	Original
003	Second Revised	036	Original	069	First Revised
004	Second Revised	037	Original	070	First Revised
005	Third Revised	038	Original	071	Second Revised
006	Original	039	Original	072	Original
007	Original	040	Original	073	Fourth Revised
008	First Revised	041	Original	074	Fourth Revised
009	Original	042	Original	075	Second Revised
010	Original	043	First Revised	076	Fourth Revised
011	First Revised	044	Original	077	Second Revised
012	Original	045	First Revised	078	Fourth Revised
013	Original	046	First Revised	079	Fourth Revised
014	Original	047	First Revised	080	Fifth Revised
015	Original	048	First Revised	081	Third Revised
016	Original	049	First Revised	082	Third Revised*
017	Original	050	First Revised	083	Original
018	Original	051	Second Revised	084	Original
019	Original	052	Second Revised	085	Original
020	Original	053	First Revised	086	Original
021	Original	054	Third Revised	087	Original
022	Original	055	Second Revised	088	Original
023	Original	056	Third Revised*	089	Original
024	Original	057	Original	090	Original
025	Original	058	First Revised	091	Original
026	Original	059	Original	092	Original
027	Original	060	Second Revised	093	Original
028	Original	061	First Revised	094	Original
029	Original	062	First Revised	095	Original
030	Original	063	First Revised	096	Original
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Table of Contents

Check Sheet.....	1
Table of Contents	2
Explanation of Symbols	6
Application of Tariff.....	7
1.0 Definitions	8
2.1 Rules and Regulations.....	12
2.2 Undertaking of the Company	12
2.2.1 Description of Service.....	12
2.1.2 General	12
2.1.3 Terms and Conditions	13
2.1.4 Availability of Facilities.....	15
2.1.5 Limitations on Liability	16
2.1.6 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities	20
2.1.7 Provision of Equipment and Facilities	20
2.1.8 Non-Routine Installation.....	21
2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities.....	21
2.2 Prohibited Use.....	22
2.3 Obligations of the Customer.....	23
2.3.1 General	23
2.3.2 Liability of the Customer	25
2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels	26
2.4.1 General	26
2.4.2 Equipment on Customer's Premises.....	26
2.4.3 Inspections	26
2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments	27
2.5.1 Advance Payments.....	27
2.5.2 Credit Policy	27
2.6 Pass-Through Costs of Other Carriers.....	29
2.7 Payment Arrangements.....	29
2.7.1 Payment for Service.....	29
2.7.2 Taxes and Fees	30
2.7.3 Billing and Collection.....	31
2.7.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause	33
2.7.5 Notice to Company for Cancellation of Service	34
2.7.6 Cancellation of Application for Service Prior to Service Commencement Date	34
2.7.7 Customer Requested Change in Service.....	35
2.7.8 Bad Check Charge	35
2.8 Allowance for Interruptions.....	36
2.8.1 General	36
2.8.2 Limitation on Allowances.....	37
2.8.3 Use of Another Means of Communication During Interruption.....	37

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Table of Contents

2.8.4 Credits for Service Interruption.....	38
2.8.5 Limitations on Allowances	38
2.9 Cancellation of Service.....	39
2.9.1 Termination Liability	39
2.10 Transfers and Assignments.....	40
2.11 Communications and Notice.....	41
2.12 Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier	42
3.0 Local Exchange Service.....	43
4.1 Service Charges	44
4.2 Service Order and Change Charges	44
4.3 Maintenance Visit Charges	45
4.4 Restoration of Service.....	45
4.5 Expedites	45
5.1 Local Exchange Services	46
5.2 General	46
5.1.2 Services Offered.....	46
5.1.2 Application of Rates	46
5.1.3 Emergency Services Calling	46
5.2 Local Exchange Business Line	47
5.2.1 Rates	47
5.3 Optional Calling Features	48
5.3.1 Feature Descriptions	48
5.3.2 Rates	50
5.4 End User Access Fees.....	51
5.5 Hunting.....	51
5.6 Automatic Intercept Service	51
6.0 Service Discontinued	
7.1 V-PRI Service.....	54
7.2 Primary Rate Interface	54
7.3 Partial Primary Rate Interface.....	54

(D)
|
(D)

Table of Contents

7.4 Local Calling Areas and Telephone Numbers.....	54	(M)
7.5 Standard Features.....	54	
7.5 Optional Features.....	55	
7.6 Service Rearrangements	56	
7.7 V-PRI Service Rates	56	(T) (M)
8.1 Direct Inward Dialing	57	
8.2 Direct Inward Dialing Service Description.....	57	
8.2.1 DID Telephone Numbers	57	
8.2.2 E911 and 911 Requirements	57	
8.2.3 Application of Rates	57	
8.2.4 Rates	58	
8.3 Account Code Dialing	58	
9.1 Telebranch.	59	
9.2 General	59	
9.3 Availability of Servicesd.....	59	
9.4 Limitations.....	59	
9.5 Rates	60	
10.1 Directory Assistance and Directory Listings.....	60	
10.2 Directory Assistance	60	
10.3 Directory Listings	60	
10.3.1 Rates	60	
10.3.2 Standard Listing.....	60	
10.3.3 Rates	60	
11.1 Operator Services	61	
11.2 General	61	
11.3 Operator Assisted Calling.....	61	
11.3.1 Operator Assisted Call Types.....	62	
11.3.2 Alternate Billing Arrangements	62	
11.3.3 Operator Dialed Surcharge.....	62	
11.4 Busy Line Verification and Interrupt	63	
11.5 Call Blocking.....	63	
12.1 Miscellaneous Services.....	64	
12.2 Long Distance.....	64	
12.3 Service Discontinued	65	(D)
12.4 Service Discontinued	65	(D)
12.5 Promotional Offerings	66	
12.6 Toll Restriction.....	68	
12.6 Service Moved to Section 16.0	69	(T)
12.7 Grandfathered Services.....	71	
12.8 Special Charges	73	
13.0 Packaged Offerings	73	(T)

Table of Contents

13.1 Standard Packages	73	
13.2 Partial Packages	74	
13.3 Hosted Packages	74	
13.4 Rates	75	
14.1 Rates	76	
14.2 Service Order and Change Charges	76	
14.3 Local Exchange Business Line	76	
14.4 Service Discontinued		(D)
14.5 V-PRI Services	78	
14.6 Direct Inward Dialing Services	79	
14.7 Account Code Dialing	79	
14.8 Telebranch.	79	
14.9 Directory Assistance	80	
14.10	D	
Directory Listings	80	
14.11 Operator Services	80	
14.12 Long Distance	80	(D)
14.13 Service Discontinued		
14.14 Toll Restriction	81	
14.15 Packaged Solutions	81	
15.0 End User Access Fees	82	
16.0 Emergency Number Services (911 and E911)	83	(N)
17.0 Local Calling Scopes.....	88	

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

The following symbols shall be used in this tariff for the purpose indicated below:

- (C) To signify changed regulation.
- (D) To signify discontinued rate or regulation.
- (I) To signify increased rate.
- (M) To signify a move in the location of text.
- (N) To signify new rate or regulation.
- (R) To signify reduced rate.
- (S) To signify reissued matter.
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.

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Meriplex Telecom, LLC
10111 Richmond Avenue, Suite 500
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Texas Tariff No. 1
Original Page 7

APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff contains the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions for the local exchange and intrastate communications services provided by Company to business Customers within Texas. Where any terms and conditions are contrary to the Substantive Rules of the Texas Public Utility Commission or the Laws of the State of Texas, those substantive rules and laws shall take precedence over the terms and conditions in this tariff; however, the remaining portions of this tariff shall remain insofar as possible and shall be interpreted as if they have been re-written to agree with the substantive rules and Texas law.

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SECTION 1.0 – DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this tariff, the following definitions apply:

Advance payment is a part or all of a payment required before the start of service.

Account Code Dialing is an arrangement whereby access to local and/or long distance services is only available by dialing an account code prior to dialing the long distance number. This arrangement allows the customer to track the calling for cost accounting purposes.

Authentication Dialing is an arrangement whereby the customer can control access to its long distance network.

(N)

Basic local telecommunications service – flat rate residential and business local exchange telephone service, including primary directory listings; tone dialing service; access to operator services; access to directory assistance services; access to 911 service where provided by a local authority or dual party relay service; the ability to report service problems seven days a week; lifeline and tel-assistance services; and any other service the commission, after a hearing, determines should be included in basic local telecommunications service. Currently, Meriplex Telecom, LLC only offers business services and does not offer residential, Lifeline, Link-up, dual party relay or tel-assistance services.

Calling area – The area within which telecommunications service is furnished to customers under a specific schedule of exchange rates. A "local" calling area may include more than one exchange area.

Calling party information

- the telephone listing number and/or name of the customer from whose telephone instrument a telephone number is dialed; or
- other information that may be used to identify the specific originating number or originating location of a wire or electronic communication transmitted by a telephone instrument.

Company refers to Meriplex Telecom, LLC, unless otherwise indicated.

Customer or subscriber is the person, firm or corporation that orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's regulations.

Customer premises equipment (CPE) – communications equipment located at the customer's premises. Such equipment may be provided by the customer or by the Company.

SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS

Deposit is the cash or equivalent of cash security held as a guarantee for payment of the charges.

DID trunk is a form of local switched access that provides the ability for an outside party to call an internal extension directly without the intervention of an operator.

Direct inward dial (DID) is a service attribute that routes incoming calls directly to stations, by-passing a central answering point.

DS0 is a channel service generally has a 64 Kbps transmission data rate signal; however, customer transmitted bit rates are limited to 56 Kbps.

DS1 is a channel service has a 1.544 Mbps transmission data rate, and provides for the two-way simultaneous transmission of isochronous timed, Bipolar Return-to-Zero (BPRZ) bit stream format. Unframed signal formats are not permitted or compatible with Company equipment.

End user or user is a customer, joint user or any other person authorized by a customer to use service provided under this tariff subject to the terms, restrictions and prohibitions set forth herein.

Exchange is a geographical area established for the rating of telecommunications.

Hunting is the routing a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy.

SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS

Individual case basis (ICB) is where the rates for a specific offering under this tariff are based on the specific customer's circumstances. Typically, the ICB rates apply when complex packages of multiple services are provided. ICB rates may also apply when multiple quantities of the same service are provided.

Interexchange Carrier (IXC) is a long distance telecommunications services provider that furnishes services between exchange areas. An IXC may be an individual, partnership, association, joint-stock Company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in intrastate or interstate communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

Internet Protocol (IP) is the most basic protocol to communicate on the Internet. An IP number is a numerical address consisting of four numbers separated by periods. Each IP address uniquely identifies a certain computer on the Internet. The domain name is used to make using them easier.

Intrastate (IAS) – communications that both originate and terminate within Texas state boundaries regardless of the route taken by facilities.

Interstate (IRS) – communications that originate in one state and terminate in another state.

International (INTL) – communications that originate in one country and terminate in another country.

Letter of Agency (LOA) – sometimes called a letter of authorization is a customer's written statement that authorizes a primary interexchange carrier (PIC) change and bears the customer's signature.

Monthly Rates are those monthly charges to the customer for services, facilities or equipment which continue and are billed to the customer each month for the duration of the service.

Nonrecurring charge (NRC) is the initial charge assessed on a one-time basis, generally to install equipment and facilities to establish service.

Path, as used for the Telebranch offering, is access to the public switched telephone network. The number of paths determines the number of simultaneous calls that can be made over Telebranch.

SECTION 1.0 DEFINITIONS

Primary interexchange carrier (PIC) – the carrier to which a customer has presubscribed for long distance service.

PIC freeze – where the customer does not want his PIC to be changed until he notifies his IXC otherwise

Premises – the space occupied by an individual customer in a building, in adjoining buildings occupied entirely by that customer, or on contiguous property occupied by the customer and not separated by a public thoroughfare, a railroad right-of-way or a natural barrier.

PBX means private branch exchange

Rate – money, charge, fee or other assessment billed to customers for services or equipment.

Recurring charges are the same as monthly recurring charges.

Service commencement date is the first day following the date on which the Company notifies the customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the customer's refusal to accept service that does not conform to standards in the service order or this tariff, in which case the service commencement date is the date of the customer's acceptance. The Company and customer may mutually agree on a substitute service commencement date.

Service order is the written request for network services executed by the customer and the Company. The signing of a service order by the customer and acceptance by the Company begins the respective obligations of the parties in that order and under this tariff. The duration of the service is calculated from the service commencement date.

Virtual Primary Rate Interface (V-PRI) is a switched network service that provides end-to-end digital connections for the simultaneous transmission of voice and data. It includes basic voice access to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) and data transmission. (T)

Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) is a general term for a family of transmission technologies for delivery of voice communications over IP

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Description of Services

Meriplex Telecom, LLC service consists of any of the business services offered under this tariff, either individually or in combination. Service is offered via the Company's facilities or with transmission facilities provided by other carriers. The services offered under this tariff consist of basic local telecommunications service (as defined above) to business customers excluding, however, residential, Lifeline, Link-up, dual party relay or tel-assistance services; and other specific services described herein. The Company undertakes to furnish communications service under the terms of this tariff with one-way and two-way information transmission originating from points within Texas, and terminating within a local calling area within Texas.

2.1.2 General

- A. Customer and users may use services and facilities provided under the tariffs of Company to obtain access to services offered by other companies. Company is responsible for the services and facilities provided under its tariffs, and for any unregulated services provided under contract, but it assumes no responsibility for any service (whether regulated or not) provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company network in order to originate or terminate such entity's own services, or to communicate with such entity's own Customers.
- B. Company shall have no responsibility with respect to billings, charges or disputes related to services used by Customer which are not included in the services herein including, without limitation, any long distance services not offered by the Company. Customer shall be fully responsible for the payment of any bills for such services and for the resolution of any disputes or discrepancies with the service provider.

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SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

The Company furnishes communications under the terms of this tariff with one-way and two-way information transmission originating from points within Texas and, terminating in Texas; additionally, it may provide certain interstate Internet services as found in Section 13 Packaged Offerings.

- A. The Company will act as the customer's agent for ordering facilities provided by other carriers or entities to allow connection of a customer's location to the Company's network.
- B. Customers desiring to obtain Company's services shall be required to enter into written service orders which contain or reference a specific description of the service ordered, the rates to be charged, the duration of the services, and the terms and conditions in this tariff. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.
- C. Except as otherwise stated in the tariff, at the expiration of the initial term specified in each service order, or in any extension of the service order, service shall continue on a month-to-month basis at the then current rates, unless terminated by either party upon 30 days notice. Any termination shall not relieve the customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the service order and this tariff prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term of the service order shall survive such termination.
- D. The Company provides service for a minimum period of 30 days, 24-hours per day.
- E. For the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month has 30 days.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (continued)

- F. Order Cancellation Prior to Service Commencement Date** – The Company will provide an order confirmation after the customer places an order for service. If the customer changes the order, a change order charge will apply based on the scope of the change. If the customer cancels the order prior to the service commencement date, the customer must reimburse the Company for all costs incurred to that point as further described in Section 2.7.6. Cancellation after the service commencement date may be subject to other termination charges as set forth in this tariff. The customer must notify the Company of service commencement date changes 45 days prior to the commencement date scheduled in the service order. A scheduled service commencement date may be extended by the customer a maximum of 30 days from the date set forth in the service order.
- G.** Other carriers may not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the Company. No person or entity shall be required to make any payment, incur any penalty, monetary or otherwise, or purchase any services to have the right to obtain service directly from the Company.
- H.** To the extent that either the Company or any other carrier exercises control over available cable pairs, conduit, duct space, raceways, or other facilities needed by the other to reach a person or entity, the party exercising such control shall make them available to the other on terms equivalent to those under which the Company makes similar facilities under its control available to its customers. At the reasonable request of either party, the Company and the other carrier shall jointly attempt to obtain from the owner of the property access for the other party to serve a person or entity.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (continued)

- I. The Company reserves its rights to establish service packages specific to a particular customer. These contracts may or may not be associated with volume or term discounts.
- J. If any conflict arises between the terms and conditions of a service agreement or other contract and the terms and conditions of this tariff, the terms and conditions in this tariff shall prevail.
- K. This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of Texas without regard to any choice of laws provision under a contract or service order.

2.1.4 Availability of 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. Service provided under this tariff is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and equipment, and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the Company may obtain from other carriers to furnish service from time to time as required at the sole discretion of Company.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.5 Limitations on Liability

- A. In view of the fact that the customer has exclusive control of its communications over the facilities furnished it by the Company, and other uses for which facilities may be furnished it by the Company, and because of the possible errors incident to the services and to the use of such facilities of the Company, the services and facilities furnished by the Company are subject to the regulations and limitations specified herein.
- B. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance, equipment or facilities due to causes beyond its control including, but not limited to: labor difficulties, 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 any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state or local governments or of any civil or military authority; civil commotions, national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars, acts of God fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; unavailability of rights of way or materials; or cable cuts.
- C. Defacement of premises - No liability shall attach to the Company by reason of any defacement or damage to the customer's premises resulting from the existence of the Company's equipment or facilities on such premises, or by the installation or removal thereof, when such defacement or damage is not the result of the negligence of the Company or its employees.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.5 Limitations on Liability

- D.** The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the customer or any user or due to the failure of malfunction customer or user-provided equipment or facilities. Further, the Company shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever associated with service, facilities or equipment which the Company does not furnish or for any act or omission of Customer or any other entity furnishing services, facilities or equipment used for or in conjunction with the services, facilities or equipment provided by Company.
- E.** Indemnification – The Company’s liability, if any, for its gross negligence or willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit by a customer or by any others, the customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company, its affiliates and their respective officers, employees, agents and contractors (collectively including Company, the “Company Indemnitees”) from and against claims, losses or suits for injury to or death of any person, or damage to any property which arises from the use, placement or presence of the Company’s equipment, facilities and associated wiring of the customer’s premises; and, further the customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company Indemnitees from and against claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or the infringement of copyright arising directly or indirectly from the material transmitted over the facilities of the Company or the use thereof by the customer or any user; against claims for infringement of patents arising from combining with, or using in connection with, facilities furnished by the Company and apparatus, equipment and systems provided by the customer or a user; and against all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the customer or user in connection with the services or facilities provided by the Company. No agents or employees of other carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees of the Company.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.5 Limitations on Liability (continued)

- F. The Company's liability, if any, for its gross negligence or willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a customer or any others, for damages arising out of (i) mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays or errors, or defects in transmission occurring in the course of furnishing service hereunder, or (ii) the failure of Company to furnish service, whether caused by acts or omission, the Company's liability, if any, shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge to the customer for the period of service during which such mistake, omission, interruption, delay, error, or defect in transmission or service occurs and continues. This liability shall be in addition to any amounts that may otherwise be due to the customer under this tariff as an allowance for interruptions. The extension of such allowances for interruptions shall be the sole remedy of the customer and the sole liability of the Company in such events. However, any such mistakes, omission, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission or service which are caused or contributed to by the negligence or willful act of the customer, or authorized user, or joint user, or which arise from the use of customer provided facilities or equipment shall not result in the imposition of any liability whatsoever upon the Company. No action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than one year after the service is rendered, or as required by Texas law. Further, notwithstanding any other provision in this tariff to the contrary and except for the extension of allowances to the customer for interruptions in service this tariff, the Company will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages to Customer or any user as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or the acts or omissions or negligence of the Company or Company's employees or agents. Without limiting the foregoing, Company's entire liability for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid the Company by Customer for the specific services during the period of the events giving rise to the claim, as prorated to the actual period.

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SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.5 Limitations on Liability (continued)

- G.** The Company shall not be liable for any damages, including usage charges, that the customer may incur as a result of the unauthorized use of authorization codes or communications equipment. The unauthorized use of communications equipment includes, but is not limited to, the placement of calls or transmission of data from the customer's premises, and the placement of calls or transmission of data through equipment controlled and/or provided by the customer, that are transmitted over the Company's network without the authorization of the customer. The customer shall be fully liable for all such usage charges.
- H.** Directory Errors – The Company's liability, if any, for its gross negligence or willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a customer or any others, for damages arising from errors or omissions in accepting listings as presented by customers, the Company's liability, if any, shall not exceed the amount paid for the directory listings during the period covered by the directory in which the error or omission occurred. The Company neither provides nor contracts for listings in the Yellow Pages directories, or any similar book. The customer must obtain such listings directly from the providers of those services.
- I.** The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere. EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN THIS TARIFF, THE COMPANY MAKES NO WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, EITHER IN FACT OR BY OPERATION OF LAW, STATUTORY OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, ALL OF WHICH ARE HEREBY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMED.
- K.** Failure by the Company to assert its rights under a provision of this tariff does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.6 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

To the extent possible, the Company will provide the customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities 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 applies 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.

2.1.7 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain the facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the customer. The customer may not nor may it 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.
- B. The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time.
- C. Equipment the Company provides or installs at the customer premises shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the equipment is provided.
- D. Except as otherwise indicated, customer provided station equipment at the customer's premises for use with this service shall be so constructed, maintained and operated as to work satisfactorily with the Company's facilities.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (continued)

2.1.7 Provision of Equipment and Facilities (continued)

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 under this tariff, the Company's responsibility shall be limited to the furnishing of its facilities and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:

1. the through transmission of signals by customer provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission; or
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.

2.1.8 Non-routine Installation

At the customer's request, installation or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company may 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 or night hours, additional charges may apply.

2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided by Company under this tariff remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.2 Prohibited Uses

- 2.2.1 The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose 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 requires applicants who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offerings comply with relevant laws and the Texas Public Utilities Commission's regulations, policies, orders and decisions.
- 2.2.3 The Company may block any signals transmitted over its network that cause interference to the Company or other users. Customers shall be relieved of all obligations to make payments for charges relating to any blocked service and shall indemnify the Company for any claim, judgment or liability resulting from such blockage.
- 2.2.4 A Customer may not assign, or transfer in any manner, the service or any rights associated with the service without the written consent of the Company. The Company will permit a customer to transfer its existing service to another entity if the existing customer has paid all charges owed to the Company for communications services. Such a transfer is treated as a disconnection of existing service and installation of new service. Accordingly, nonrecurring installation charges apply.
- 2.2.5 Neither Customer nor any user may use any Company provided facilities or equipment for any purpose other than as required and in connection with its receipt and use of services from Company.
- 2.2.6 The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.3 Obligations of the Customer

2.3.1 General

The customer is responsible for:

- A. the payment of all applicable rates and charges pursuant to Company's tariffs and service orders signed by Customer;
- B. damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the customer or any user; or the non-compliance 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;
- C. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed equipment, space and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the customer's 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 communications services to the customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space. The costs for obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way, including the costs of altering structures to permit installation of the Company provided facilities, shall be borne entirely by, or may be charged by the Company, to the customer; the Company may require the customer to demonstrate its compliance with this section prior to accepting an order for service.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (continued)

2.3.1 General (continued)

- 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 be required 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 that apply to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment on any customer premises or the rights-of-way for which customer is responsible; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the customer's 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;
- G.** not creating or allowing to be placed any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and
- H.** making Company facilities and equipment available periodically for maintenance purposes at a time agreeable to both the Company and the customer. No allowance will be made for the period during which service is interrupted for such purposes.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (continued)

2.3.2 Liability of the Customer

- A. The customer is liable for damages to the facilities of the Company and for all incidental and consequential damages caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the customer, its officers, employees, agents, invites, contractors or users where such acts or omissions are not the direct result of the Company's sole negligence or intentional misconduct.

- B. To the extent caused by any negligent or intentional act of the customer as described in A, preceding, the customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company and the Company Indemnitees from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for (i) any loss, destruction or damage to property of Company, Customer or any third party or the death or injury to persons including, but not limited to, employees or invitees of either party, and (ii) any liability incurred by the Company to any third party pursuant to this or any other tariff of the Company, or otherwise, for any interruption of, interference to, or other defect in any service provided by the Company to such third party.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 General

A user may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. A user may transmit any form of signal that is compatible with the Company's equipment, but the Company does not guarantee that its services will be suitable for purposes other than voice-grade or data communications as specifically described in this tariff.

2.4.2 Equipment on Customer's Premises

- A. The electric power consumed by Company's equipment located on the customer's premises shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the user. The customer is responsible for the provision of wiring or cable to connect its terminal equipment to the Company's network.
- B. The customer is responsible for ensuring that its CPE 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 to other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the customer's expense, subject to prior customer approval of the equipment expense.

2.4.3 Inspections

- A. Upon suitable notification to the customer, and at a reasonable time, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the customer is complying with the requirements under Section 2.4.2.B for the installation, operation, and maintenance of customer-provided facilities, equipment, and wiring in the connection of customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment.
- B. If harm to the Company's network, personnel or services is imminent, the Company reserves the right to shut down customer's service immediately, with no prior notice required.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments

2.5.1 Advance Payments

- A. When applying for service, the applicant may be required to pay an advance payment equal to at least one-month's service charges. This is in addition to any installation and special charges that apply. The advance payment will be credited to the customer's first bill. Advance payments do not accrue interest. An advance payment may be required in addition to a deposit.
- B. Federal, state or municipal governmental agencies are not required to make advance payments.

2.5.2 Credit Policy

A. Deposit and Guarantee Requirements

The Company may require a deposit or guarantee of payment from any applicant or customer that has not previously established good credit with the Company. A deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment. The Company's deposit and guarantee policy is based upon standards that reasonably relate to the assurance of payment. The Company will determine whether the applicant or customer has established good credit under the following guidelines:

1. A customer that has not been disconnected for non-payment to any telecommunications service provider within the last twelve months, and, if previously disconnected for non-payment, is no longer liable to that provider (has paid the bill), and the bill is not in dispute shall be deemed to have good credit.
2. The Company shall not require a deposit or guarantee of payment based upon income, home ownership, location, employment tenure, occupation, race, color, creed, sex, marital status, age, national origin, or any other criteria that does not bear a reasonable relationship to the assurance of payment.
3. The Company may use credit reports to determine the adequacy of a customer's credit history without the customer's written permission.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (continued)

A. Deposit and Guarantee Requirements (continued)

Customers may be required to make a deposit to assure payment of service. The customer's deposit shall be applied by the Company to the customer's bill when the bill is delinquent. If there is any conflict with Texas Public Utility Commission Subst. R. 26.24, the substantive rule shall govern. Deposits are in addition to payments of outstanding bills, or portions of an outstanding bill that has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Company, except where such bill has been discharged in bankruptcy. The total amount of all deposits shall not exceed an amount equivalent to one-sixth of the estimated annual billing per Subst. R. 26.24(b)(2). The Company will provide a written explanation of why the deposit or guarantee is required and the conditions under which the deposit will be diminished upon return. The deposit will be refunded after twelve consecutive months of prompt payments of all bills to the Company. The Company will give the customer a written receipt for the deposit, and will maintain a record of the deposit in its files.

The Company will pay interest on deposits at an interest rate set by the Texas Public Utility Commission each year per Subst. R. 26.24(b)(3). Interest will be paid when the deposit is returned or credited to the customer's account. *Id.*

Upon termination of service, any remaining deposit plus accrued interest will be credited to the customer's final bill and the balance will be returned to the customer within 45 days.

B. Guarantee of Payment

In lieu of a deposit, the Company may accept a guarantee contract signed by a guarantor that is satisfactory to the Company for the guaranteed payment of a specified sum equal to the deposit required. The term of the contract shall be for twelve months, but shall automatically terminate after the customer has closed and paid its bills to the Company in full, or at the guarantor's request upon 60 days' written notice to the Company. Upon termination of a guarantee contract or when the Company determines that the guarantee contract is insufficient as to the amount of surety, a cash deposit or a new or additional guarantee contract shall be required in which case the Company will give written notice to the customer with good cause.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (continued)

B. Guarantee of Payment (continued)

The Company may disconnect service to a customer who fails to comply with these requirements upon notice as prescribed in Texas rules. The Company will mail the guarantor copies of all disconnect notices sent to the customer whose account it has guaranteed unless the guarantor waives such notice in writing.

2.6 Pass-Through Costs of Other Carriers

Cross-connect and access charges may apply to Company facilities and services that are connected to other carriers or the customer's interconnect/collocation facility within the same point of presence. Some examples of such charges are:

1. Charges incurred by the supplier on the customer's behalf from any local exchange carrier, competitive access provider or competitive local exchange carrier will be directly passed on to the customer.
2. Access Service Charges
3. Increases Cross-connect charges that apply to Company facilities connected by the Company to other carriers or the customer's interconnect/collocation facility.

Such costs, or increases in such costs, may be passed through to the customer and will be listed on the customer's bill as a separate line item.

2.7 Payment Arrangements

2.7.1 Payment for Service

The customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and services furnished by the Company to the customer.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.7 Payment Arrangements (continued)

2.7.2 Taxes and Fees

Certain telecommunications services, as defined in the state statutes, are subject to state sales tax if the services originate, or terminate in the state, or both, and are charged to a subscriber's telephone number or account in Texas. All state and local taxes (e.g., gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax) and fees and federal taxes and fees (e.g. federal excise tax) are not included in the rates under this tariff. The customer is responsible for the payment of these taxes which shall be listed as separate line items on the customer's bill.

To the extent that a municipality, other political subdivision or local agency of government, or commission imposes and collects from the Company a gross receipts tax, occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, franchise fee, municipal access line fee, E911 fee, equalization surcharge, regulatory fee and any other fee, surcharge or tax, such taxes and fees shall, as allowed by law, be billed pro rata to the customer receiving service from the Company within the territorial limits of such municipality, other political subdivision or local agency of government.

Service shall not be subject to taxes for a given taxing jurisdiction if the customer provides the Company with written verification, acceptable to the Company and to the relevant taxing jurisdiction, that the customer has been granted a tax exemption.

The Company may adjust its rates or impose additional rates on its customer to recover amounts it is required by governmental or quasi-governmental authorities to collect from or pay to others. The Company may also adjust its rates or impose additional rates to cover the administrative cost of collecting such charges or paying compensation to other entities. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to, state and federal universal service funds and high cost support for local exchange carriers.

Any changes in access charges by an originating or terminating carrier will be considered special handling and charges will be assessed as ICB pricing.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.7 Payment Arrangements (continued)

2.7.3 Billing and Collection

The customer is responsible for payment of all charges incurred by the customer or other users for services and facilities furnished to the customer by the Company.

- A. Nonrecurring charges are due and payable upon receipt of the Company's invoice by the customer.
- B. The Company shall present invoices for recurring charges monthly to the customer, in advance of the month in which service is provided, and recurring charges shall be due and payable upon receipt. When billing is based upon customer usage, usage charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing period.
- C. When service does not begin on the first day of the month, or end on the last day of the month, the charge for the fraction of the month in which service was furnished will be calculated on a pro rata basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have 30 days.
- D. Customer billing will begin on the service commencement date, which is the day the Company notifies the customer that the service or facility is available for use, except that the service commencement date may be postponed by mutual agreement of the parties, or if the service or facility does not conform to standards under this tariff or the service order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- E. If any portion of the payment is not received by the Company within 30 days of receipt of the bill, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds which are not immediately available upon presentment, then a late payment charge of 1.5% per month shall be due to the Company until the bill is paid in full subject to any restrictions or limitations under applicable law.

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Gary L. Mann
General Manager

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.7 Payment Arrangements (continued)

2.7.3 Billing and Collection (continued)

- F. The customer should notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within 30 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 Texas Public Utilities Commission under the commission's rules of procedure. For questions regarding the complaint procedure, the customer may call the commission. The address and telephone number of the commission are as follows:

Texas Public Utilities Commission
1701 N. Congress Ave.
PO Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326
1-888-782-8477

- G. The Company shall be entitled to require an applicant or customer to pay all its bills within thirty days, and to make such payments in cash or cash equivalent. The Company also reserves the right to cease accepting and processing service orders after it has requested a security deposit and prior to the customer's compliance with such request.
- H. The customer may request the Company to assign sub-accounts and to send sub-account invoices to the customer's affiliates or other designated entities for payment. The customer remains solely liable to the Company for payment of all invoices for service requested and obtained by customer, whether invoiced to the customer, its affiliates, or other entities.
- I. If service is disconnected by the Company under this tariff and later re-installed, re-installation of service will be subject to all applicable installation and/or restoration charges. If service is suspended by the Company under this tariff and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to the rates in Section 4.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.7 Payment Arrangements (continued)

2.7.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause

A. The Company may discontinue or suspend service to a customer without notice under the following conditions:

1. for tampering with the Company's equipment;
2. where there is a condition determined by the Company to be hazardous to any customer, to the Company's equipment, to the public or to Company employees; or,
3. if the customer uses equipment in a manner that adversely affects the Company, its equipment or service to other customers.

B. The Company may discontinue or suspend service to a customer upon five days' (excluding Sundays and legal holidays) written notice under the following conditions:

1. for the customer's failure to pay its bill for service when due;
2. for failure to meet the Company's deposit and credit requirements;
3. for the customer's failure to make proper application for service;
4. if the customer violates any of the Company's rules that are filed with the commission;
5. if the customer fails to allow the Company reasonable access to its equipment and property;
6. if the customer breaches its contract with the Company;
7. if the customer fails to furnish such service, equipment or rights-of-way necessary for the Company to serve the customer as shall have been specified by the utility as a condition for service;
8. to comply with any order or request of any governmental authority with jurisdiction, and upon any governmental prohibition or governmental required alteration of the services to be provided, or any violation of law or regulation;
9. upon the customer's insolvency, assignment for the benefit of creditors, filing for bankruptcy or reorganization, or failing to discharge an involuntary petition within the time permitted by law.

C. Service will not be disconnected on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, or at any time when the Company's business offices are closed, unless an emergency exists.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.7 Payment Arrangements (continued)

2.7.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause (continued)

- D. Upon discontinuance of service under Section 2.7.4, Customer shall be liable for termination liability charges under Section 2.9 and for any other charges that apply to the Customer under the terms of this tariff. Such remedies are in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law, in equity or under any other provision of this tariff.
- E. The customer is responsible for providing adequate access lines to enable the Company to terminate all toll-free (i.e., 800/888) service calls to the customer's telephone equipment. If the customer has insufficient access lines on which to terminate 800 service calls, the Company reserves the right to request the customer to add additional lines for call terminations. If, after 90 days, the customer has not requested the change, the Company, without incurring any liability, may terminate the customer's 800 service upon 30 days written notice.

2.7.5 Notice to Company for Cancellation of Service

Customers desiring to terminate service shall provide the Company written notice of such to the Company to the address on its service order, or the address as found in Section 2.11 following.

2.7.6 Cancellation of Application for Service Prior to Service Commencement Date

- A. Where the Company permits the customer to cancel an application for service prior to the start of service or prior to any special construction, no charges will be imposed except for those specified below. Such charges will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.
- B. 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 sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the customer had service begun.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.7 Payment Arrangements (continued)

2.7.6 Cancellation of Application for Service Prior to Service Commencement Date(continued)

- C. Where the Company incurs any expense after arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun, before the Company receives a cancellation notice, a charge equal to the costs incurred, less net salvage, may apply. In such cases, the charge will be based on such elements as the cost of the equipment, facilities, and material, the cost of installation, engineering, labor, and supervision, general and administrative expense, other disbursements, depreciation, maintenance, taxes, provision for return on investment, and any other costs associated with the special construction or arrangements.
- D. Cancellation of service by Customer after the service commencement date shall be subject to termination liability as provided in Section 2.9 below.

2.7.7 Customer Requested Changes in Service

If the customer makes or requests material changes in circuit engineering, equipment specifications, service parameters, premises locations, or otherwise materially modifies any provision of the application for service, the customer's installation fee shall be adjusted accordingly.

2.7.8 Bad Check Charge

A service charge up to \$75.00 (or, if lower, the maximum amount which may be charged under applicable law) will be assessed under Texas law for all checks returned by a bank or other financial institution for: insufficient or uncollected funds, closed account, apparent tampering, missing signature or endorsement, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of the instrument at the discretion of the bank or other financial institution.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

2.8.1 General

- A. A credit allowance will be given when service is interrupted, except as otherwise specified in this tariff. Service is interrupted when it becomes inoperative to the customer, e.g., the customer is unable to transmit or receive, because of a failure of a component furnished under this tariff. A service will not be deemed to be interrupted if the customer continues to voluntarily use the service.
- B. An interruption period begins when the customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative and, if necessary, releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility or circuit is operative.
- C. If the customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be interrupted but declines to release it for testing and repair, or refuses access to its premises for test and repair by the Company, the service, facility or circuit is considered to be impaired but not interrupted. No credit allowances will be made for a service, facility or circuit considered by the Company to be impaired.
- D. The customer shall pay service charges for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the customer's 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.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (continued)

2.8.2 Limitation on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for any interruption in service:

- A. due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by any person or entity other than the Company, including but not limited to the customer;
- B. due to the failure of power, equipment, systems, connections or services not provided by the Company;
- C. due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company;
- D. during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purposes of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- E. 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;
- F. that occurs or continues due to the customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction; and
- G. that was not reported to the Company within 30 days of the date that service was affected.

2.8.3 Use of Another Means of Communications During Interruption

If the customer elects to use another means of communications during the period of interruption, the customer must pay the costs for the alternative service used.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (continued)

2.8.4 Credits for Service Interruptions

- A. If a customer's service is interrupted other than due to any of the reasons described in Section 2.8.5 below, and it remains out of order for eight normal working hours or longer after access to the premises is made available and after being reported to be out of order, appropriate adjustments or refunds shall be made to the customer. The amount of adjustment or refund shall be determined on the basis of the known period of interruption, generally beginning from the time the service interruption is first reported by the customer. The refund to the customer shall be a pro rata part of the month's flat rate charges for the period of days and that portion of the service facilities rendered useless or inoperative. The refund may be accomplished by a credit on a subsequent bill for the service.
- B. A credit allowance for service interruptions that are not due to any of the reasons found in Section 2.8.5 below are subject to the general liability provisions set forth herein. It is the customer's obligation to notify Company of any service interruption. Before giving such notice, the customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission by or within the customer's control and is not in wiring or equipment connected to the carrier terminal.
- C. For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days.

2.8.5 Limitations on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A. interruptions due to the customer's negligence or failure to comply with the provisions of this tariff by the customer, authorized user or joint user;
- B. interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including but not limited to the customer;

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.8 Allowances for Interruption in Service (continued)

2.8.5 Limitations on Allowances (continued)

- C. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- D. interruptions of service during a period in which the customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- E. 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;
- F. interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of Company as further described in Section 2.1.5.B above; and
- G. that occur or continue due to the customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction.

2.9 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability

If a customer cancels a service order or terminates services before the completion of the term or where the Company terminates services as a result of a breach or default of the terms in this tariff or the service order by customer or any user, customer shall be required to pay to Company termination liability charges as described below. These charges shall become due and owing as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and are payable within 30 days.

2.9.1 Termination Liability

Customer's termination liability for cancellation of service by Customer after the service commencement date, or termination by Company after breach or default by Customer, shall be equal to:

- A. all unpaid nonrecurring charges reasonably expended by Company to establish service to customer, plus
- B. any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by Company on behalf of customer, plus

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.9 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability (continued)

2.9.1 Termination Liability (continued)

- C. all recurring charges specified in the applicable service order due and payable through the date of the cancellation or termination; plus
- D. all recurring charges specified in the applicable service order for the balance of the then current term discounted to present value at the prime rate announced in the Wall Street Journal on the third business day following the date of cancellation or termination;
- E. minus a reasonable allowance for costs avoided by the Company as a direct result of customer's cancellation.

2.10 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 to (a) any subsidiary, parent Company or affiliate of the Company; (b) under any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or (c) under any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.11 Communications and Notice

2.11.1 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 customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed. If the customer fails to provide an address on the service order for notice and communications, then the customer will be deemed to have designated its billing address for notice and communications.

2.11.2 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 Company may designate a separate address on each bill for service to which the customer shall mail payment on that bill. If the service order does not reflect the Company's address for notice, then that address shall be as follows:

Meriplex Telecom, LLC
Attn: Legal Department
10111 Richmond Avenue, Suite 500
Houston, Texas 77042

2.11.3 Except as otherwise stated in this tariff, all notices or other communications required to be given under this tariff will 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 placement of the notice, communication or bill with the U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.

2.11.4 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 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.12 Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier (PIC)

2.12.1 The customer shall select an IXC for its long distance communications. This carrier is called the Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier (PIC). The customer's selection of its PIC shall be in a written LOA under the Texas PUC Substantive Rule 26.130 that governs presubscription. The Company does not charge for changes in the customer's PIC.

2.12.2 The customer may establish a PIC Freeze in its LOA. The PIC freeze prevents an unauthorized change in the customer's interexchange carrier selection until the customer revokes the freeze. A freeze protects the customer against "slamming" (switching the telephone Company without your permission). Customers are allowed to impose or lift a PIC freeze of either their local toll (intraLATA) or long distance (interLATA) carrier, or both, by providing written authorization to the Company. There is no charge for imposing or lifting a PIC freeze. There is no charge for a PIC freeze.

SECTION 3.0 – LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE AREAS

3.1 Local Exchange Service Areas

Local exchange services may be provided, subject to availability of facilities and equipment, in areas currently served by any and all of the Texas incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs).

3.2 Local Calling Scopes

(N)

The local calling scopes are found in Section 17.

(N)

SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES

4.1 Service Order and Change Charges

Nonrecurring charges apply to process service orders for new service, and for rearrangements or changes in service

4.1.1 Rates

	<u>NRC</u>
Service Order new service, per line	
first line	See Section 14.1
per additional line same order	See Section 14.1
Service Order for rearrangements or changes, per line	
first line	See Section 14.1
per additional line same order	See Section 14.1

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General Manager

~~4.2 Maintenance Visit Charges~~

- 4.2.1** Maintenance visit charges apply when the Company dispatches personnel to a customer's premises to perform work necessary for installing new service, effecting changes in service or resolving troubles reported by the customer when the trouble is determined to be caused by the customer's facilities.
- 4.2.2** Maintenance visit charges will be credited to the customer's account in the event trouble is not found in the Company facilities, but the trouble is later determined to be in those facilities.
- 4.2.3** The time period for which the maintenance visit charges is applied will commence when Company personnel are dispatched at the customer premises and end when work is completed. The rates for maintenance of service vary by time per customer request.

	<u>rate</u>
Duration of time, per technician	
initial 15 minute increment	See Section 14.1
each additional 15 minute increment	See Section 14.1

4.3 Restoration of Service

A restoration charge applies to the restoration of suspended service and facilities because of nonpayment of bills or a violation of regulations or rules and is payable at the time that the restoration of the suspended service and facilities are arranged. The restoration charge does not apply when, after disconnection of service, service is later re-installed. (T)

	<u>rate</u>	
per occasion,	See Section 14.1	
as results from non-payment issues		(T)
or violations		(T)

4.4 Expedites

If a customer desires that service be provided on an earlier date than that which has been established, or would normally apply for the order, the customer may request that service be provided on an expedited basis. If the Company agrees to provide the service on an expedited basis, an expedited order charge will apply under the ICB provisions of this tariff.

SECTION 5.0 – LOCAL SERVICES

5.1 General

5.1.1 Services Offered

A Local Exchange Business Line is available to all customers. A Local Exchange Business Line includes the services described below in this Section 5.0, but does not include residential, Lifeline, Link-up, dual party relay or tel-assistance services.

5.1.2 Application of Rates

All services offered in this tariff are subject to service order and change charges where the customer requests new services or changes in existing services, as well as indicated nonrecurring and monthly recurring charges.

5.1.3 Emergency Services Calling

An emergency is an occurrence or set of circumstances in which conditions pose immediate threat to human life, property, or both and necessitate that prompt action be taken. An emergency call is an originated call of short duration to a governmental emergency services agency to seek assistance for such an emergency.

Governmental agencies responsible for providing emergency services include fire fighting, Texas State Highway Patrol, police, and emergency medical service. The agencies qualify as governmental emergency service agencies if they answer emergency service calls on a live-person attended 24 hour basis, 365 days a year, including holidays.

Access to the local operator or emergency services bureau by dialing “0” or 911. There is no charge by the Company for such calls, however the 911 emergency service districts access a monthly charge to support their services; furthermore the state imposes an equalization charge on long distance services to support such services. Emergency calls to governmental emergency service agencies having principal responsibility for emergency services to persons and property in the area from which the call is made are offered at no charge to customers. Emergency services are described in more detail in the Miscellaneous Services Section of this tariff. (T)

SECTION 5.0 – LOCAL SERVICES

5.2 Local Exchange Business Line and Local Exchange Metro Business Line

(T)

The Local Exchange Business Line and Local Exchange Metro Business Line provide a customer with a single, analog, voice-grade telephone communications channel which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Such lines are provided for the connection of customer-provided wiring and single station sets or facsimile machines.

Touch-tone service is also included as a basic feature of this service. An optional per line hunting feature is available for multi-line customers that routes a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy.

Local Exchange Business lines and Local Exchange Metro Business Lines are provided on a single party (individual) basis only. No multi-party lines are provided. Service is available on a flat rate basis.

(T)

5.2.1 Rates

Recurring charges for Local Exchange Business Line are billed monthly in advance. Nonrecurring charges for installation or rearrangement of service are billed on the next month's bill immediately following work performed by the Company.

	<u>monthly</u> <u>rate</u>	
Local Exchange Business Line, per line ¹	See Section 14.2	(T)
Local Exchange Metro Business Line, per line ³	See Sections 14.2, 17.4	(D) (N),(T)

Nonrecurring charges apply to each line installed for the customer. Nonrecurring charges are in addition to service order charges in Section 4.

	<u>NRC</u>
first line	See Section 14.2
each additional line ²	See Section 14.2
porting local number from another provider	See Section 14.2
premises work charge, first 15 minutes	See Section 14.2
premises work charge, subsequent 15 minute increments	See Section 14.2

1. The customer is required to order blocking of long distance credit card calls, third-party billed calls, 976 calls and 900 calls with each Local Exchange Business Line or Local Exchange Metro Business Line.
 2. Additional line installation charges apply only when 2 or more lines are installed at the same time and at the same customer premises.

3. The Local Exchange

Meriplex Telecom, LLC
512 E. Riverside Drive, Suite 107
Austin, Texas 78704

Texas Tariff No. 1
First Revised Page 48

~~ge Business Metro Line has expanded calling scopes as found in Section 17 of this tariff.~~

(T)
|
(T)

(N)

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General Manager

SECTION 5.0 - LOCAL SERVICES

5.3 Optional Calling Features

The features listed in this are offered to customers either under the Standard Local Service, Enhanced Local Service or as options.

5.3.1 Feature Descriptions

- A. **Toll Restriction** (see Miscellaneous Section)
- B. **Call Block** allows the end-user to automatically block incoming calls from up to six end-user pre-selected telephone numbers programmed into the feature's screening list. Callers whose numbers have been blocked will hear a recorded message stating that their call has been blocked. The end-user controls when the feature is active, and can add or remove calling numbers from the feature's screening list.
- C. **Line Doesn't Answer – Fixed Call Forwarding** permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line is busy or when the end-user's line remains unanswered after a pre-designated ringing interval. The ringing interval before forwarding and the forward-to number are fixed by the service order. The forwarded number is fixed by the end-user service order. The end-user has the ability to turn the feature on or off at its discretion. (T)
- D. Offering discontinued (D)
|
(D)
- E. **Automatic Intercept Service** Provides standard automatic number referral for non-listed disconnected telephone numbers for twelve months or until the delivery of the new directory, whichever comes first. Automatic Intercept Service is only provided where facilities permit. (M)
|
(M)

SECTION 5.0 - LOCAL SERVICES

5.3 Optional Calling Features (continued)

5.3.1 Feature Descriptions (continued)

- F. Remote Call Forwarding - Remote Access** permits the end-user to automatically forward (transfer) all incoming calls to another telephone number, and to restore it to normal operation at their discretion. The end-user must dial an activation code along with the forward-to number to turn the feature on. A separate code is dialed by the end-user to deactivate the feature. Feature activation may be performed from the end-user's exchange line or remotely from some other line. Remote access requires the end-user to 1) dial a special access number 2) enter their seven-digit telephone number and 3) enter a personal identification number prior to forwarding their calls.
- G. Caller ID - CLID** permits the end-user to view a directory name and number of the calling party on incoming telephone calls. Information is displayed on a specialized CPE not provided by the Company. The feature also provides the date and time of each incoming call. It is the customer's responsibility to provide the necessary CPE. (T)
- H. Voice Mail** provides the end-user with voice mail storage and retrieval.
- I. Call Forwarding Busy** permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line is busy or when the end-user's line remains unanswered after a pre-designated ringing interval. The ringing interval before forwarding and the forward-to number are fixed by the service order. The forwarded number is fixed by the end-user service order. The end-user has the ability to turn the feature on or off at its discretion. (N)
|
(N)
- J. Call Number Delivery – Blocking per call** allows the end user to block outgoing caller ID on outgoing calls on a per call basis. (S)
(S)
- K. Hunting** routes a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy. (M),(T)
(T)

SECTION 5.0 - LOCAL SERVICES

5.3 Optional Calling Features (continued)

5.3.2 Rates for Optional Calling Features and Feature Packages

A. The features in this section are available on an individual basis or as part of multiple feature packages. All features are provided subject to availability. Transmission levels for calls placed, forwarded or received using optional calling features may vary.

B. The optional calling features are offered on a monthly basis. Customers are allowed unlimited use of each feature. Multiline customers must order features for each individual line for that line to have access to the feature.

C. Rates

Call Block	See Section 14	
Call Forwarding Busy	See Section 14	(N)
Line Doesn't Answer - Fixed Call Forwarding	See Section 14	(T)
		(D)
Remote Call Forwarding - Remote Access	See Section 14	
Caller ID	See Section 14	
Call Number Delivery - Blocking per call	See Section 14	(T)
Toll Restriction	See Section 14	
Voice Mail	See Section 14	
Hunting	See Section 14	(M)
Automatic Intercept Service	See Section 14	(M)
		(D)
		(D)

SECTION 5.0 – LOCAL SERVICES

- 5.4** **End-User Access Fees** – The Texas Universal Service Fund (TUSF) fee is a state imposed fee that is paid to the TUSF. The TUSF fee is listed in Section 15.1. The end user common line (EUCL) and Federal Universal Service Fund Surcharge (FUSF) are federal charges published in this local tariff for informational purposes only and may be found in Section 15.2.

(M)

(M)

SECTION 6.0

Service Discontinued

(D)

(D)

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SECTION 6.0

Service Discontinued

(D)

(D)

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General Manager

SECTION 7.0 - PRI SERVICES

7.1 Primary Rate Interface

7.1.1 Virtual Primary Rate Interface (V-PRI) is a digital architecture that provides an integrated voice and data capability to the customer premises, with voice access to the public switched network. The service includes circuit-switched voice, circuit-switched data and packet functions that are the equivalent of 23 channels.

7.4.2

7.1.2 Internet Protocol Primary Rate Interface (IP-PRI) is a digital architecture that provides an integrated voice and data capability to the customer premises, with voice access to the public switched network. The service includes packet-switched voice, packet-switched data and packet functions that are the equivalent of 23 simultaneous virtual paths.

7.2 Partial Primary Rate Interface

7.2.1 Partial Virtual Primary Rate Interface (V-PRI) The partial V-PRI is also based upon the total number of channels assigned and the maximum number of channels that can be allocated between voice and data. Partial V-PRI service provides a dynamic allocation of simultaneous channels, up to a maximum of twelve (12) channels.

7.2.2 Partial Internet Protocol Primary Rate Interface (Partial IP-PRI) The partial IP-PRI is also based upon the total number of virtual paths assigned and the maximum number of virtual paths that can be allocated between voice and data. Partial IP-PRI service provides a dynamic allocation of simultaneous virtual paths, up to a maximum of 12.

7.3 Local Calling Areas and Telephone Numbers If a customer is provided resold service from a designated central office which is not the customer's normal serving office, the local calling area in Austin, Dallas, Houston or San Antonio for the customer's Single Line V-PRI Service will be that of the designated V-PRI-equipped central office.

7.4 Integrated Access Digital Access Line

7.4.1 Integrated Access Digital Line

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(D)

(D)

(T)

(T)

(D)

(D)

(T)

(T)

(T)

(T)

(T)

(D)

(D)

(N)

(N)

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SECTION 7.0 – PRI SERVICES

7.5 Optional Features

Circuit Switched Data allows the transmission of circuit switched data on a voice channel.

Direct Inward/Outward Dialing allows the station users to place or receive calls bypassing the attendant.

Voice Mail is a central system, maintained by the Company, used to manage telephone messages.

Account Code Dialing

Authentication Dialing

Direct Inward Dialing

Hunting is available for circuit switched voice and data on primary directory numbers. Hunting is sequential by terminal within the group. One or two channels are associated with each terminal in the group. A begin-hunt telephone number must be assigned to the first terminal within a regular or circular group of sequentially ordered terminals that form a multiline hunt group. Telephone numbers may be assigned in any sequence to terminals within a hunt group. Multiline Hunt Service attempts to complete a call to the first available channel for the lead telephone number of the group. Busy tone is not sent to the caller unless all channels in the hunt group list are busy. The call will be completed to the first available channel. Multiline Hunt Groups can be assigned begin hunt or non-hunting telephone numbers.

(D)

(D)

(N)

(D)

(D)

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SECTION 7.0 – PRI SERVICES

Texas Tariff No. 1
Original Page 58

7.6 Service Rearrangements

Service rearrangements are changes to existing services that do not change the physical location of the channel terminated at a customer's premises.

If the change involves the addition of an optional feature which has a separate NRC, that NRC also applies.

7.7 PRI Service Rates¹

See Section 14.4

(T)

(D)

(D)

Notes 1. V-PRI pricing does not include CPE that may be required.

SECTION 8.0 – DIRECT INWARD DIALING

8.1 Direct Inward Dialing Service Description

Direct inward dialing (DID) permits calls incoming to a voice channel on VPRI or Partial VPRI or other customer premises equipment to be routed to a specific station without the assistance of an attendant. DID calls are routed directly to the station associated with the called number. DID service as offered by the Company provides the necessary trunks, telephone numbers, and out-pulsing of digits to enable DID service at a customer's location. DID service may require special PBX software and hardware not provided by the Company. Such hardware and software is the customer's responsibility.

8.1.1 DID Telephone Numbers

DID telephone numbers are normally provided on a consecutive number basis. DID numbers may be provided on a non-consecutive basis acceptable to the customer and Company. The Company retains its rights to the administration and use of telephone numbers.

8.1.2 E911 Requirements

Special steps are required for DID customers to have 911 service features consistent with those provided to other end users. Automatic Number Identification (ANI), Automatic Location Identification (ALI) and/or Selective Routing are only available through coordination with the governmental agency responsible for 911 service within the area served.

8.1.3 Application of Rates

The rates for DID service are in addition to recurring and nonrecurring charges for other services with which it is associated. The customer will be charged for the number of DID Number Blocks regardless of the number of DID numbers used from that block of numbers.

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SECTION 8.0 – DIRECT INWARD DIALING

Texas Tariff No. 1
 Original Page 60

8.1 Direct Inward Dialing Service Description (continued)

8.1.4 DID Rates

		<u>Rates</u>	
Direct Inward Dialing Number(s) Priced per DID	1 to 49 DIDs	See Section 14.5	(D)
	50 to 99 DIDs	See Section 14.5	(D)
	100 DIDs and over	See Section 14.5	(C)
Ported Direct Inward Dialing Number(s) Priced Per DID	1 to 49 DIDs	See Section 14.5	(D)
	50 to 99 DIDs	See Section 14.5	(N)
	100 DIDs and over	See Section 14.5	(N)

8.2 Account Code Dialing

8.2.1 Each DID number may be equipped with account code dialing. With account code dialing access to local and/or long distance services is only available by dialing an account code prior to dialing the long distance number. This arrangement allows the customer to track the calling for cost accounting. With this service the customer’s monthly invoice will provide call usage for each account code.

8.2.2 The rates for Account Code Dialing are in addition to recurring and nonrecurring charges for other services with which it is associated.

8.2.3 Rates – See Section 14.6

8.3 Authentication Dialing

8.2.1 Each DID number may be equipped with Authentication Dialing. This an arrangement whereby the customer can control access to its long distance network.

8.2.2 The rates for Authentication Dialing service are in addition to recurring and nonrecurring charges for other services with which it is associated.

8.2.3 Rates – See Section 14.6

SECTION 9.0 TELEBRANCH SERVICE

9.1 General

Telebranch is offered as a local or interexchange service. Local TeleBranch is a service whereby incoming calls to the Local TeleBranch telephone number are automatically forwarded another telephone within the local calling scope of the exchange. Interexchange TeleBranch is a service whereby incoming calls to the TeleBranch telephone number are automatically forwarded to another telephone number designated by the customer in to a number that is in a different intrastate exchange with a different local calling scope. Terminating stations must have incoming-call capability. Local TeleBranch is available only when used in connection with local exchange service. Interexchange TeleBranch is available only when used in connection with Long Distance Telecommunications Service (LDMTS) or inward Wide Area Telecommunications Service (WATS) lines (800 Service).

9.2 Availability of Facilities

TeleBranch services are offered subject to availability of suitable facilities. Its transmission characteristics may vary depending on the distance and routing necessary to complete the remotely forwarded call, and TeleBranch Services may not be suitable for the satisfactory transmission of data. The service is not offered where the terminating station is a coin telephone.

9.3 Limitations

Telebranch cannot call forward to the following services:

- Access services
- 700 numbers
- INTL telephone numbers
- Numbers associated with N11 services such as 911, 411, 511, 211
- Other Telebranch numbers

9.4. Rates

Local Telebranch path	See Section 14.7
Each Additional Path	See Section 14.7

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SECTION 10.0 – DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE and DIRECTORY LISTINGS Attachment No. 1
Original Page 62

10.1. Directory Assistance

A directory assistance charge applies per directory assistance call. The directory assistance charge applies regardless of whether the directory assistance operator is able to supply the requested number.

local directory assistance (each call)	See Section 14.8 long	(T)
distance directory assistance (each call)	See Section 14.8 INTL	
directory assistance (each call)	See Note 1	(T)

10.2 Directory Listings

10.2.1 General

The following rules apply to standard listings in light-face type in the white pages (alphabetical section) of the telephone directory and to the directory assistance records of the Company.

Only information necessary to identify the customer is included in these listings. The Company may use abbreviations in listings. The Company may reject a listing it judges to be objectionable. A name listed must be that under which the subscriber is legally doing business.

10.2.2 Standard Listing

A standard listing includes a name, designation, address and telephone number of the customer. It appears in the white pages of the telephone directory and in the Company's directory assistance records.

10.2.3 Rates

The following rates apply to additional listings:

	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	
Additional Standard Local Listing	See Section 14.9	(T)
Additional Foreign Listing (different exchange area)	See Section 14.9	(T)

Note 1: Customers may call 1-866-637-4235 for rates for INTL directory assistance.

SECTION 11.0 – OPERATOR SERVICES

11.1 General

The Company's Operator Assisted Calling is available for use by its local and long distance customers as well as transient end users served from aggregated locations. It provides live or automated operator assistance when a customer dials "0." Operator services can be used to help the customer route or bill a call. Billing options include, but may not be limited to, bill to originating telephone number and calling card. Billing to a third party, collect and commercial credit cards is not provided. Calls are billed in one-minute increments, with additional per call charges reflecting the level of operator assistance and billing arrangement requested by the customer.

11.2 Operator Assisted Calling

11.2.1 Operator Service Call Types

- (D)
|
(D)
- A. **Operator dialed calling** charges apply in addition to usage charges for non-person-to-person calls placed using the assistance of a Company operator and billed to the originating line, collect, to a third party, by deposit of coins in pay telephones, or via some method other than a calling card or commercial credit card. (T)
- B. **Person-to-Person** rates apply in addition to usage charges for calls placed with the assistance of a Company operator to a particular party at the destination number. This charge applies regardless of billing method, including but not limited to billing to the originating line, a calling card, commercial credit card, collect, by deposit of coins in pay telephones, or to a third party. Charges do not apply unless the specified party or an acceptable substitute is available. (T)
- C. **Station-to-Station** charges apply for customer dialed calls in addition to usage charges for non-person-to-person calls placed using the assistance of a Company operator and billed to the originating line, collect, to a third party, by deposit of coins in pay telephones, or via some method other than a calling card or commercial credit card. (N)
|
- D. **Customer Dialed Calling** (N)

SECTION 11.0 – OPERATOR SERVICES

11.2 Operator Assisted Services (continued)

11.2.2 Service Discontinued (D)

(D)

11.2.3 Operator Dialed Surcharge

This charge applies to Operator Station and Person-to-Person calls for which the caller has the ability to dial the called number, but chooses instead to have the Company operator perform the dialing. This charge is in addition to local usage charges and applicable operator service charges.

11.2.4 Rates for Operator Assisted Services

	<u>Per Call</u>	
Customer dialed calling	See Section 14.10	(D)
Operator dialed calling	See Section 14.10	(D)
Station-to-station	See Section 14.10	(N)
Person-to-person	See Section 14.10	(N)
Operator dialed surcharge	See Section 14.10	
Busy line verification	See Section 14.10	(M), (T)
Busy line interruption	See Section 14.10	(M), (T)

SECTION 11.0 – OPERATOR SERVICES

11.3 Busy Line Verification and Line Interrupt Service

Upon request of a calling party the Company will verify a busy condition on a designated local service line. The operator will determine if the line is clear or in use and report to the calling party. At the request of the customer, the operator will interrupt the call on the busy line. Busy Line Interruption is only permitted in cases where the calling party indicates an emergency exists and requests interruption.

No charge will apply when the calling party advises that the call is to or from an official public emergency agency. Busy Verification and Interrupt Service is furnished where and to the extent that facilities permit.

The customer shall indemnify and save the Company and the Company Indemnitees harmless against all claims that may arise from either party to the interrupted call or any person.

(M)
|
(M)

11.4 Call Blocking

Call blocking, or subsequent unblocking, dialed to 900, 976 or toll calls apply per line or out dial trunk. The blocking of toll calls is permitted under Toll Restriction found in the Miscellaneous Section of this tariff,

	monthly	
	rate	
Call blocking per line	See Section 14.10	(T)

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SECTION 12.0 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

12.1 LONG DISTANCE

The Company provides long distance services that both originate and terminate in Texas. These calls are intrastate (IAS) calls

	<u>Rate</u>	
Long distance - per minute	See Section 14.11	(T)
Toll free - per minute	See Section 14.11	(T) (D)

The Company provides long distances minutes in bundles of 500, 2000, 5000 and 10,000 minutes per month. (T)

The Company also provides long distance services that originate in Texas local service areas and terminate in other states or are INTL calls, except for INTL calls to cellular/mobile telephones in Canada or Great Britain. Such calls are not provided under this tariff. A potential customer may call the Company for a list of the current IRS or INTL rates.

Inbound Toll free Service: The Company provides numbers in the form of 8XX for inbound toll free service.

	<u>Rate</u>	
Inbound Toll Free Number	See Section 14.11	(T)

Payphone Surcharge: A surcharge shall apply for all calls made from payphones in addition to the charge per minute.

	<u>Rate</u>	
Payphone Surcharge – per call	See Section 14.11	(T)

SECTION 12.0 – MISCELLANEOUS

12.2 Service Discontinued

(D)

12.3 Service Discontinued

(D)

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General Manager

SECTION 12.0 – MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

12.4 Promotional Offerings

12.4.1 Offering Discontinued

(D)

(D)

12.4.2 Term Discounts

A discounts on **telecommunications** revenue as listed below are available where the customer agrees to a five-year term. If the customer is unable to complete the term, then a termination charge is assessed as liquidated damages. Written contracts are required for this discount to apply.

<u>term</u>	<u>discount</u>
five years	2.5 percent

12.4.3 Offering Discontinued

(D)

(D)

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General Manager

SECTION 12.0 – MISCELLANEOUS

12.4 Promotional Offerings

12.4.4 Offering Discontinued

(D)



(D)

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12.0 MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

12.5 Toll Restriction

12.5.1 Toll Restriction prohibits anyone from originating a direct dialed (1+) long distance call, a call to directory assistance or an operator assisted (0 or 0+) call from a designated local exchange access line. Any such calls, will be routed to an announcement that will inform the user that long distance calls are restricted from that line. Local calls and calls to 911, or E911, services will be allowed.

- A. Any direct dialed 1+ long distance call. Examples: (1+ Area Code + xxx-xxxx), (1+ xxx-xxxx), (five-digit carrier access code + 1+ xxx-xxxx) or (five-digit carrier access code + 1+ Area Code + xxx-xxxx).
- B. Any local or long distance 0+ or 0 call, even in the event of an emergency. Examples: (0+ xxx-xxxx), (0+ Area Code + xxx-xxxx), five-digit carrier access code + 0+ XXX-XXXX), (five-digit carrier access code + Area code + xxx-xxxx), or (0).
- C. Any Directory Assistance call for local or long distance numbers. Examples: 411, (1+ 411), (1+ 555-1212)
- D. Any call placed to a local DIAL 976 telephone number. Example: (976-xxxx).
- E. Any call to an emergency telephone number if it is a long distance call (Local 911 or E911 calls are allowed).

12.5.2 Outgoing long distance and local calls not restricted are as follows:

- Any local seven-digit call. Example: (xxx-xxxx).
- Any call to an Inward WATS service. Example: 1+800+xxx-xxxx).
- Where Company facilities permit, any one plus (1+) calls to the Company business offices and repair services.

12.5.3 Rates

The following rates and charges apply in addition to those found in other parts of this Tariff.

	<u>monthly</u> <u>rate</u>	<u>NRC</u>
Toll restriction, per line	See Section 14.13	

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(M)

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(M)

(M)

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General Manager

12.0 MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

12.7 Grandfathered Services

For customers that have a contract with Meriplex Communications, Ltd. as of the original effective date of this tariff, and concurrently have local services provided by Grande Communications Network, Inc. (Grande), the customer's local services are grandfathered at the rates established by Grande in its currently approved Local Exchange Tariff on file at the Texas Public Utility Commission. (T)
Accordingly, these customers may retain their plan for services offered under the Grande tariff without modification until the end of their current contract term with Meriplex Communications, Ltd. (T)

For customers that have a contract with Meriplex Communications, Ltd. as of the effective date of this tariff, and concurrently have long distance services provided by Meriplex Communications, Ltd., the customer's long distance services are grandfathered at the contract rates as established by Meriplex Communications, Ltd. until the end of their current contract term with Meriplex Communications, Ltd. If those customers move to another location, whether on the same premises, or a different premises, they must then subscribe to services offered under this Meriplex Telecom LLC tariff at the then current Meriplex Telecom LLC tariff rates. (S)

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12.0 MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

12.8 Special Charges

12.8.1 If additional entrance or distribution facilities are required, or if conditions require special equipment, maintenance or methods of construction, if the installation is for a temporary purpose, or if for any other reason, the costs are excessive as compared with the revenue to be derived from the project, the applicant may be required to pay for costs over and above the costs that apply for a normal installation.

Examples of situations which may give rise to such special charges include where facilities, equipment or required construction methods:

- are not presently available;
- are of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- are over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- are in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- are requested on an expedited basis;
- are only available on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available; or
- involve abnormal costs.

13.1 PACKAGED OFFERINGS

The packages consist of a combination of both IRS and IAS Services. The Internet access and any IRS and/or INTL long distance services that are a part of such packages are IRS in nature; accordingly, such offerings will also be found in Meriplex Telecom LLC's Tariff FCC No. 1.

13.2 Standard Packages

13.2.1

Service Discontinued

(D)

(D)

13.2.2 MCS Local Performance Hunting Solution

(T)

Single T1 Internet access
Up to 1.5 Mbps Internet access
Public static IP addresses
24/7 Managed Cisco router and circuit
4 Hunting Integrated Access Digital Lines
Local extended calling scope
2,000 Nation-wide long distance minutes
1 Local Exchange Business line

(T)

13.0 PACKAGED OFFERINGS

13.3 Partial Packages

13.3.1

Service Discontinued

(D)

13.4 Hosted Packages

13.4.1

Service Discontinued

(D)

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13.0 PACKAGED OFFERINGS

13.5 Rates for Packaged Services

The following rates and charges apply in addition to those found in other parts of this Tariff.

	<u>Monthly</u> <u>rate</u>	<u>NRC</u>	
MCS Local Performance Hunting Solution	See Section 14.14		(D) (T) (D) (D)

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SECTION 14.0 RATES

		<u>Monthly Recurring</u>	<u>Non- Recurring</u>	
14.1 Service order and Change	Service Order new service,			
	per line		\$35.00	
Charges (See Section 4.0)	Additional Line, same order		\$5.00	
	Service Order for rearrangements or changes First Line		\$35.00	
	Additional Line, same order		\$5.00	
	Maintenance Visit Charges		\$95.00	
	Per technician, first 15 minutes		\$23.75	
	Each additional 15 minutes		\$50.00	(T)
	Restoration of Service			
	Per occasion as results from non-payment issues or violations			
14.2 Local Exchange Business				
	Line (See Section 5.0)			(D)
	The following nonrecurring charges are in addition to service order charges above			
	Local Exchange Business Line, first installed	\$35.00	\$35.00	
	each additional Local			(T), (I)
	Exchange Business Line	\$35.00	\$35.00	
	Local Exchange Metro Business Line	\$55.00	\$35.00	(N)
	each additional Local Exchange Metro Business Line	\$55.00	\$35.00	(N)
	Port local number from another carrier, per number		\$5.00	
	Hunting	\$8.00	\$35.00	

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	minutes	\$95.00	(D)
	Each additional 15 minutes	\$23.75	
Expedites		ICB	

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SECTION 14.0 RATES

		<u>Monthly Recurring</u>	<u>Non- Recurring</u>
14.2 Rates for Optional Calling			
Features Packages	and		Feature
			Call Block
		\$3.00	(R)
			Call Forwarding Busy Line Doesn't Answer – Fixed Call Forwarding
		\$5.00	(N)
		\$4.00	(T), (R)
			(D)
			Remote Call Forwarding - Remote Access
		\$6.00	
		\$3.00	(T), (R)
			Caller ID - CLID Call Number Delivery
			\$3.00 (T)
			Blocking - per call
		\$4.00	
		\$7.00	(R)
			(D)
		\$8.00	(T), (I)
			Hunting Automatic Intercept Service
		\$16.00	

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SECTION 7.0 –PRI SERVICES

		<u>Monthly Recurring</u>	<u>Non- Recurring</u>	
14.3				(D) (D)
14.4	PRI Services			
	Service rearrangement, per			
	(see Section 7.0)			(T), (D)
	interface			
	V-PRI Interface (23 channels)	\$395.00	\$195.00	(T), (S), (I)
	Partial V-PRI Interface (12 channels)	\$295.00	\$145.00	(T), (I)
	V-PRI Interface (each additional channel over 12 and up to 23)	\$25.00	\$35.00	(T), (S)
	IP-PRI (23 simultaneous virtual paths)	\$359.00	\$195.00	(T), (S)
	Partial IP-PRI Paths (up to 12 simultaneous virtual paths)	\$249.00	\$145.00	(T), (I)
	Partial IP-PRI Paths (up to 4 simultaneous virtual paths)	\$129.00	\$145.00	(N)
	IP-PRI (each additional path-)	\$20.00	\$25.00	(T), (S), (R)
	Integrated Access Digital Line	\$25.00	\$25.00	(N)
	Hunting Integrated Access Digital Line	\$25.00	\$25.00	
	Options:			
	Call Forwarding Busy	\$0.00	\$0.00	Call
	Forwarding No Answer	\$0.00	\$0.00	Remote Call
	Forwarding	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Caller ID – CLID	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Toll Restriction	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Voice Mail	\$7.00	\$0.00	(N),(I) (D) (D)

SECTION 7.0 – PRI SERVICES

		<u>Monthly Recurring</u>	<u>Non- Recurring</u>	
14.5	Direct Inward Dialing Services (see Section 8.1)			(D)
	Direct Inward Dialing Number(s) Priced per DID			
	1 to 49 DIDs	\$0.50	\$1.00	(T)
	50 to 99 DIDs	\$0.40	\$1.00	(T)
	100 DIDs and over	\$0.30	\$1.00	(T)
	Ported Direct Inward Dialing Number(s) Priced per DID			
	1 to 49 DIDs	\$0.50	\$3.00	(N)
	50 to 99 DIDs	\$0.40	\$3.00	(N)
	100 DIDs and over	\$0.30	\$3.00	(N)
14.6	Account Code Dialing (see Section 8.2)	\$45.00	\$100.00	
	Authentication Dialing (see Section 8.3)	\$45.00	\$100.00	(N)
14.7	Telebranch (see Section 9)			
	Local path	\$15.00		(R)
	Each additional path	\$9.00		(I)

SECTION 14.0 RATES

		<u>Monthly Recurring</u>	<u>Non- Recurring</u>	<u>Per MOU</u>	
14.8	Directory Assistance (see Section 10.0)				
	Local Directory Assistance (each call)		\$1.00		(T)
	Long Distance Directory Assistance (each call)		\$2.00		(T)
14.9	Directory Listings (see Section 10.0)				
	Additional Standard Local Listing	\$6.00	\$6.00		(T), (I)
	Additional Foreign listing(different exchange area)	\$9.00	\$6.00		(T), (I)
14.10	Operator Services (see Section 11.0)				(D)
					(D)
			\$1.00		(N)
	Customer dialed calling		\$4.00		(N)
	Operator dialed calling		\$3.00		
	Station-to-station Person-to-person		\$7.00		(I)
	Operator dialed surcharge		\$4.00		
	Busy line verification		\$9.00		(I)
	Busy line interruption	\$5.00	\$11.00		(I)
	Call Blocking per line				(T)
14.11	Long Distance (see Section 12.1)			\$0.08	(I)
	long distance, per minute			\$0.08	(I)
	toll free, per minute				(D)
		\$10.00			(I)
	Inbound Toll Free Payphone				
	Inbound toll free number		\$1.00		(I)
	Surcharge 14.11.1 Long Distance Bundles				
	Payphone surcharge - per call	\$25.00			(T)
	500 minute Nation-Wide Long Distance Bundle				(M)
		\$80.00			
	2000 Minute Nation-Wide Long Distance Bundle				(M)

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SECTION 14.0 RATES

		<u>Monthly Recurring</u>	<u>Non- Recurring</u>	<u>Per MOU</u>
14.11	(see Section 12.1 Long distance bundles continued)			
	5,000 Minute Nation-Wide Long Distance Bundle	\$200.00		(T)
	10,000 Minute Nation-Wide Long Distance Bundle	\$400.00		(M) (T)
	Each minute that exceeds a bundled amount			\$0.06 (T), (M)
14.12				(D)
	Per additional custom number requested		\$5.00	
14.13	Toll Restriction (see Section 12.5)	\$5.00	\$25.00	(T)
14.14	Packaged Solutions (see Section 13)			(D)
	MCS Local Performance Hunting Solution	\$495.00	\$495.00	(T)
				(D)
				(D)

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SECTION 15.0 – END USER ACCESS FEES

15.1 Texas End User Access Fees: The Texas Universal Service Fee (TUSF) is a percent of all taxable revenues on the customer's invoice. Such fees are paid to the TUSF. If the TUSF fee is changed by the Commission in Docket No. 21208, then the newly approved fee shall supersede any previous fees. (T)

15.2 Federal Access Fees: The following Federal End User Access Fees are provided for informational purposes. (T)

<u>End User Common Line (EUCL)</u>	<u>EUCL</u> <u>monthly</u>
Single-line business	
Per individual line	\$ 6.50
Multiline Business	
Individual line or trunk,	\$ 6.50
When local exchange service is provided as Primary Rate Interface (PRI) integrated services digital network (ISDN) service, five End User Common Line-Multiline Business individual line or trunk charges apply to each such local exchange service.	
	<u>monthly</u>
Per BRI ISDN Facility	\$ 6.50
Per PRI ISDN Facility	\$39.00

<u>Federal Universal Service Fund (FUSF) surcharge</u>	<u>FUSF</u> <u>monthly</u>
Single-Line Business	\$ 0.74
ISDN BRI	\$ 0.97
Multiline Business	\$ 0.84
PRI ISDN	\$11.11
PIC Change Charge, per change	\$ 0.63
per mechanized supplemental Change	\$ 0.23

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SECTION 16.0 – EMERGENCY NUMBER SERVICE (911 AND E911)

16.1 Emergency Number Service (911 and E911)

(M)

This Tariff provides for Emergency Number Service (911 Service), which establishes links to the 911 public service answering point (PSAP) whereby any user who dials the number "911" will reach the emergency report center for the telephone number from which the number is dialed or will be routed to a designated default alternative if all lines to that emergency report center are busy. The telephone user who dials the 911 number will not be charged for the call. County and municipal governments are the agencies empowered to establish an emergency communication district or a 911 service district. Those local authorities, alone or in concert, may act on behalf of the public agencies located within the emergency communication district.

16.1.1 Two types of 911 service are offered by the Company, Basic 911 (911) and Enhanced 911 Service (E911).

Basic 911 Service provides for routing all 911 calls originated by telephones having telephone numbers beginning with a given central office prefix code or codes to the designated PSAP equipped to receive those calls.

E-911 Services include automatic number identification (ANI) and/or automatic location identification (ALI) and selective routing, and/or any other combination of enhanced 911 features required by a regional planning commission or the 9-1-1 emergency communication district responsible for the geographic area involved. This requirement is in accordance with Health and Safety Code, Chapter 771, and the applicable regional plan approved by the Commission on State Emergency Communications, or by the emergency communication district, defined in Health and Safety Code, §771.001(2), responsible for the geographic area involved or other local authority responsible for the geographic area involved.

16.1.2 All 911 calling parties waive the privacy afforded by non-listed and non-published service to the extent that the telephone number, address and name associated with the originating access line location are furnished to the public service answering point (PSAP).

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SECTION 16.0 – EMERGENCY NUMBER SERVICE (911 AND E911)

16.1 Emergency Number Service (911 and E911) (continued)

(M)

16.1.3 Emergency Telephone Service Charge. The Company will assess a fee to Customers, on a recurring basis, non-recurring basis, or both, to recover the costs incurred by the Company for providing 911 service; and, may where permitted, assess and remit appropriate surcharges or other amounts payable to public or other agencies that provide 911 services. Because the Company's serving boundaries may not coincide with political subdivisions and 911 service district boundaries, the Company may assess standard fees and surcharges upon all service users served by a central office providing 911 service.

16.1.4 Rules, Regulations and Terms and Conditions. The Company will not provide both 911 and E911 Service within a given central office serving area. The Company does not undertake to answer and forward 911 calls, but furnishes the use of its facilities to enable the service users to have the ability to access the PSAP. The services provided under this Tariff do not include the monitoring of facilities to discover errors, defects and malfunctions in 911 or E911 services, facilities, or operations, nor does the Company undertake such responsibility. The Company will be responsible for making such operational tests of its equipment as, in the judgment of the Company, are required to determine whether 911 and E911 calls are functioning properly. The Company will promptly notify the proper 911 agency in the event the system is not functioning properly.

The Company's liability to the Customer, to any party dialing 911 using the Customer's facilities or to any other party or persons, for any loss or damage arising from errors, interruptions, omissions, delays, defects, failures, or real functions of this service or any part thereof, whether caused by the negligence of the Company or otherwise, will not exceed the amount equivalent to the *pro rata* charges for the service affected during the period of time that the service was fully or partially inoperative. These limited damages will be in addition to any outage credits. This limitation of liability will be in addition to any other limitations contained elsewhere in this tariff. The customer agrees to release, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Company and its indemnitees from any claims, suits, proceedings, expenses, losses, liabilities, or damages ("claims") by any party or parties arising out of the use or attempted use of the customer's services for purposes of placing 911 or E911 calls, including (a) claims of infringement or invasion of the right of privacy or confidentiality of any person or persons; (b) all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the customer or any user of the customer's

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SECTION 16.0 – EMERGENCY NUMBER SERVICE (911 AND E911)

16.1 Emergency Number Service (911 and E911) (continued)

(M)

16.1.4 Rules, Regulations and Terms and Conditions.

services, caused or claimed to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, occasion or use of 911 service features and the equipment associated therewith, or by any services furnished by the Company in connection therewith, including, but not limited to, the identification of the telephone used by the party or parties accessing 911 Service hereunder. Customer agrees to defend Company against any such claims.

(M)

16.2 IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE FOR VoIP CUSTOMERS

(N)

There are differences between E911 provided under traditional telephone service as opposed to E911 service provided with Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP). If the customer has any questions or concerns, or does not understand information below, it should contact Company's customer service representatives at 1-866-637-4235 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Standard Time.

16.2.1 VOIP SERVICES MAY NOT OPERATE DURING A POWER OUTAGE.

The device placed on the customer's premises may be equipped with back-up battery power, however in the event of a commercial power outage lasting longer than the battery life of that device, that device will lose power causing a loss of voice and data service, including access to E911 services. Once power service is restored, the customer may be required to reset or reconfigure its equipment before the customer will be able to use VoIP Services to contact E911. The customer is responsible for providing an uninterruptible backup power supply to ensure continued operation of electrical equipment in the event of a power outage.

(N)

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SECTION 16.0 – EMERGENCY NUMBER SERVICE (911 AND E911)

16.2 IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE FOR VoIP CUSTOMERS (continued)

16.2.2 VOIP SERVICES WILL NOT OPERATE IF THE BROADBAND CONNECTION IS DISRUPTED OR VOIP SERVICES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED FOR ANY REASON, INCLUDING, NON-PAYMENT OF RATES OR CHARGES.

When the broadband connection and VOIP Services have been restored, customer may be required to reset or reconfigure its equipment before the customer will be able to use VOIP services to contact E911 services.

16.2.3 THE CUSTOMER MUST PROVIDE COMPANY WITH ITS CORRECT SERVICE ADDRESS OR VOIP SERVICES' 911 CALLS MAY BE ROUTED TO EMERGENCY PERSONNEL WHO WILL BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.

If the service address information identified in the contract or bill is inaccurate, the customer is responsible for correcting such information by calling our Customer Service representatives at 1-866-637-4235 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Standard Time.

16.2.4 VOIP SERVICE E911 CALLS MAY NOT COMPLETE OR MAY BE INCORRECTLY ROUTED TO THE WRONG EMERGENCY PERSONNEL WHO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IF THE PREMISES DEVICE IS DISABLED, DAMAGED OR MOVED TO A LOCATION OTHER THAN THE SERVICE ADDRESS IN THE CUSTOMER'S CONTRACT.

If customer wishes to move to a different service address or report damage to its premises device, the customer must call either Company's sales representative or customer service representatives at 1-866-637-4235 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Standard Time.

(N)

(N)

SECTION 16.0 – EMERGENCY NUMBER SERVICE (911 AND E911)

16.2 IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE FOR VoIP CUSTOMERS (continued)

16.2.5 VOIP SERVICE E911 CALLS MAY BE DELAYED OR DROPPED DUE TO NETWORK ARCHITECTURE.

Due to network congestion or problems, calls to E911 services made using VoIP Services may be dropped, in which case the customer will not be connected to emergency services, or its E911 calls may take longer to connect than E911 calls made using traditional telephone service.

16.2.6 COMPANY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE CUSTOMER MAINTAIN AN ALTERNATE MEANS OF CONTACTING E911 AND INFORM ITS EMPLOYEES AND OTHER VOIP SERVICE USERS OF THE ALTERNATE MEANS.

(N)

(N)

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SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.1 GENERAL

Specifically with reference to the local calling scopes provided within this Section, the Meriplex Telecom, LLC makes no warranties or representations, express or implied, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein. Meriplex Telecom, LLC 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 the customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or service which are interconnected with Meriplex Telecom, LLC services.

All other terms and conditions as found in Section 2 and elsewhere within this tariff apply.

17.2 LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

For customers that are not served by Meriplex Telecom, LLC switches, Meriplex Telecom, LLC concurs in Section 1 of the Local Exchange Tariff and Section 38 of the General Exchange Tariff offered by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in the Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio local access and transport areas (LATAs) as denoted below. Exchange areas for all customers whose premises are located in the Southwestern Bell territory will be the same as Southwestern Bell's service areas except where noted by service or rate element.

For facilities-based customers, Meriplex Telecom, LLC's calling scope will largely overlap the respective Southwestern Bell calling scopes but will not necessarily be the same as Southwestern Bell's. Extended service products may also be available depending on the customer's exchange.

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS

Exchange Access Service Areas (EASAs) are provided in limited geographic areas. Exchange Access Services are provided in the following areas:

SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas

17.3.1.1 AUSTIN Metropolitan Exchange

Principal Zone and First Zone

Austin
Bee Caves
Cedar Valley
Creedmoor
Garfield
Jollyville
Manchaca
Manor
Marshall Ford
Pflugerville
Round Rock
Webberville

2nd Zone

Bee Creek
Lake Travis
Leander

The Local Calling Area of the Austin Metropolitan Exchange consists of the preceding Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Zones and those customers subscribing to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company EACS in the Liberty Hill exchange, and those customers subscribing to EMS in the Bastrop, Elgin, Lockhart, Smithville and Taylor exchange, and those customers subscribing to EMS in the Central Telephone Company of Texas exchange of Hutto and EMS customers in the CONTEL of Texas, Inc., d/b/a GTE-Texas, Exchange of Lytton Springs, and those customers subscribing to the Premium Plus Calling Plan in the GTE Southwest Inc. Exchanges of Buda, Dripping Springs, Kyle, Georgetown, and Wimberley. Unlimited local flat-rate calling is provided between all telephones with the local calling area.

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SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.2 DALLAS Metropolitan Exchange

Principal Zone and First Zone

2nd Zone

Dallas
Addison
Danieldale
Duncanville
Farmers Branch
Grand Prairie
Hutchins
Mesquite
North Mesquite
Richardson
Rylie

Cedar Hill
De Soto
Lancaster
Lawson
Renner
Seagoville
Sunnyvale

The Local Calling Area of the Dallas Metropolitan Exchange consists of the preceding Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Zones and the GTE Southwest Incorporated Exchanges of Carrollton, Garland, Irving, Lewisville, Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, Plano, Rowlett and Wylie, those customers subscribing to EACS in the Allen and Rockwall Exchanges and those customers subscribing to EMS in the Aubrey, Combine, Crandall Farmersville, Forney, Frisco, Greenville, Ennis, McKinney, Midlothian, Prosper, Princeton, Red Oak, Royse City, Terrell and Waxahachie exchanges in areas of the Fort Worth Metropolitan Exchange as shown and those customers subscribing to EMS in the GTE Southwest Incorporated exchanges of Bartonville, Grapevine and Keller, and those customers subscribing to EMS in the CONTEL of Texas, Inc., d/b/a GTE-Texas, Exchanges of Wilmer, Bristol, Ferris, Nevada, and Palmer, and EMS customers in the Lake Dallas Telephone Company Incorporated Exchange of Lake Dallas, and

SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.2 DALLAS Metropolitan Exchange (continued)

those customers subscribing to EMS in the EMS customers in the Sprint/United Telephone of Texas Exchange of Kaufman. EMS customers in the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Arlington, Atlas (portion of Fort Worth Zone), Euless, Glendale (portion of Fort Worth Zone), Kennedale, Mansfield, North Richland Hills, and Roanoke Zones of the Fort Worth Metropolitan Exchange. Unlimited local flat-rate calling is provided between all telephones within the local calling area.

DALLAS - FT. WORTH Calling Plan (optional)

The Dallas-Ft. Worth Calling Plan (Optional EACS) One-way flat-rate calling available in each of the following SWBT exchanges:

Allen	Crandall	Granbury	Red Oak
Alvarado	Dallas	Greenville	Rockwall
Anna	Ennis	Italy	Royce City
Aubrey	Farmersville	McKinney	Terrell
Celina	Forney	Midlothian	Waxahachie
Cleburne	Fort Worth	Princeton	Weatherford
Combine	Frisco	Prosper	Wills Point

The calling scope for this plan includes each of the SWBT exchanges listed immediately above, as well as the following non-SWBT exchanges:

GTE Southwest, Inc.

Argyle	Avalon	Azle	Bardwell
Bartonville	Bristol	Blue Ridge	Caddo Mills
Cash	Carrollton	DFW Airport	Denton
Ferris	Garland	Glen Rose	Grapevine
Irving	Josephine	Justin	Keller
Lewisville	Maypearl	Merit	Milford
Nevada	Palmer	Pilot Point	Plano
Quinlan	Reno	Rowlett	Springtown
Tawakoni	Venus	Wilmer	Wylie

SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.2 DALLAS – FT. WORTH Calling Plan (optional) (continued)

Century Telephone Co.	Lake Dallas
Sprint/United Tel, Co. of Texas	Kaufman
Sprint/Centel	Rhome
Alltel	Acton, Cresson, Godley

17.3.1.3 FT. WORTH Metropolitan Exchange

<u>Principal Zone and First Zone</u>	<u>2nd Zone</u>
Fort Worth	Aledo
Arlington	Burleson
Benbrook	Crowley
Edgecliff	Eagle Mt. Lake
Eules	Haslet
Fort Worth-Wedgewood	Mansfield
Kennedale	Roanoke
Lake Worth	Silver Creek
North Richland Hills	Wheatland
Saginaw	
Westland	
White Settlement	

The Local Calling Area of the Fort Worth Metropolitan Exchange consists of the preceding Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Zones and the GTE Southwest Incorporated Exchanges of Azle, Grapevine and Keller and those customers subscribing to EMS in the Alvarado, Cleburne, Granbury and Weatherford exchanges and in areas of those Dallas Metropolitan Exchanges, preceding, and those customers subscribing to EMS in the GTE Southwest Incorporated Exchanges of Irving, Lewisville and Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, EMS customers in the Rhome exchange of Central Telephone Company of Texas, and EMS customers of the Godley exchange of Texas ALLTEL Incorporated, EMS customers of the Reno and Springtown Exchanges of the CONTEL of Texas, Inc. d/b/a. GTE-Texas, and EMS customers in the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Cedar Hill and Grand Prairie Zones of the Dallas Metropolitan Exchange.

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SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.3 FT. WORTH Metropolitan Exchange (continued)

Unlimited local flat-rate calling is provided between all telephones within the local calling area.

{#} Customers located within the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Atlas and Glendale portions of the Fort Worth Zone may elect to enlarge their basic local calling scope by subscribing to optional EMS.

Unlimited local flat-rate calling is also provided as follows between:

- (A) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Euless Zone and the Grand Prairie Zone of the Dallas Metropolitan Exchange and Irving and Dallas-Fort Worth Airport of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (B) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Roanoke Zone and Lewisville Exchange of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (C) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Mansfield Zone and the Grand Prairie and Cedar Hill Zones of the Dallas Metropolitan Exchange.
- (D) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Arlington Zone and the Grand Prairie and Cedar Hill Zones of the Dallas Metropolitan Exchange and Irving of GTE Southwest Incorporated
- (E) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Arlington, Atlas, Euless, Glendale, Kennedale, Mansfield, North Richland Hills, and Roanoke Zones of the Ft. Worth Metropolitan Exchange and those customers subscribing to EACS in the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Allen and Rockwall Exchanges.

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SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.4 HOUSTON Metropolitan Exchange

<u>Principal Zone and First Zone</u>	<u>2nd Zone</u>
Houston	Apollo
Airline	Bammel
Aldine	Barker
Alief	Friendswood
Blue Ridge	Lake Houston
Buffalo	Langham Creek
Channelview	La Porte
Deer Park	Manvel
East Houston	Satsuma
Ellington	Seabrook
Jersey Village	Sheldon
Pearland	Westfield

The Local Calling Area of the Houston Metropolitan Exchange consists of the preceding Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Zones and the Arcola and the Stafford Exchanges of GTE Southwest Incorporated, the Sugar Land Exchange of the Sugar Land Telephone Company, the Atascocita, Humble-South Humble, Kingwood and Porter Exchanges of the Central Telephone Company of Texas, and EMS customers in the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company: Alvin, Cypress, Liverpool, Pinehurst, Richmond-Rosenberg, Smithers Lake, Splendora, Spring, Tomball, Valley Lodge and Waller Exchanges, and EMS customers in the GTE Southwest Incorporated Exchanges of Bacliff, Baytown, Beach City, Crosby, Dickinson, Highlands, Huffman, Kemah, League City, Mont Belvieu and Rosharon, and EMS customers in the Fort Bend Telephone Company Exchanges of Brookshire and Katy, and EMS customers in the CONTEL of Texas, Inc., d/b/a GTE-Texas Nassau Bay Exchange, and EMS customers in the Central Telephone Company of Texas Exchange of Porter Heights, and EMS customers in the Lufkin-Conroe Telephone Company Exchanges of Conroe, Cut-N-Shoot, Grangerland, Lake Conroe, Montgomery, Riverbrook, and Walden.

Unlimited local flat-rate calling is provided between all telephones within the local calling area.

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SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.4 Houston Metropolitan Exchange (continued)

Unlimited local flat-rate calling is also provided as follows between:

- (A) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Apollo Zone and Bacliff, Dickinson, Kemah and League City Exchanges of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (B) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Bammel Zone and Spring and Tomball Exchanges.
- (C) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Barker Zone and Richmond-Rosenberg Exchange and Katy Exchanges of the Fort Bend Telephone Company.
- (D) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Channelview Zone and Baytown and Highlands Exchanges of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (E) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Deer Park Zone and Baytown Exchange of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (F) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Friendswood Zone and Alvin and Dickinson and League City Exchanges of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (G) Houston (Principal Zone) and Baytown and Highlands Exchanges of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (H) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Langham Creek Zone and Cypress and Katy Exchanges of the Fort Bend Telephone Company.
- (I) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company La Porte Zone and Baytown Exchange of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (J) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Manvel Zone and Alvin Exchange.
- (K) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Satsuma Zone and Cypress and Tomball Exchanges.

SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.4 HOUSTON Metropolitan Exchange (continued)

Unlimited local flat-rate calling is also provided as follows between (continued):

- (L) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Seabrook Zone and Bacliff and Kemah Exchanges of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (M) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Sheldon Zone and Highlands Exchange of GTE Southwest Incorporated.
- (N) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Westfield Zone and Spring Exchange and Kingwood and Porter Exchanges of the Central Telephone Company of Texas.

HOUSTON Metropolitan Calling Plan (optional)

Optional one-way flat-rate calling is available in each of the following SWBT exchanges:

Alvin	Dayton	Liberty	Smithers Lake
Angleton	Eagle Lake	Liverpool	Splendor
Bay City	El Campo	Matagorda	Spring
Bellville	Freeport	Pinehurst	Texas City-La Marque
Brenham	Galveston	Port Bolivar	Tomball
Cleveland	Garwood	Prairie View	Valley Lodge
Hempstead	Cypress	Wharton	Waller
Columbus	Houston	Sealy	Richmond-Rosenberg
			Clute-Lake Jackson

The calling scope for this plan includes each of the SWBT exchanges listed immediately above, as well as the following non-SWBT exchanges:

Alltel Sugar Land Telephone
Old Ocean, Sugar Land and Sweeny

Fort Bend Telephone Co.
Beasley, Brookshire, Damon, Katy and Needville

SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.3.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.4 HOUSTON Metropolitan Calling Plan (optional) (continued)

The calling scope for this plan includes each of the SWBT exchanges listed immediately above, as well as the following non-SWBT exchanges:

Sprint/Centel

Atascocita, Humble, Kingwood, Glen Flora, South Humble, Porter, Porter Heights and West Columbia

GTE-Southwest, Inc.

Arcola, Crosby, Huffman, Bacliff, Dickinson, Kemah, Baytown, East Bernard, League City, Beach City, Highlands, Mont Belvieu, Boling, Hitchcock Nassau Bay, Rosharon Stafford and Wallis.

17.3.1.5 SAN ANTONIO Metropolitan Exchange

Principal Zone and First Zone

San Antonio
Babcock
Buena Vista
Culebra
Foster-Helotes
Frat
Indian Creek
Lackland
Martinez
Palo Alto
Shavano
Southton
Thelma
Wetmore

2nd Zone

Bracken
Elm Creek
Elmendorf
Geronimo Creek
Helotes
Jarratt
Leon Springs
Montgomery
Oak Island
Potranco
St. Hedwig
Sandy Hills
Sayers
Universal City

The Local Calling Area of the San Antonio Metropolitan Exchange consists of the preceding Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Zones, and EMS customers in the Bandera, Campbellton, Castroville, Christine, Devine, Hondo, La Coste, Lytle, Marion, Medina Lake, New Braunfels, Pipe Creek, Pleasanton, Poteet, and Seguin Exchanges of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, and EMS customers in the Balcones and Bulverde Exchanges of Guadalupe Valley Telephone Company, and EMS

SECTION 17.0 – LOCAL CALLING SCOPES

17.3 EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICE AREAS (continued)

17.1 Metropolitan Exchange Local Calling Areas (continued)

17.3.1.5 SAN ANTONIO Metropolitan Exchange (continued)

customers in the Boerne and Somerset Exchanges, as well as Premium Plus Calling Plan customers in the Charlotte, Floresville, Jourdanton, Lavernia Sutherland Springs Exchanges of GTE-SW Incorporated.

Unlimited local flat-rate calling is provided between all telephones within the local calling area.

17.4 RATES

The rates for the Local Exchange Business Line and Local Exchange Metro Business Line are found in Section 14.2.

<u>Extended Area Calling Service</u>	
<u>Class of Service</u>	<u>Monthly Rate Additive</u> ¹
Business--subscribers of optional extended area services	\$30.00

1. This rate additive applies in addition to the Local Exchange Business Line or the Local Exchange Metro Business Line rates found in Section 14.2 for all optional extended area services such as optional EMS, metropolitan calling plans.

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