



May 25, 2021

Filing Center
Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High Street SE
Salem, OR 97301-3612

**RE: Advice No.135, Asotin Telephone Company; PUC Or. No. 3 – Access Services
Modify Intrastate Switched Access Rates**

To Whom It May Concern:

Included in this submission are the following tariff pages for Asotin Telephone Company:

Section 2 First Revised Sheets 49, 54, & 55
Section 4 First Revised Sheets 71, 76, 79, 80, 90, 92, 98, 102, 103, & 115
Fifth Revised Sheet 123
Eighth Revised Sheet 124

The purpose of this filing is to establish separate rate elements for intrastate Toll-Free Originating End Office Access Service. In addition, intrastate Switched End Office rates associated with Toll Free traffic will be reduced to their functionally equivalent interstate rates (unless they are already lower) and all common transport charges associated with Toll Free traffic will become subsumed into a single uniform rate (Joint Tandem Switched Transport) and capped at \$0.001. Finally, Toll Free Query Charges will be capped at \$0.004248 per query. These modifications, plus miscellaneous text changes to account for the rate changes above, are in response to the Federal Communications Commission's Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed rulemaking, WC Docket No. 18-156, FCC 20-143, § 51.909 (n) (Released October 9, 2020) that requires Rate of Return Carrier's to effectuate the preceding revisions, effective July 1, 2021.

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email at rachelle.ladwig@tdstelecom.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "Rachelle A. Ladwig". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rachelle A. Ladwig
Senior Administrator-Tariffs

Enclosures

ACCESS SERVICES

2. **GENERAL REGULATIONS** (Continued)

2.6 Definitions (Continued)

Intrastate Call

Any toll communications within a state subject to oversight by the state regulatory commission.

- Joint Tandem Switched Transport
Line Side Connection *ADD NECA description*

A connection of a transmission path to the line side of a local exchange switching system.

(N)
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(CN)

Local Access and Transport Area

A geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic, and other purposes.

Local Exchange Carrier

Any individual, partnership, association, cooperative, joint stock company, trust, or corporation engaged in Intrastate communication for hire by wire, radio, or other means within one or more exchanges.

Loop Around Test Line

An arrangement utilizing a Company central office to provide a means to make certain two-way transmission tests on a manual basis. This arrangement has two central office terminations, each reached by means of separate telephone numbers and does not require any specific customer premises equipment. Equipment subject to this test arrangement is at the discretion of the customer.

Market Share Percentage

The percentage of an Interexchange Carrier's use of the Telephone Company(s) facilities.

Meet Point

See Interconnection Point.

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BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice-President

ACCESS SERVICES

2. **GENERAL REGULATIONS** (Continued)

2.6 **Definitions** (Continued)

Special Order

An order for a Billing and Collection Service.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

An end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

An arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Terminating Direction

The use of Access Service for the completion of calls from an IC premises to an end user premises.

Termination Liability

The amount which will be billed if services using specially constructed facilities are terminated prior to the expiration of the Termination Liability Period.

Traffic Service Position System

Permits operator positions serving public phones to be located remotely from the central office which services the pay phone.

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line

An arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a recorder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

Transmission Path

An electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.

Toll Free Database Access Service

*(N)
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(m) material now appears on sheet 55 of this section.

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ACCESS SERVICES

2. **GENERAL REGULATIONS** (Continued)

2.6 **Definitions** (Continued)

Trunk

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

Trunk Group

A set of trunks which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

Trunk Side Connection

The connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system. This type of connection is used when providing FGB, FGC, and FGD Switched Access Service.

Two-Wire to Four-Wire Conversion

An arrangement which converts a four-wire transmission path to a two-wire transmission path to allow a four-wire facility to terminate in a two-wire entity (e.g., a central office switch).

Uniform Service Order Code (USOC)

A three or five character alphabetic, numeric, or an alphanumeric code that identifies a specific item of service or equipment. Uniform Service Order Codes are used in the Company billing system to generate recurring rates and nonrecurring charges.

VoIP-PSTN Traffic

The term VoIP-PSTN Traffic shall have the meaning denoted in the Federal Communications Commission Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., F.C.C. Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011). It is traffic exchanged over PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) facilities that originates and/or terminates in IP (Internet Protocol) format.

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(m) material previously appeared on Sheet 54 of this Section.

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BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice-President

ACCESS SERVICES

4. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

4.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a customer's premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching, and trunking facilities, and common subscriber plant of the Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer's premises, and to terminate calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided.

The following provision applies to the treatment of Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Part 51 Interconnection Rules and in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 01-92; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket Nos. 03-109, 05-337, 07-135 and 10-90; and WT Docket No. 10-208, adopted October 27, 2011 and released November 18, 2011 (FCC 11-161). In the absence of an interconnection agreement between the Telephone Company and the customer specifying the treatment of Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic, the Telephone Company will bill the customer the applicable switched access rates and charges specified in Section 5.8, following, on all jurisdictionally interstate voice traffic identified as Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic.

4.2 Rate Categories

4.2.1 There are four rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:

- Local Transport.
- End Office (Local Switching).
- Carrier Common Line as described in Section 3.
- ~~800 Data Base Access Service.~~

Toll Free

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4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories

(A) Local Transport

The Local Transport rate category provides the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer's premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications. For purposes of determining Local Transport mileage, distance will be measured from the wire center that normally serves the customer's premises to the end office switch(es). Local Transport mileage measurement rules are set forth in 4.5.7 following and in this section.

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.2 Rate Categories (Continued)

4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories (Continued)

(A) Local Transport (Continued)

(3) Tandem-Switched Transport (Continued)

(b) Tandem Switching, which provides for use of the Telephone Company's access tandem.

(c) Add lang from NECA

Local Transport is provided at the rates and charges as set forth in 4.8 following. The application of these rates with respect to individual Switched Access Service Arrangements is set forth in 4.7.1 following.

The number of Switched Transport transmission paths and terminations provided is based on the customer's order and is determined by the Telephone Company as set forth in 4.5.5 following.

(4) Multiplexing

Multiplexing provides for arrangements to convert a single higher capacity or bandwidth circuit for bulk transport to several lower capacity or bandwidth circuits. Multiplexing is only available at Telephone Company designated Hubs arranged for multiplexing or at the access tandem trunk on the serving wire center side of the access tandem. All types of multiplexing may not be available at each Hub location.

Listed below are the multiplexing arrangements offered with switched access.

- DS1 to Voice

An arrangement that multiplexes twenty-four voice grade circuits to single DS1 digital circuit at a rate of 1.544 Mbps, or multiplexes a single DS1 digital circuit at a rate of 1.544 Mbps to twenty-four voice grade circuits.

- DS3 to DS1

An arrangement that multiplexes twenty-eight DS1 digital circuits to a single DS3 digital circuit at a rate of 44.736 Mbps, or multiplexes a single DS3 digital circuit at a rate of 44.736 Mbps to twenty-eight DS1 digital circuits.

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.2 Rate Categories (Continued)

4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories (Continued)

(B) End Office (Continued)

(1) Local Switching (Continued)

(c) Line Termination (Continued)

The Special Access Service Terminations are differentiated by line side vs. trunk side terminations. In addition, there are various types of originating and terminating line side terminations depending on the type of signaling associated with the Special Access Service. Line side terminations are available with either dial pulse or dual tone multifrequency address signaling.

(d) Intercept

The Intercept function provides for the termination of a call at a Telephone Company Intercept operator or recording. The operator or recording tells a caller why a call, as dialed, could not be completed, and if possible, provides the correct number.

Rates for local ... use NECA lang.

(2) Information Surcharge

Information Surcharge rates are assessed to a customer based on the total number of access minutes. Information Surcharge rates are as set forth in 4.8 following.

The Information Surcharge does not apply to Feature Groups B and D Switched Access Services associated with Wireless Switching Centers (WSCs) directly interconnected to a Telephone Company access tandem office.

The number of end office switching transmission paths will be determined as set forth in 4.5.5 following.

(3) Non-Chargeable Optional Features

Where facilities permit, the Company will, at the option of the customer, provide non-chargeable optional features which are listed under each Feature Group.

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For originating use
free minutes only, a different information surcharge rate is
specified in
Section 4.8,
following.

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.2 **Rate Categories** (Continued)

4.2.2 **Description of the Rate Categories** (Continued)

(C) *Toll Free*
800 Data Base Access Service

Toll Free
800 Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC and FGD switched access service. When a 1+800 series +NXX-XXXX call is originated by an end user, the Telephone Company will utilize the Signaling System 7 (SS7) network to query an 800 data base to identify the customer to whom the call will be delivered and provide vertical features based on the dialed ten digits. The call will then be routed to the identified customer over FGC or FGD switched access. The 800 series includes the following service access codes: 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833, and 822.

There are two types of query charges: basic and vertical. A Basic Query Charge is assessed for an ~~800~~ data base query that requests only information identifying the ~~JXC~~ for the call. The Vertical Query Charge is assessed for ~~800~~ data base queries requiring more sophisticated routing instructions, (i.e., POTS Translation time of day routing).

4.3 **Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups**

Switched Access Service is provided in four different Feature Group arrangements. The provision of each Feature Group requires Local Transport facilities and the appropriate End Office functions.

There are three specific transmission specifications (i.e., Types A, B, and C) that have been identified for the provision of Feature Groups. The specifications provided are dependent on the Interface Group and the routing of the service, i.e., whether the service is routed directly to the end office or via an access tandem.

Feature Groups are arranged for either originating, terminating, or two-way calling, based on the customer end office switching capacity ordered. Originating calling permits the delivery of calls from the Company exchange locations to the customer's premises. Terminating calling permits the delivery of calls from the customer's premises to the Company exchange location. Two-way calling permits the delivery of calls in both directions, but not simultaneously. The Company will determine the type of calling to be provided unless the customer requests that a different type of directional calling is to be provided. In such cases, the Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine the directionality.

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.3 Feature Group C (FGC)

(A) Description

- (1) FGC Access provides trunk side access to Telephone Company end office switches for the customer's use in originating and terminating communications. Originating and terminating FGC Access is available to providers of MTS and WATS. Originating FGC Access is available to all customers when used to provide the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or 800 Data Base service. Terminating FGC access is available to all customers other than providers of MTS and WATS when such access is used in conjunction with the provision of the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or 800 Data Base service, but only for purposes of testing. Existing FGC Access will be converted to Feature Group D Access when Feature Group D Access becomes available in an end office. Special Access Services utilized for connection with FGC at Telephone Company designated WATS Serving Offices as set forth in Section 6 following may be ordered separately by a customer other than the customer which orders the FGC Switched Access Service (i.e., a provider of MTS and WATS) for the provision of WATS Services. Special Access Services are ordered as set forth in 3.2 preceding. (T)
- (2) Feature Group C switching is provided at all end office switches unless Feature Group D end office switching is provided in the same office. When FGD switching is available, FGC switching will not be provided. FGC is provided at Telephone Company end office switches on a direct trunk basis or via Telephone Company designated access tandem switches. Feature Group C switching is furnished to providers of MTS and WATS. Additionally, originating Feature Group C switching is available to all customers when used to provide the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or 800 Data Base service. Terminating Feature Group C switching is available to all customers who are not MTS and WATS providers only when such terminating access is for purposes of testing Feature Group C facilities provided in conjunction with the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or 800 Data Base Service. (T)
- (3) FGC is provided as trunk side switching through the use of end office or access tandem switch trunk equipment. The switch trunk equipment is provided with answer and disconnect supervisory signaling. Wink start start-pulsing signals are provided in all offices where available. In those offices where wink start start-pulsing signals are not available, delay dial start-pulsing signals will be provided, unless immediate dial pulse signaling is provided, in which case no start-pulsing signals are provided. (T)

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 **Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups** (Continued)

4.3.3 **Feature Group C (FGC)** (Continued)

(A) **Description** (Continued)

(5) (Continued)

Additionally, non-access charges will also be billed for calls from a FGC trunk to another customer's service in accordance with that customer's applicable service rates when the Company performs the billing function for that customer. Calls in the terminating direction will not be completed to 950-XXXX access codes, local operator assistance (0- and 0+), Directory Assistance, service codes 611 and 911, and 101XXXX access codes. FGC may not be switched, in the terminating direction, to Switched Access Service Feature Groups B, C, or D.

(6) The Company will establish a trunk group or groups for the customer at end office switches or access tandem switches where FGC switching is provided. When required by technical limitations, a separate trunk group will be established for each type of FGC switching arrangement provided. Different types of FGC or other switching arrangements may be combined in a single trunk group at the option of the Company.

(7) Unless prohibited by technical limitations the providers of MTS and WATS may, at their option, combine Interim NXX Translation and/or 800 Data Base traffic in the same trunk group arrangement with their non-Interim NXX Translation traffic. When required by technical considerations, or when provided to a customer other than the provider of MTS and WATS, or at the request of the customer (i.e., provider of MTS and WATS) a separate trunk group will be established for Interim NXX Translation traffic and/or 800 Data Base traffic.

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(8) FGC switching is provided with multi-frequency address signaling or out of band SS7 signaling where technically feasible. With multi-frequency address signaling and SS7 signaling, up to 12 digits of the called party number dialed by the customer's end user using dual tone multi-frequency or dial pulse address signals will be provided by Telephone Company equipment to the customer's premises where the Switched Access Service terminates. Such address signals will be subject to the ordinary transmission capabilities of the Local Transport provided.

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.4 Feature Group D (FGD) (Continued)

(A) Description (Continued)

- (7) The access code for FGD switching is a uniform access code of the form 101XXXX. A single access code will be the assigned number of all FGD access provided to the customer by the Company. No access code is required for calls to a customer over FGD Switched Access Service if the end user's telephone exchange service is arranged for presubscription to that customer.

Where no access code is required, the number dialed by the customer's end user shall be a seven or ten digit number for calls in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). For international calls outside the NANP, a seven to twelve digit number may be dialed. The form of the number dialed by the customer's end user is NXX-XXXX, 0- or 1 + NXX-XXXX, NPA + NXX-XXXX, 0 or 1 + NPA + NXX-XXXX, and, when the end office is equipped for International Direct Distance Dialing (IDDD), 01 + CC + NN or 011 + CC + NN. When the 10XXX access code is used, FGD Switching also provides for dialing the digit 0 for access to the customer's operator, 911 for access to the Company's emergency reporting service, or the end-of-dialing digit (#) for cut-through access to the customer's premises.

- (8) FGD switching will be arranged to accept calls from telephone exchange service locations without the need for dialing 101XXXX uniform access code. Each telephone exchange service line may be marked with a presubscription code to identify which 101XXXX code its calls will be directed to for interLATA service.
- (9) Unless prohibited by technical limitations, the customer's Interim NXX Translation and/or 800 Data Base traffic may, at the option of the customer, be combined in the same trunk group arrangement with the customer's non-Interim NXX Translation and/or 800 Data Base traffic. When required by technical limitations, or at the request of the customer, a separate trunk group will be established for Interim NXX Translation and/or 800 Data Base traffic.

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800 TOLL FREE (T)

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.5 800 Data Base Access Service

(A) Description

- Toll Free*
- (1) *Toll Free* 800 Data Base Access Service utilizes the SS7 network, to query an *Toll Free* 800 data base to identify the customer to whom the call will be delivered and provide vertical features based on the dialed ten digits. *Toll Free* 800 Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC/FGD Switched Access service. (T)
 - (2) A Basic or Vertical Feature Query charge is assessed for each completed query launched to the data base whether or not the actual call is delivered to the customer. The query is considered completed when the appropriate call routing information is returned to the SSP that launched the call.
 - (3) The Basic Query includes the following two features:
 - (a) Identification of the customer to whom the call should be delivered.
 - (b) Area of service routing which allows routing of 800 series calls by the Company to different ICs based on the LATA in which the call originates.
 - (4) The Vertical Feature Query provides the basic customer identification function in addition to vertical features, which may include:
 - (a) Call validation (ensuring that calls originate from subscribed service area);
 - (b) POTS translation of 800 series numbers (which is generally necessary for the routing and completion of 800 series calls);

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.5 ^{Tollfree} ~~800~~ Data Base Access Service (Continued)

(T)

(A) Description (Continued)

(4) (Continued)

(c) Alternate POTS translation (allows the subscriber to vary the routing of 800 series calls based on factors such as time of day, place of origination of the call, etc.); and

(d) Multiple carrier routing (which allows subscribers to route to different carriers based on factors similar to those in (4)(c), above.

(5) The Company will bill the Vertical Feature Query charge in lieu of the Basic Query Charge when the data base indicates any vertical features were included in the query. When a Vertical Feature Query is provided, only one query charge applies regardless of the number of vertical features provided.

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ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.7 **Rate Regulations** (Continued)

4.7.4 **Measuring Access Minutes**

Customer traffic to end offices will be measured (i.e., recorded or assumed) by the Company at end office switches. Originating and terminating calls will be measured (i.e., recorded or assumed) by the Company to determine the basis for computing chargeable access minutes. For terminating calls over usage rated FGA and FGB, FGC to 800 and FGD, and for originating calls over usage rates MTS/WATS-type FGA and FGB and FGD, the measured minutes are the chargeable access minutes. For terminating calls over usage rated FGA and FGB, FGC to 800 and FGD, and for originating calls over usage rates MTS/WATS-type FGA and FGB and FGD, the measured minutes are the chargeable access minutes. For originating calls over usage rated FX/ONAL FGA and FGC, chargeable originating access minutes are derived from recorded minutes in the following manner:

Step 1: Obtain recorded originating minutes and messages (measured as set forth in (C), following) from the appropriate recording data.

Step 2: Obtain the total attempts by dividing the originating measured messages by the completion ratio. Completion ratios are obtained separately for the major call categories such as DDD, operator, 800, 900, and directory assistance from a sample study which analyzes the ultimate completion status of the total attempts which receive acknowledgment from the customer. That is, measured messages divided by completion ratio equals total attempts.

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ACCESS SERVICES

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4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.8 **Rates and Charges** (Continued)

(B) **Local Transport** (Continued)

Rate

Direct Trunked Transport

- **Direct Trunked Facility**
 Per Mile

- Voice Grade \$15.95
- High Capacity DS1 \$74.66
- High Capacity DS3 \$650.25

(D)
(E)

- **Direct Trunked Transport Termination**
 Per Termination

- Voice Grade \$159.99
- High Capacity DS1 \$387.31
- High Capacity DS3 \$2,487.02

(D)
(E)

Multiplexing

Per Arrangement

- DS3 to DS1 \$2,269.11
- DS1 to Voice \$876.08

(E)

Tandem Switched Transport

- **Tandem Switched Facility ***
 Per Access Minute Per Mile

- Terminating \$0.001102
- Originating \$0.000418

(C)
(E)

- **Tandem Switched Termination ***
 Per Access Minute Per Termination

- Terminating \$0.005716
- Originating \$0.002171

(C)
(E)

- **Tandem Switching ***
 Per Access Minute Per Tandem

- Terminating \$0.014419
- Originating \$0.005476

(C)
(E)

- **Joint Tandem Switched Transport *** (N)
 Per originating Toll Free Only \$0.001
 Access Minute Per Tandem (N)

* The Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate element applies per tandem to originating toll free minutes only in lieu of the Tandem Switched Facility, Tandem Switched Termination and Tandem Switching rate elements as of July 1, 2021.
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4. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (Continued)

4.8 Rates and Charges (Continued)

(B) Local Transport (Continued)

Rate

<i>Toll Free</i> 800 Data Base Access Service Queries Per Query			(T)
- Basic	\$0.005500	<i>0.004248</i> →	(R)
- Feature		\$0.006100	<i>0.004248</i> (R)

(C) End Office

(1) Local Switching, Per Access Minute

- Terminating	\$0.000000		(R)
- Originating	<i>(Toll Free + Non-Toll Free)</i>	\$0.013992	<i>- No Δ'D</i> (T)

(2) Information Surcharge, Per 100 Access Minutes

- Terminating		*	
- Originating	<i>(Toll Free + Non-Toll Free)</i>	\$N/A	<i>- No Δ'D</i> (T)

* The terminating Information Surcharge is included in the terminating Local Switching rate.

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ACCESS SERVICES

2. **GENERAL REGULATIONS** (Continued)

2.6 Definitions (Continued)

Intrastate Call

Any toll communications within a state subject to oversight by the state regulatory commission.

Joint Tandem Switched Transport

The term "Joint Tandem Switched Transport" denotes the rate element assessable for the transmission of originating toll free minutes. The rate element includes both the transport between the end office and the tandem switch and the tandem switching. It does not include transport of traffic over dedicated transport facilities between the serving wire center and the tandem switching office.

Line Side Connection

A connection of a transmission path to the line side of a local exchange switching system.

Local Access and Transport Area

A geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic, and other purposes.

Local Exchange Carrier

Any individual, partnership, association, cooperative, joint stock company, trust, or corporation engaged in Intrastate communication for hire by wire, radio, or other means within one or more exchanges.

Loop Around Test Line

An arrangement utilizing a Company central office to provide a means to make certain two-way transmission tests on a manual basis. This arrangement has two central office terminations, each reached by means of separate telephone numbers and does not require any specific customer premises equipment. Equipment subject to this test arrangement is at the discretion of the customer.

Market Share Percentage

The percentage of an Interexchange Carrier's use of the Telephone Company(s) facilities.

Meet Point

See Interconnection Point.

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ACCESS SERVICES

2. **GENERAL REGULATIONS** (Continued)

2.6 Definitions (Continued)

Special Order

An order for a Billing and Collection Service.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

An end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

An arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Terminating Direction

The use of Access Service for the completion of calls from an IC premises to an end user premises.

Termination Liability

The amount which will be billed if services using specially constructed facilities are terminated prior to the expiration of the Termination Liability Period.

Toll Free Database Access Service

The term "Toll Free Database" denotes a service which uses a database system to identify toll free access customers on a 10-digit basis. For purposes of administering the rules and regulations set forth in this tariff regarding the provision of Toll Free Database Access Service except where otherwise specified, Toll Free Database Access Service shall include the following service access codes 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833, and 822.

(N)
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(N)

Traffic Service Position System

Permits operator positions serving public phones to be located remotely from the central office which services the pay phone.

(M)

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line

An arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a recorder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

(M)

(M)-Material now appears on Sheet 55 of this Section.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. **GENERAL REGULATIONS** (Continued)

2.6 **Definitions** (Continued)

Transmission Path

An electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.

(M)

(M)

Trunk

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

Trunk Group

A set of trunks which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

Trunk Side Connection

The connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system. This type of connection is used when providing FGB, FGC, and FGD Switched Access Service.

Two-Wire to Four-Wire Conversion

An arrangement which converts a four-wire transmission path to a two-wire transmission path to allow a four-wire facility to terminate in a two-wire entity (e.g., a central office switch).

Uniform Service Order Code (USOC)

A three or five character alphabetic, numeric, or an alphanumeric code that identifies a specific item of service or equipment. Uniform Service Order Codes are used in the Company billing system to generate recurring rates and nonrecurring charges.

VoIP-PSTN Traffic

The term VoIP-PSTN Traffic shall have the meaning denoted in the Federal Communications Commission Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., F.C.C. Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011). It is traffic exchanged over PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) facilities that originates and/or terminates in IP (Internet Protocol) format.

(M)-Material previously appeared on Sheet 54 of this Section.

ACCESS SERVICES

4. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

4.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a customer's premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching, and trunking facilities, and common subscriber plant of the Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer's premises, and to terminate calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided.

The following provision applies to the treatment of Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Part 51 Interconnection Rules and in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 01-92; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket Nos. 03-109, 05-337, 07-135 and 10-90; and WT Docket No. 10-208, adopted October 27, 2011 and released November 18, 2011 (FCC 11-161). In the absence of an interconnection agreement between the Telephone Company and the customer specifying the treatment of Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic, the Telephone Company will bill the customer the applicable switched access rates and charges specified in Section 5.8, following, on all jurisdictionally interstate voice traffic identified as Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic.

4.2 Rate Categories

4.2.1 There are four rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:

- Local Transport.
- End Office (Local Switching).
- Carrier Common Line as described in Section 3.
- Toll Free Data Base Access Service.

(T)

4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories

(A) Local Transport

The Local Transport rate category provides the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer's premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications. For purposes of determining Local Transport mileage, distance will be measured from the wire center that normally serves the customer's premises to the end office switch(es). Local Transport mileage measurement rules are set forth in 4.5.7 following and in this section.

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.2 Rate Categories (Continued)

4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories (Continued)

(A) Local Transport (Continued)

(3) Tandem-Switched Transport (Continued)

(b) Tandem Switching, which provides for use of the Telephone Company's access tandem.

(c) The Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate is applied on a per originating toll free access minute per tandem is lieu of the Tandem Switching, Tandem Switched Facility, and Tandem Switched Termination rates and is only billed by the tandem company that performs the tandem switching function.

(N)
|
(N)

Local Transport is provided at the rates and charges as set forth in 4.8 following. The application of these rates with respect to individual Switched Access Service Arrangements is set forth in 4.7.1 following.

The number of Switched Transport transmission paths and terminations provided is based on the customer's order and is determined by the Telephone Company as set forth in 4.5.5 following.

(4) Multiplexing

Multiplexing provides for arrangements to convert a single higher capacity or bandwidth circuit for bulk transport to several lower capacity or bandwidth circuits. Multiplexing is only available at Telephone Company designated Hubs arranged for multiplexing or at the access tandem trunk on the serving wire center side of the access tandem. All types of multiplexing may not be available at each Hub location.

Listed below are the multiplexing arrangements offered with switched access.

- DS1 to Voice

An arrangement that multiplexes twenty-four voice grade circuits to single DS1 digital circuit at a rate of 1.544 Mbps, or multiplexes a single DS1 digital circuit at a rate of 1.544 Mbps to twenty-four voice grade circuits.

- DS3 to DS1

An arrangement that multiplexes twenty-eight DS1 digital circuits to a single DS3 digital circuit at a rate of 44.736 Mbps, or multiplexes a single DS3 digital circuit at a rate of 44.736 Mbps to twenty-eight DS1 digital circuits.

ACCESS SERVICES

4. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (Continued)

4.2 Rate Categories (Continued)

4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories (Continued)

(B) End Office (Continued)

(1) Local Switching (Continued)

(c) Line Termination (Continued)

The Special Access Service Terminations are differentiated by line side vs. trunk side terminations. In addition, there are various types of originating and terminating line side terminations depending on the type of signaling associated with the Special Access Service. Line side terminations are available with either dial pulse or dual tone multifrequency address signaling.

(d) Intercept

The Intercept function provides for the termination of a call at a Telephone Company Intercept operator or recording. The operator or recording tells a caller why a call, as dialed, could not be completed, and if possible, provides the correct number.

Rates for Local Switching are set forth in 4.8 following. For originating toll free minutes only, a different Local Switching rate is specified in Section 4.8 , following.

(N)
|
(N)

(2) Information Surcharge

Information Surcharge rates are assessed to a customer based on the total number of access minutes. Information Surcharge rates are as set forth in 4.8 following. For originating toll free minutes only, a different Information Surcharge rate is specified in Section 4.8, following.

(T)
|
(T)

The Information Surcharge does not apply to Feature Groups B and D Switched Access Services associated with Wireless Switching Centers (WSCs) directly interconnected to a Telephone Company access tandem office.

The number of end office switching transmission paths will be determined as set forth in 4.5.5 following.

(3) Non-Chargeable Optional Features

Where facilities permit, the Company will, at the option of the customer, provide non-chargeable optional features which are listed under each Feature Group.

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.2 Rate Categories (Continued)

4.2.2 Description of the Rate Categories (Continued)

(C) Toll Free Data Base Access Service (T)

Toll Free Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC and FGD switched access service. When a 1+800 series +NXX-XXXX call is originated by an end user, the Telephone Company will utilize the Signaling System 7 (SS7) network to query an 800 data base to identify the customer to whom the call will be delivered and provide vertical features based on the dialed ten digits. The call will then be routed to the identified customer over FGC or FGD switched access. The 800 series includes the following service access codes: 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, 844, 833, and 822. (T)

There are two types of query charges: basic and vertical. A Basic Query Charge is assessed for a toll free data base query that requests only information identifying the IXC for the call. The Vertical Query Charge is assessed for toll free data base queries requiring more sophisticated routing instructions, (i.e., POTS Translation time of day routing). (T)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (T)

Switched Access Service is provided in four different Feature Group arrangements. The provision of each Feature Group requires Local Transport facilities and the appropriate End Office functions.

There are three specific transmission specifications (i.e., Types A, B, and C) that have been identified for the provision of Feature Groups. The specifications provided are dependent on the Interface Group and the routing of the service, i.e., whether the service is routed directly to the end office or via an access tandem.

Feature Groups are arranged for either originating, terminating, or two-way calling, based on the customer end office switching capacity ordered. Originating calling permits the delivery of calls from the Company exchange locations to the customer's premises. Terminating calling permits the delivery of calls from the customer's premises to the Company exchange location. Two-way calling permits the delivery of calls in both directions, but not simultaneously. The Company will determine the type of calling to be provided unless the customer requests that a different type of directional calling is to be provided. In such cases, the Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine the directionality.

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.3 Feature Group C (FGC)

(A) Description

- (1) FGC Access provides trunk side access to Telephone Company end office switches for the customer's use in originating and terminating communications. Originating and terminating FGC Access is available to providers of MTS and WATS. Originating FGC Access is available to all customers when used to provide the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or Toll Free Data Base Access service. Terminating FGC access is available to all customers other than providers of MTS and WATS when such access is used in conjunction with the provision of the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or Toll Free Data Base Access service, but only for purposes of testing. Existing FGC Access will be converted to Feature Group D Access when Feature Group D Access becomes available in an end office. Special Access Services utilized for connection with FGC at Telephone Company designated WATS Serving Offices as set forth in Section 6 following may be ordered separately by a customer other than the customer which orders the FGC Switched Access Service (i.e., a provider of MTS and WATS) for the provision of WATS Services. Special Access Services are ordered as set forth in 3.2 preceding. (T)
(T)
(T)
- (2) Feature Group C switching is provided at all end office switches unless Feature Group D end office switching is provided in the same office. When FGD switching is available, FGC switching will not be provided. FGC is provided at Telephone Company end office switches on a direct trunk basis or via Telephone Company designated access tandem switches. Feature Group C switching is furnished to providers of MTS and WATS. Additionally, originating Feature Group C switching is available to all customers when used to provide the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or Toll Free Data Base Access service. Terminating Feature Group C switching is available to all customers who are not MTS and WATS providers only when such terminating access is for purposes of testing Feature Group C facilities provided in conjunction with the Interim NXX Translation optional feature or Toll Free Data Base Access Service. (T)
(T)
(T)
- (3) FGC is provided as trunk side switching through the use of end office or access tandem switch trunk equipment. The switch trunk equipment is provided with answer and disconnect supervisory signaling. Wink start start-pulsing signals are provided in all offices where available. In those offices where wink start start-pulsing signals are not available, delay dial start-pulsing signals will be provided, unless immediate dial pulse signaling is provided, in which case no start-pulsing signals are provided. (T)

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.3 Feature Group C (FGC) (Continued)

(A) Description (Continued)

(5) (Continued)

Additionally, non-access charges will also be billed for calls from a FGC trunk to another customer's service in accordance with that customer's applicable service rates when the Company performs the billing function for that customer. Calls in the terminating direction will not be completed to 950-XXXX access codes, local operator assistance (0- and 0+), Directory Assistance, service codes 611 and 911, and 101XXXX access codes. FGC may not be switched, in the terminating direction, to Switched Access Service Feature Groups B, C, or D.

(6) The Company will establish a trunk group or groups for the customer at end office switches or access tandem switches where FGC switching is provided. When required by technical limitations, a separate trunk group will be established for each type of FGC switching arrangement provided. Different types of FGC or other switching arrangements may be combined in a single trunk group at the option of the Company.

(7) Unless prohibited by technical limitations the providers of MTS and WATS may, at their option, combine Interim NXX Translation and/or Toll Free Data Base traffic in the same trunk group arrangement with their non-Interim NXX Translation traffic. When required by technical considerations, or when provided to a customer other than the provider of MTS and WATS, or at the request of the customer (i.e., provider of MTS and WATS) a separate trunk group will be established for Interim NXX Translation traffic and/or Toll Free Data Base traffic. (T)

(8) FGC switching is provided with multi-frequency address signaling or out of band SS7 signaling where technically feasible. With multi-frequency address signaling and SS7 signaling, up to 12 digits of the called party number dialed by the customer's end user using dual tone multi-frequency or dial pulse address signals will be provided by Telephone Company equipment to the customer's premises where the Switched Access Service terminates. Such address signals will be subject to the ordinary transmission capabilities of the Local Transport provided. (T)

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.4 Feature Group D (FGD) (Continued)

(A) Description (Continued)

- (7) The access code for FGD switching is a uniform access code of the form 101XXXX. A single access code will be the assigned number of all FGD access provided to the customer by the Company. No access code is required for calls to a customer over FGD Switched Access Service if the end user's telephone exchange service is arranged for presubscription to that customer.

Where no access code is required, the number dialed by the customer's end user shall be a seven or ten digit number for calls in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). For international calls outside the NANP, a seven to twelve digit number may be dialed. The form of the number dialed by the customer's end user is NXX-XXXX, 0- or 1 + NXX-XXXX, NPA + NXX-XXXX, 0 or 1 + NPA + NXX-XXXX, and, when the end office is equipped for International Direct Distance Dialing (IDDD), 01 + CC + NN or 011 + CC + NN. When the 10XXX access code is used, FGD Switching also provides for dialing the digit 0 for access to the customer's operator, 911 for access to the Company's emergency reporting service, or the end-of-dialing digit (#) for cut-through access to the customer's premises.

- (8) FGD switching will be arranged to accept calls from telephone exchange service locations without the need for dialing 101XXXX uniform access code. Each telephone exchange service line may be marked with a presubscription code to identify which 101XXXX code its calls will be directed to for interLATA service.

- (9) Unless prohibited by technical limitations, the customer's Interim NXX Translation and/or Toll Free Data Base traffic may, at the option of the customer, be combined in the same trunk group arrangement with the customer's non-Interim NXX Translation and/or Toll Free Data Base traffic. When required by technical limitations, or at the request of the customer, a separate trunk group will be established for Interim NXX Translation and/or Toll Free Data Base traffic.

(T)
(T)
(T)
(T)

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.5 Toll Free Data Base Access Service

(T)

(A) Description

(1) Toll Free Data Base Access Service utilizes the SS7 network, to query a toll free data base to identify the customer to whom the call will be delivered and provide vertical features based on the dialed ten digits. Toll Free Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC/FGD Switched Access service.

(T)

(T)

(T)

(2) A Basic or Vertical Feature Query charge is assessed for each completed query launched to the data base whether or not the actual call is delivered to the customer. The query is considered completed when the appropriate call routing information is returned to the SSP that launched the call.

(3) The Basic Query includes the following two features:

(a) Identification of the customer to whom the call should be delivered.

(b) Area of service routing which allows routing of 800 series calls by the Company to different ICs based on the LATA in which the call originates.

(4) The Vertical Feature Query provides the basic customer identification function in addition to vertical features, which may include:

(a) Call validation (ensuring that calls originate from subscribed service area);

(b) POTS translation of 800 series numbers (which is generally necessary for the routing and completion of 800 series calls);

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.3 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Feature Groups (Continued)

4.3.5 Toll Free Data Base Access Service (Continued) (T)

(A) Description (Continued)

(4) (Continued)

(c) Alternate POTS translation (allows the subscriber to vary the routing of 800 series calls based on factors such as time of day, place of origination of the call, etc.); and

(d) Multiple carrier routing (which allows subscribers to route to different carriers based on factors similar to those in (4)(c), above.

(5) The Company will bill the Vertical Feature Query charge in lieu of the Basic Query Charge when the data base indicates any vertical features were included in the query. When a Vertical Feature Query is provided, only one query charge applies regardless of the number of vertical features provided.

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.7 Rate Regulations (Continued)

4.7.4 Measuring Access Minutes

Customer traffic to end offices will be measured (i.e., recorded or assumed) by the Company at end office switches. Originating and terminating calls will be measured (i.e., recorded or assumed) by the Company to determine the basis for computing chargeable access minutes. For terminating calls over usage rated FGA and FGB, FGC to 800 and FGD, and for originating calls over usage rates MTS/WATS-type FGA and FGB and FGD, the measured minutes are the chargeable access minutes. For terminating calls over usage rated FGA and FGB, FGC to 800 and FGD, and for originating calls over usage rates MTS/WATS-type FGA and FGB and FGD, the measured minutes are the chargeable access minutes. For originating calls over usage rated FX/ONAL FGA and FGC, chargeable originating access minutes are derived from recorded minutes in the following manner:

Step 1: Obtain recorded originating minutes and messages (measured as set forth in (C), following) from the appropriate recording data.

Step 2: Obtain the total attempts by dividing the originating measured messages by the completion ratio. Completion ratios are obtained separately for the major call categories such as DDD, operator, toll free, 900, and directory assistance from a sample study which analyzes the ultimate completion status of the total attempts which receive acknowledgment from the customer. That is, measured messages divided by completion ratio equals total attempts.

(T)

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.8 Rates and Charges (Continued)

(B) Local Transport (Continued)

Rate

Direct Trunked Transport

- Direct Trunked Facility

Per Mile

- Voice Grade \$15.95

- High Capacity DS1 \$74.66

- High Capacity DS3 \$650.25

- Direct Trunked Transport Termination

Per Termination

- Voice Grade \$159.99

- High Capacity DS1 \$387.31

- High Capacity DS3 \$2,487.02

Multiplexing

Per Arrangement

- DS3 to DS1 \$2,269.11

- DS1 to Voice \$876.08

Tandem Switched Transport

- Tandem Switched Facility* (C)

Per Access Minute Per Mile

-Terminating \$0.001102

-Originating \$0.000418

- Tandem Switched Termination* (C)

Per Access Minute Per Termination

-Terminating \$0.005716

-Originating \$0.002171

- Tandem Switching* (C)

Per Access Minute Per Tandem

-Terminating \$0.014419

-Originating \$0.005476

- Joint Tandem Switched Transport* (N)

Per Originating Toll Free Only

Access Minute, Per Tandem

\$0.001

(N)

* The Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate element applies per tandem to originating toll free minutes only in lieu of the Tandem Switched Facility, Tandem Switched Termination and Tandem Switching rate elements as of July 1, 2021. (N)

ACCESS SERVICES

4. **SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE** (Continued)

4.8 Rates and Charges (Continued)

(B) Local Transport (Continued)

Rate

Toll Free Data Base Access Service Queries (T)
Per Query

- Basic \$0.004248 (R)
- Feature \$0.004248 (R)

(C) End Office

(1) Local Switching, Per Access Minute

- Terminating \$0.000000
- Originating (Toll Free & Non-Toll Free) \$0.013992 (T)

(2) Information Surcharge, Per 100 Access Minutes

- Terminating *
- Originating (Toll Free & Non-Toll Free) \$N/A (T)

* The terminating Information Surcharge is included in the terminating Local Switching rate.