
SECTION 2 – TECHNICAL TERMS, DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Access or Access Line: A transmission line used to transmit voice and/or data calls from the Customer's Premises to a telephone company serving Wire Center or a Company-designated POP or from a telephone company serving Wire Center or a Company-designated POP to the Customer's Premises.

Airline Mileage: The distance in mileage between two Wire Centers whose position is specified by industry standards.

Ancillary Charges: Charges for supplementary Services as set forth in this Tariff which may consist of both nonrecurring and MRCs.

Applicant: Any entity or individual who applies for Service under this Guidebook..

Authorized User: A person, firm, corporation or other entity (including Customer) that 1) is authorized by the Customer to be connected to and utilize the Company's Services under the terms and regulations of this Tariff or 2) either is authorized by the Customer to act as the Customer in matters of ordering, changing or canceling Service or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to act as Customer in such matters. Such actions by an Authorized User shall be binding on Customer and shall subject Customer to any associated charges.

Alternate Routing PVC: Provides a logical connection to an alternate host site processor/server in the event of an outage at the primary location. Alternate Routing PVCs are utilized in the event of an outage at the primary location only, not typical day-to-day use.

ANSI: American National Standards Institute. A standards-setting, non-government organization, which develops and publishes standards for voluntary use in the United States.

ASR: Access Service Request. Used to request the provision of special access or Switched Access as specified by the Local Access Provider.

ATM: Asynchronous Transfer Mode/Cell Relay Service. A high speed digital data Service utilizing cell-switching technology. Access speeds range from DS1 (1.544 Mbps) to OC12 (622 Mbps).

B3ZS (Bipolar with 3-Zero Substitution): B3ZS is line coding technique used in the SONET STS-1 (Synchronous Transport Signal-Level 1) electrical signal which is then converted to an optical signal for transmissions over the SONET optical fiber.

B8ZS (Bipolar 8 Zero Substitution): B8ZS is a DS1 line coding technique that enables digitized voice and data transmission at the rate of 1.536 Mbps independent of the number of consecutive zeros and pulse density requirements that are normally imposed on the T1 transmission line.

Bandwidth: The total frequency band, in Hertz, allocated for a Channel.

Base Rate: The MRC for Data Services without discounts.

B-Channel: The Bearer, or B, Channel. A Bearer Channel is a basic communication Channel with no enhanced or value-added services included other than the Bandwidth transmission capability. A 64 Kbps Full Duplex Channel which is a fundamental component of ISDN.

BER: Bit error ratio. The percentage of received bits in error compared to the total number of bits received, expressed as a number the power of 10.

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Bit: Binary Digit. Bit denotes the smallest unit of information in a binary system of notation and is the basic unit in data communications.

Blocking: A temporary condition that may be initiated so that the Customer cannot utilize Service.

Bonding: Bonding refers to the joining of two or more 64-Kbps B-Channels together to get one Channel of 128Kbps or (nx64)Kbps Bandwidth. Bonding is also known as Channel aggregation.

Burst Rate: The upper Bandwidth limit the PVC is allowed to send data through the FRS network. The Burst Rate is limited by the actual physical Port access speed.

Business Customer: A Customer whose use of the Services is primarily or substantially for a business, professional, institutional, or occupational purpose.

Business Services Agreement (BSA): Terms and Conditions covering services provided to Business Customers for services not offered under tariff.

California Data Guidebook: Contains the standard descriptions, pricing, and other terms and conditions for data services offered on a detariffed basis pursuant to CPUC Decision No. 07-09-018.

Cal. P.U.C.: California Public Utilities Commission of the State of California or any succeeding agency.

Cancellation Charge: Also referred to as Service Order Cancellation Charge.

CAP: Competitive Access Provider.

Carrier Common Line Charges: The charges the long distance companies pay to the local telephone companies for carrier common line access service which provides for the use of end user's telephone company provided common lines by subscribers for access to such end users to furnish interstate communications.

Commission: The Public Utilities Commission of the State of California or any succeeding agency.

CCITT: Consultative Committee on International Telegraphy and Telephone (now known as the ITU). Establishes standards for telecommunications equipment, systems, networks, and services.

Cell Loss Ratio: The ratio of the number of cells lost to the total number of incoming cells.

Channel or Circuit: A communications path between two or more points having a standard Bandwidth or Transmission Speed selected by the Customer.

Circuit Switched Data: (CSD) Provides the ability to process calls whether they are voice or data over the public switched telephone network. The network must recognize how to appropriately handle each call, voice or data. ISDN coupled with CSD can provide videoconferencing and broadband data communications by Bonding B-Channels together. CSD data calls are measured in the same manner as voice calls, in units of minutes of use and B-Channel equivalents.

CIR: Committed Information Rate. Refers to the minimum data transmission rate committed for transmission over the FRS network by the Customer. The Customer may transmit or "burst" up to the Port speed but any amount of data over the CIR will be marked as DE. All data marked as DE will be discarded in the event of network congestion.

CLEC: Competitive Local Exchange Carrier. Any carrier or reseller offering local exchange telecommunications services other than the incumbent LEC.

Commission: The Public Utilities Commission of the State of California or any succeeding agency.

Company: Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a SBC Long Distance, d/b/a AT&T Long Distance.

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Company-Provided: The switching, transmission, and other related telecommunications or computer equipment/facilities provided by the Company or by any combination of the Company or other authorized Third Party Vendors contracted by the Company.

CPE: Customer-Provided Equipment. Terminal equipment connected to the telephone network which is owned by the Customer or leased by the Customer from a supplier.

Credit Card: Visa7, MasterCard7, or other Credit Cards issued by other companies the Company may accept.

CPNIP: Customer Premises Network Interface Points.

CRC: Cycle Redundancy Check. A process used to check the integrity of a block of data.

CS: Controlled Slip. The occurrence at the receiving terminal of a replication or deletion of the information Bits in a frame.

CSD: Circuit Switched Data.

CS Event: The occurrence of a Controlled Slip.

CSA: Canadian Standards Association. A non-profit, independent organization which operates a listing service for electrical and electronic materials and equipment.

CSU/DSU: Channel Service Unit/Data Service Unit.

Customer: A person or legal entity which subscribes to the Company's Services and thereby assumes responsibility for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's Tariff.

Customer Commitment Date: The date in which the Company receives a firm commitment from a Customer for the provision of one of the Company's Data Service offerings.

Customer Premises/Customer's Premises: Location(s) designated by a Customer where Service is originated/terminated.

D-Channel: The Delta, Data, or D, Channel. Used to carry signaling and control information associated with B-Channels. D-Channel provides out-of-band signaling for a faster call setup, dynamic Channel allocation, and other call information. Also known as non facility associated signaling.

Data Services: Communication Services which are designed to allow the transfer of formatted information between points. Data Services include but are not limited to Frame Relay Service and ATM Service.

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DE: Discard Eligible. A Frame Relay service standard that specifies that data sent across a PVC in excess of that connection's CIR will be marked by the network as being eligible for discard by the network in the event of network congestion.

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Defects or Defective Service: A shortcoming or an imperfection in Data Service(s) as a result of mistakes, accidents, errors, omissions, interruption or delay in Service.

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Disaster Recovery PVCs: PVCs that allow for the implementation of logical connections between branch locations and a secondary processor/server center (disaster recovery site) should a non-recoverable disaster occur at the primary host site.

Diversity: Customer-designated routing which indicates a Customer-designated departure from the primary route, usually with physical separation.

DLCI: Data Link Connection Identifier. The address information assigned to Customer-designated

DSO: Digital Signal level Zero. Composed of one 64 kiloBit Channel.

DS1: Digital Signal level One. Composed of twenty-four 64 Kbps Channels with a throughput capacity of 1.544 Mbps. Also called T-1.

DS3: Digital Signal level Three. Composed of 28 DS1 Channels and operating at 44.736 Mbps. Also called T-3.

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EFS: Error Free Seconds. A measure of the percentage of total seconds when measured over a consecutive thirty day period that do not contain Bit errors.

End User: The person or legal entity which uses the Service provided by the Company.

ES: Errored Second. A count of one-second intervals containing one or more CRC-6 code violations, or one or more CS events or one or more SEF events.

Exemption Certificate: A written notification provided by the Customer certifying that its dedicated facility should be exempted from the monthly Special Access Surcharge because (a) the facility terminates in a device not capable of interconnecting Service with the local exchange network or (b) the facility is associated with a Switched Access Service that is subject to Carrier Common Line Charges.

Extended Super-Frame Format: A DS1 framing standard. With this format twenty-four frames, instead of twelve, are grouped together.

F.C.C.: Federal Communications Commission or any succeeding agency.

FE: Framing-Bit Error or Framing Error. An error occurring when a receiver improperly interprets the set of bits within a Frame.

FE Event: The occurrence of a framing error or framing-Bit error.

FOC: Firm Order Confirmation.

Frame: A group of data Bits, in a specific format, with a flag at either end to indicate the beginning and end of the frame. The defined format enables network equipment to recognize the meaning and purpose of specific Bits.

Frame Relay Service Port: A communications interface through which a Customer obtains connection to the Frame Relay network.

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FRATM: Connects two Customer sites, one having Frame Relay Port and the other an ATM Port, to provide transparent interworking between Frame Relay and ATM networks.

FRS: Frame Relay Service. A wide area data service that provides high throughput and low delay via packet-switching technology. FRS offers Customers the capability to connect locations via PVCs for data transmission.

FRTM: Frame Relay Term Plan.

FX: Foreign Exchange Service. Provides local telephone service from a central office message switch which is outside (foreign to) the subscriber's exchange area.

Gbps: GigaBits per second. A billion Bits per second.

Hertz: A unit of frequency equal to one cycle (**the cycle**) per second.

IA: Intergrated Access.

ICB: Individual Case Basis. A Service provided involving a nonstandard arrangement. The nature of such Service requirements makes it difficult or impossible to establish general Tariff provisions for such circumstances.

ILEC: Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier.

InterLATA: Any call or transmission that originates in one LATA and terminates in a different LATA.

International: Involving two or more nations.

IntraLATA: Any call or transmission that originates in one LATA and terminates within the same LATA.

IOC: Interoffice Channel.

ISDN: Integrated Services Digital Network. Integrates voice, data, and video communications services via standard interfaces. ISDN is designed for telephone switches, computer telephony and voice processing systems. ISDN can deliver dedicated voice trunking over its B-Channels, video conferencing and broadband data applications by Bonding B-Channels together.

ITU: International Telecommunications Union (formerly known as the CCITT). An organization established by the United Nations with membership from virtually every government in the world. Its objectives are to set telecommunications standards and allocate frequencies to various uses.

IXC: Interexchange Carrier.

Joint User: A corporation, association, partnership, or individual that is permitted to use a Customer's Service by mutual agreement between the Customer and the Joint User in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Tariff.

Kbps: Kilobits Per Second, One thousand Bits per second.

LATA: Local Access Transport Area. A geographically defined regulatory boundary established by the Modification of Final Judgement.

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LEC: Local Exchange Carrier.

Local Access: The service between a subscriber's premises and a Company-designated POP.

Local Access Provider: An entity providing Local Access.

Mbps: Megabits per second. Million Bits per second.

Modification of Final Judgment: The judicial opinion United States vs. American Telephone & Telegraph Company, 552 F. Supp. 131 (D.C. 1982). See United States v. Western Electric Co., 552 F. Supp. 131 (D.D.C. 1982), affd sub nom. Maryland v. United States, 460 U.S. 1001 (1983).

MRC: MRC.

MTTR: Mean Time To Repair. The average time required to restore Service.

NATM: PremierSERVSM ATM Service.

NFRS or NFR: PremierSERVSM Frame Relay Service.

NNI: Network To Network Interface. The interface defines the point of interconnection between two service providers.

NNI B Port and Access: Connects the Customer's network to the Company FRS network, based upon the standards defined NNI signaling protocol. Each NNI Port and Access may accommodate multiple Permanent Virtual Circuits based upon the speeds selected.

NNI B Port Only: Connects the Customer's network to the Company FRS network, based upon the standards defined NNI signaling protocol. Each NNI Port may accommodate multiple Permanent Virtual Circuits based upon the speeds selected.

Non-Channelized: Non-Channelized is the capability to permit the unrestricted use of a digital communication channel independent of the number of consecutive zeros and pulse density requirements (ie., 64 kbps usable Bandwidth for a DSO channel and 1.536 Mbps usable Bandwidth for a DS1 channel).

NRC: Non-recurring charge.

NSEP: National Security Emergency Preparedness.

OC: Optical Carrier. Optical Carrier level-1 is the optical counterpart of STS-1 (the base rate, 51.840 Mbps, on which SONET is based). Direct electrical-to-optical mapping of the STS-1 signal with frame synchronous scrambling. All higher levels are direct multiples of OC-1 (i.e. OC-3 = 3 times OC-1, etc).

OC3: Optical Carrier Level 3.

OC12: Optical Carrier Level 12.

Off-Net: A location where the Company's primary Third Party Vendor does not have facilities.

On-Net: A location where the Company's primary Third Party Vendor has facilities.

OPT: Office of Priority Telecommunications.

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OTC: One-Time Charge.

Out of Term: Rates and charges which apply to Customers with out of term plan agreement, or which are applied when a term plan agreement has ended and no new term plan agreement has been signed.

Oversubscription: Oversubscription allows the sum of the CIRs for all PVCs connected to an access Port to exceed the speed of the access Port. No individual PVC may be provisioned at a speed greater than either of its associated Port speeds.

POP: Point-of-Presence. A physical place at which the local telephone company terminates subscriber Circuits for long distance dial-up or leased-line communications or a Company-designated location where a facility is maintained for the purpose of providing access to the Company's Service.

Port: The physical or electrical interface through which access to the communications network is obtained.

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Priority FRATM: A VCC connection with VBRrt QoS that connect a FR Port to an ATM Port.

Priority PVCs: Priority Quality of Service offers reduced delay and packet loss between end-points when used with small, fixed-length frame traffic.

PVC: Permanent Virtual Connection provides the customer with the electronic equivalent of a private line between two points. At the time of subscription to this form of service, a virtual circuit is established between two specific customer network addresses on the FRS network. While no physical circuits are dedicated, the two network addresses are electronically connected together.

QoS: Quality of Service.

Reseller: A Customer that resells the Company's Service(s) with the Company's authorization.

Special Access Surcharge: A charge imposed by the Local Exchange Companies in accordance with Section 69.115 of the FCC Rules and Regulations.

State: State of California.

SEF: Severely Errored Framing event. The SE (severely errored) indicator of performance report message.

SEF Event: The occurrence of a severely errored frame. A one-second interval with eight (8) or more framing errors/framing-Bit errors.

Service: Any or all services provided pursuant to this Tariff.

Service Order Change Charge: Charge applied for changes in Service Orders.

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Service Order: The standard Company order form(s), in effect from time-to-time, or Customer's forms accepted in writing by an authorized representative of the Company for Service which shall enable the Company to provide Service.

SES: Severely Errored Seconds. Errored seconds during which the error rate exceeded ten (10).

SOCC: Service Order Change Charge.

SONET: Synchronous Optical Network. A family of fiber-optic transmission rates from 51.84 Mbps to 2.488 Gbps. An optical interface standard.

STS: Synchronous Transport Signal. A SONET electrical signal rate.

Switched Access: If the Customer's location has a transmission line that is switched through the LEC or CLEC to reach the long distance network, the access is switched.

Switched Services(s): Any Services that are not Data Services as defined herein which use message switches to share inter-switch transport.

T-1: Composed of twenty-four (24) 64 Kilobit Channels with a throughput capacity of 1.544 Mbps. Also called DS1.

T1C: A digital carrier facility used to transmit a DS-1 formatted digital signal at 3.152 Mbps.

Third Party Vendor: A company, entity or individual, other than the Company, designated by the Company that provides the facilities and/or the equipment required to provide Service(s).

TLC: Termination Liability Charge. A charge which applies when the Customer cancels Service prior to the expiration date of a term plan agreement for Data Service(s).

Transmission Speed: Denotes the line or Channel speed in Bits per second.

TSP: Telecommunications Service Priority System.

TTP: Time To Provision.

TTR: Time To Repair. Measured in terms of hours from the time the Service was released for test and repair to operability within accepted thresholds. The time to restore Service on an event basis.

UNI: User-Network Interface. The physical and electrical demarcation point between the user and the service provider.

UNI - Port and Access: Connects the Customer to the Company's FRS network, based upon the standards defined UNI signaling protocol. Each UNI Port and Access may accommodate multiple Permanent Virtual Circuits based upon the speeds selected.

UNI B Port Only: Connects the Customer to the Company's FRS network, based upon the standards defined UNI signaling protocol. Each UNI Port may accommodate multiple Permanent Virtual Circuits based upon the speeds selected.

V&H: Vertical and Horizontal geographic coordinates.

VIP: Volume Incentive Plan.

Wire Center: A specified geographical location used for determining mileage measurements.