

TARIFF DISTRIBUTION

FILE PACKAGE NO.: SC-15-0042

DATE: March 16, 2015

STATE: SOUTH CAROLINA

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/16/2015

TYPE OF DISTRIBUTION: Approved

PURPOSE: Private Line Guidebook cleanup -- Sections B3, B4, B5, B7 and B9

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B3. CHANNELS

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B3. CHANNELS

B3.1 Provision of Service

B3.1.1 General

- A. Channel Services provided under the provisions of this *Guidebook* are offered for IntraLATA Services only. Services consisting of Local Channels, Interoffice Channels, and Optional Features and Functions are classified by series. The various series are sub-divided into different types and are described in terms of circuit characteristics and use. (T)
- B. Customers may order local channels which are designed to meet specific communications requirements. The customer is responsible for determining that his terminal equipment is compatible with the service provided by the Company.
- C. Where multi-point service is furnished, the local channels are bridged in the wire center.
- D. Dedicated circuits between the customer's interLATA Electronic Tandem Switching (ETS) Digital Electronic Tandem Switching (DETS) or Tandem Switching Features (TSF) functions and the customer's other location(s) within the same LATA will be provided from this *Guidebook*. Where this service is provided by the Company as a feature of ESSX service, Digital ESSX service, MultiServ service, MultiServ PLUS service, or BellSouth Centrex service, the transport of traffic between the ETS function and the basic ESSX service, Digital ESSX service, MultiServ service, MultiServ PLUS service, or BellSouth Centrex service function may be performed by the Company's network switching facilities. SFG charges for this service will apply and are found in A112.26.7. and A12.28.7. and A112.20 of the General *Exchange Guidebook*. (T)

B3.1.2 Application

The rates and charges specified herein apply for all IntraLATA Private Line services provided by the Company.

B3.1.3 Rate Categories

- A. Following are the basic rate categories which apply to Private Line service.
 - 1. Local Channels
 - a. A local channel provides for a communications path between the demarcation point at a customer premises and the serving wire center of that premises. One local channel charge applies per channel termination.
 - b. When service is provided by non-wire center connected channels, a non-wire center connected channel charge applies in lieu of local channel charges.
 - 2. Interoffice Channels

This rate category provides for the transmission facilities between serving wire centers associated with two customer premises, between serving wire centers associated with a customer premises and a Company hub, or between two Company hubs.

Interoffice mileage is portrayed in mileage bands. A flat rate and a rate per mile applies to each band. For method of determining mileage, see B3.3.3.A.
 - 3. Non-Wire Center Connected Channels

Served Direct channels are provided on a direct basis and are limited to one airline mile in length. These channels will be provided only at the option of the Company.

See Section B103 for charges for channels.
 - 4. Optional Features and Functions

This rate category provides for features and functions which may be added to a service to improve its quality or utility to meet specific communications requirements. These are not necessarily identifiable with specific equipment, but rather represent the end result in terms of the performance characteristics which may be obtained. This category includes a. and b. following:

 - a. Hub Functions

A hub is a Company designated wire center where bridging or multiplexing functions are performed i.e., connecting three or more customer premises in a multipoint arrangement or channelizing analog or digital services requiring a lower capacity or bandwidth.

B3. CHANNELS

B3.2 Service Descriptions (Cont'd)

B3.2.2 Voice Grade Service - Series 2000 (Cont'd)

F. Telemetry/Alarm Bridging Service (TABS)

1. *Terms and Conditions*

- a. This section contains the *terms and conditions* applicable for Telemetry/Alarm Bridging Service (TABS). (T)
- b. Except as otherwise specified following, the *terms and conditions* contained herein are in addition to the *terms and conditions* found in other sections of this Guidebook. (T)
- c. TABS requires the use of equipment as specified herein and Type 2261 or 2462 voice grade local channels described in C. preceding.
- d. Terminal equipment provided by the customer for use with TABS must meet specifications for such customer-provided equipment found in other sections of this Guidebook.
- e. No more than 128 remote stations may be connected to a master station over an individual Split Band Active Bridge.
- f. In Split Band Active Bridging arrangements, secondary bridges must be directly connected to the primary bridge via mid-link channels. Secondary bridges cannot be connected through other secondary bridges to allow additional layers of tandeming.
- g. Secondary bridges, utilized in Split Band, Active Bridging arrangements, reduce the two-wire remote station capacity of the primary bridge. The initial secondary bridge reduces the primary bridge capacity by twelve two-wire remote station connections. Each subsequent secondary bridge reduces the primary bridge capacity by four additional two-wire remote station connections.
- h. Standard multipoint bridging charges as provided in other sections of this Guidebook are not applicable to TABS.
- i. Access over four-wire master station channels for Split Band Active Bridging is provided using a Type 2462 local channel.
- j. Access over remote station channels is provided through a Type 2261 local channel and through the appropriate channel connection as contained in B3.4.4.A.1.e. following. Interconnection of remote stations located outside the serving wire center where the bridge to which they are to be connected is located will require interoffice channels at charges contained in B3.4.3. (T)

B3. CHANNELS

B3.2 Service Descriptions (Cont'd)

B3.2.2 Voice Grade Service - Series 2000 (Cont'd)

F. Telemetry/Alarm Bridging Service (TABS) (Cont'd)

1. *Terms and Conditions* (Cont'd)

- k. Access over each four-wire mid-link channel for Split Band Active Bridging is through voice grade interoffice channels at charges contained in B3.4.3. Additionally, mid-link channel connections are required as described in B3.4.4.A.1.e. following. (T)

2. Service Description

- a. Telemetry/Alarm Bridging Service is a multi-station, voice frequency, private line service designed to provide connections between a master station and a number of remote stations simultaneously. Direct transmission between remote stations is not intended. This service is intended for application in multipoint, voice frequency, data or tone signaling arrangements with transmission at rates up to 400 baud.

- b. TABS is provided in the following arrangement:

Split Band, Active Bridging - A bridging arrangement providing for a four-wire (master station or mid-link channel) frequency split common port and multiple two-wire (remote station) ports intended for application in multipoint, voice frequency, data or tone signaling arrangements. Two-way (polling) communication between the master station and each remote station is intended. (T)

B3.2.3 Wired Music Service - Series 6000

- A. Series 6000 private line service provides for one way audio transmission for use in connection with loudspeaker and sound recording equipment. Channels are furnished for operation on a two point or multipoint basis for service 7 days per week, 24 hours per day, for a minimum period of one month. These channels are arranged for use with customer-provided station equipment only.

- B. Channels for audio and wired music are furnished only directly to the customer originating the program material. The Company does not allocate charges between, nor collect charges from the patrons of the customer. The customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for channels furnished to him by the Company.

C. Audio Channels

1. Audio private line channels are specially equipped channels provided for the closed circuit (non-broadcast) transmission of voice and music signals in one direction only for operation on a two-point basis.

Any of the following arrangements may be provided as a two-point audio private line service:

- a. Two local channels in the same wire center area connected together at the serving central office.
- b. Two local channels not in the same wire center area connected by an interoffice channel.
- c. One local channel feeding a music distribution amplifier when the music source is in the same wire center area as the distribution amplifier.
- d. One local channel and an interoffice channel feeding a music distribution amplifier when the music source is not in the same wire center area as the distribution amplifier.
- e. One interoffice channel connecting music distribution amplifiers in different wire center areas.

B3. CHANNELS

B3.3 Rate *Terms and Conditions*

(T)

B3.3.1 Types of Rates and Charges

A. The two types of rates and charges are monthly rates and nonrecurring charges and are described as follows:

1. Monthly Rates

Monthly rates are recurring charges that apply each month or fraction thereof that a service is provided. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have 30 days.

2. Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring Charges are one-time charges that apply for a specific work activity. The three types of nonrecurring charges that apply are installation of service, installation of features and functions and service rearrangements.

a. Installation of Service

Nonrecurring charges apply for each service terminated at the customer's premises. For the installation of local channels when more than one of the same type of service, between the same locations, for the same customer is ordered and installed at the same time, one at each location is billed at the First Service Installed rate and the others are billed at the Additional Service Installed rate.

The nonrecurring charges for the Installation of Services are set forth in B3.4 following as Nonrecurring Charges for the Local Channel and Interoffice Channel rate elements.

b. Nonrecurring charges apply for the installation of features and functions available with the various services. For some features and functions there is a lower charge if installed coincident with the service and a higher charge if installed subsequent to the service.

c. Service Rearrangements

(1) Service rearrangements are changes to existing (installed) services which do not result in either a change in the minimum period requirements or a change in the physical location of the point of termination at a customer premises. Changes which result in the establishment of new minimum period obligations are treated as disconnects and starts. Changes in the physical location of the point of termination are treated as moves and are described and charged for as set forth in B3.3.2.

The charge to the customer for the service rearrangement is dependent on whether the change is administrative only in nature or involves actual physical change to the service.

B3. CHANNELS

B3.3 Rate *Terms and Conditions* (Cont'd)

(T)

B3.3.1 Types of Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

A. (Cont'd)

2. Nonrecurring Charges (Cont'd)

c. Service Rearrangements (Cont'd)

(1) (Cont'd)

Administrative changes will be made without charge(s) to the customer. Such changes require the continued provision and billing of the Private Line Service to the same entity (i.e., customer remains responsible for all outstanding indebtedness for the service). Administrative changes are as follows:

- Change of customer name (i.e., the customer of record does not change but rather the customer of record changes name),
- Change of customer or customer's premises address when the change of address is not a result of a physical relocation of equipment.
- Change in billing data (name, address or contact name or telephone number).

(2) All other service rearrangements will be charged for as follows:

- If the change involves the addition of other customer designated premises to an existing multipoint service, the nonrecurring charge for the local channel rate element will apply. The charges will apply only for the location(s) that is being added.
- If the change involves the addition of an optional feature or function which has a separate nonrecurring charge, that nonrecurring charge will apply.
- If the change involves changing the type of signaling on a voice grade service the subsequent, nonrecurring charge will apply for the new type signaling. The charge will apply per service termination affected.
- For all other changes, including a change of the customer of record involving no physical changes to the service provided or the addition of optional features without separate nonrecurring charges, a charge equal to a local channel rate element nonrecurring charge will apply. Only one such charge will apply per service, per change.

B3.3.2 Moves

A. A move involves a change in the physical location of one of the following:

1. The point of interface at the customer premises.
2. The customer's premises.

B. The charges for the move are dependent on whether the move is to a new location within the same building or to a different building.

1. Moves Within the Same Building

When the move is to a new location within the same building, the charge for the move will be an amount equal to one-half the nonrecurring (i.e., installation) charge for the affected service termination at the customer's premises. There will be no change in the minimum period requirements. If a move is made at the same time a service rearrangement is made, the total charge will never exceed a full nonrecurring charge for the basic service.

2. To a Different Building

Moves to a different building will be treated as a discontinuance and start of service and all associated nonrecurring charges will apply. New minimum period requirements will be established at the new location. The customer will also remain responsible for satisfying all outstanding minimum period charges for the discontinued service.

B3. CHANNELS

B3.3 Rate Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

B3.3.3 Mileage Measurements

- A. When station locations of a private line service are located in different wire center serving areas, interoffice channel charges apply. Charges are based on the direct airline distance measured between the serving wire centers. Mileage is determined in accordance with the following:
1. Obtain the "V" and "H" coordinates for each wire center, as listed in the National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff F.C.C. No. 4.
 2. Obtain the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two wire centers. Obtain the difference between the "H" coordinates. (The difference is always obtained by subtracting the smaller coordinate from the larger coordinate.)
 3. Square each difference obtained in 2. preceding.
 4. Add the squares of the "V" difference and the "H" difference obtained in 3. preceding.
 5. Divide the sum of the squares obtained in 4. preceding by 10.
 6. Obtain the square root of the result obtained in 5. preceding. This is the rate distance in miles. (Fractional miles being considered as full miles.)

EXAMPLE: The rate distance is required between City One and City Two.

	V	H
City One	7260	2083
City Two	7364	1865
Difference	104	218
Squared	10,816 + 47,524 = 58,340	

58,340 divided by 10 = 5834

Square root of 5834 = 76.38 = 77 Airline miles

- B. When a private line is furnished over facilities which the Company elects to provide on a direct basis and is not routed through a central office, one two-point channel charge from B3.4.2 will apply. The arrangement is limited to channels not more than one airline mile in length.
- C. For the purpose of applying multipoint charges, the bridging or hubbing locations are determined by that combination of airline distances connecting the serving wire center which will produce the lowest interoffice mileage charges. Bridging charges apply when three or more channels connect at the same location.
- D. For Series 1000, 2000 and 6000 channels the customer may specify the sequence in which the service points are to be connected in which case the rate mileage is the shortest airline mileage determined in accordance with paragraph C. preceding which will connect the wire centers of the service points in the specified sequence.

B4. EQUIPMENT

B4.1 (DELETED) (Cont'd)

The material previously appearing in this section has been moved to Section B2.

(T)

B4.2 Voice Communicating Equipment

B4.2.1 (DELETED)

B5. CONSTRUCTION CHARGES

B5.2 Special Type of Construction

- A. When underground service connections are desired by customers as initial installations in places where aerial drop wires would ordinarily be used to reach the customer's premises, or when aerial facilities are used to provide service or channels to a customer and subsequently the customer desires that such facilities be placed underground, the following *terms and conditions* apply. (T)
1. Where cable is placed in conduit, the underground conduit shall be constructed and maintained by or at the expense of the customer and in addition the customer shall pay the cost of the underground cable, including the cost of installing it, less the estimated cost to the Company of installing such aerial facilities as would be (or are) required to furnish the same service. The underground conduit shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications furnished by the Company. Ownership of such conduit is vested in the customer and necessary replacements shall be made by him.
 2. The duct or ducts required in the underground conduit by the Company to furnish service shall be reserved for its exclusive use.
 3. Where armored cable is laid in a trench, the trench shall be constructed and backfilled by or at the expense of the customer. In addition, the customer shall pay the cost of the cable, including the cost of installing it, less the estimated cost to the Company of installing such aerial drop as would be (or is) required to furnish the same service.
 4. Cable placed in conduit provided by a customer will be maintained and replaced at the expense of the Company where the conduit has been inspected in place by the Company and approved, but repairs or replacements of cable in conduit not so inspected and approved, or repairs or replacements of cable in conduit or trench made necessary by damages caused by the customer or his representatives will be made only at the customer's expense.
 5. Where facilities are changed from aerial to underground, in addition to the above the customer is charged the cost of dismantling and removing the aerial facilities.

B5.3 Poles on Private Property

- A. Poles to be used in serving only a particular customer and located on his premises shall in all cases be furnished and maintained by him or at his expense and shall conform to the Company's specifications. Ownership of such poles on private property is vested in the customer and necessary pole replacements shall be made by him.
- B. Poles on private property to be used to serve more than one customer or to be used as a part of the standard distributing plant serving customers in general are furnished, maintained and owned by the Company, subject to such construction charge as may be applicable.
- C. Circuits on poles on private property are furnished, owned and maintained by the Company.

B5.4 Circuitous Routing or Special Types of Construction

When circuitous routing or special type of construction is provided at the customer's request, in cases where facilities would ordinarily be provided without construction charge to the customer, the excess cost of special construction is borne by the subscriber.

B5.5 Payment of Construction Charges

Construction charges are payable at the time application for service is signed or when the account is rendered, at the option of the Company.

B5.6 Special Service Arrangements

B5.6.1 General Descriptions and Rates

- A. Where practicable, special equipment and arrangements, not otherwise provided for in this Guidebook, are furnished if they are in accord with authorized service offerings and if they are to be used in connection with and not detrimental to any of the services furnished by the Company. Charges for such special service arrangements will be based on the estimated costs of furnishing them.
- B. Initial service periods exceeding one month may be necessary for facilities and equipment provided under a special service arrangement.

B5. CONSTRUCTION CHARGES

B5.7 Contract Service Arrangements

B5.7.1 General

- A. When economically practicable, customer specific contract service arrangements may be furnished in lieu of existing Guidebook offerings provided there is reasonable potential for uneconomic bypass of the Company's services. Uneconomic bypass occurs when an alternative service arrangement is utilized, in lieu of Company services, at prices below the Company's rates but above the Company's incremental costs.
- B. Rates, Charges, Terms and additional *terms and conditions*, if applicable, for the contract service arrangements will be developed on an individual case basis, and will include all relevant costs, plus an appropriate level of contribution. (T)
- C. Unless otherwise specified, the *terms and conditions* for contract service arrangements are in addition to the applicable *terms, conditions* and rates specified in other sections of this Guidebook. (T)

Pages 12 through 22 are hereby deleted in their entirety and removed from this Guidebook.

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B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service

B7.1.1 General

- A. MegaLink service is furnished for Private Line IntraLATA Communications by the Company.
- B. MegaLink service is a service for the transmission of digital signals only and uses only digital transmission facilities.
- C. MegaLink service provides for the simultaneous two-way transmission of isochronous digital signals at DS1 speeds of 1.544 Mbps, where facilities are available.
- D. To ensure satisfactory operation, the terminal equipment provided by the customer must be compatible with the DS1/1.544 Mbps channel facility provided by the Company. The technical specifications and standard network interfaces for MegaLink service are contained in Technical Reference Publication 73525. This publication is available from BellSouth Services Documentation Operations, North W5A1, 3535 Colonnade Parkway, Birmingham, Alabama 35243. (T)
- E. Unless specified following, the *terms and conditions* for MegaLink service specified herein apply in addition to the *terms and conditions* set forth in Section B2. (T)
- F. The rates specified for MegaLink service in B7.1.3 following, contemplate the provision of a digital quality facility utilizing existing interoffice carrier equipment and/or exchange cable facilities compatible with this service. If such equipment, new facilities or changes to existing facilities are required for the provision of this service, a special construction charge based on the cost incurred to make the changes will apply in addition to the rates for MegaLink service. (T)

B7.1.2 Terms and Conditions (T)

A. Description of Service

1. MegaLink service is furnished for the simultaneous two-way transmission of serial, Bipolar, Return-to-Zero (BPRZ) isochronous digital signals, except where intentional bipolar violations are introduced by Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) format, at a speed of DS1/1.544 Mbps between two-points located within a LATA.
2. Multipoint service is not available.
3. MegaLink service is available on a month-to-month basis or under variable rate periods with rates based on lengths of 36 months, 60 months, or 84 months, under conditions specified in B2.4.9. If the customer does not select a new contract option or does not request discontinuance of service, service will be continued under the terms specified in B2.4.
4. Connection of DS1/1.544 Mbps communications systems provided by others may be made on a permissive basis as provided for in Section B2., the Company does not represent its MegaLink service as adapted for such connections, and shall not be responsible for the through transmission of signals, or the quality of such transmission on such connections.
5. A Channel Service Unit (CSU) or appropriate Termination Equipment (TE) provided by the customer is required at a customer's or authorized user's premises to perform such functions as:
 - proper termination of the service
 - amplification
 - signal shaping
 - remote loop-back

Note 1: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service (Cont'd)

B7.1.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

A. Description of Service (Cont'd)

6. The design, maintenance and operation of MegaLink service contemplates communications originating and terminating as (1) a customer premises to customer premises channel via the Company's Serving Wire Center, (SWC) - and/or through remote SWCs; (2) a customer premises to the Serving Wire Center - and/or to remote SWCs - partial channel (link); or (3) a central office to central office (interoffice) partial channel (link).
7. MegaLink service may also be furnished on a link (partial channel) basis when connected to Centrex Type Services¹, FlexServ service, MegaLink Plus service, MegaLink channel Services, and/or another MegaLink service.
8. All appropriate rates specified in other *guidebook* sections are in addition to the monthly rate per package or single channel for MegaLink service specified in this *Guidebook*.

B. Definitions

CHANNEL SERVICE UNIT

The term "Channel Service Unit" (CSU) denotes equipment provided by the Customer to terminate a digital facility on the customer's or user's premises.

Note 1: Connection from MegaLink service and MegaLink Plus service to Centrex Type Services may not be available from all serving wire centers.

(T)

(T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service (Cont'd)

B7.1.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

B. Definitions (Cont'd)

DS1

This denotes a channel service expressed in terms of its digitally encoded data bit rate in accordance with the North American hierarchy of digital signal levels. It 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, except where intentional bipolar violations are introduced by Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) format. Unframed signal formats are not permitted or compatible with Company equipment. The required format and interface specifications are contained in Technical Reference Publication 73525. (T)

DIGITAL LOCAL CHANNEL

The term "Digital Local Channel" denotes a path for MegaLink service furnished from the demarcation point on a customer's premises, to their Serving Wire Center.

INTEROFFICE CHANNEL

The term "Interoffice channel" denotes a path (or paths) for digital transmission between Company Serving Wire Centers within a LATA. An interoffice channel may be furnished in such manner as the Company may elect.

C. Application of Rates

1. Digital Local Channels furnished between a Serving Wire Center and the customer's premises will be charged at rates based on the first 1/2 mile and each additional 1/2 mile for the airline distance measured between the customer's premises and their Serving Wire Center.
2. Interoffice Channels furnished between Central Offices will be charged at rates based on airline distance between the Central Offices.
3. MegaLink service is available on a month-to-month basis or under variable rate periods, with rates based on lengths of 36 months, 60 months¹, or 84 months¹ under conditions specified in the Channel Services Payment Plan in B2.4 except as modified following. Contract rate increases are subject to the stipulations of 4. following.
4. MegaLink service rates under contract will not be increased by Company initiative until the contract period expires. Rates in effect at the time the service is installed and/or as of the service order application date will be applicable until the contract expires. At the expiration date of the customer's payment period option, the customer may select a new payment period option at current rates or revert to current rates on a month-to-month basis.
5. A Termination Liability Charge is applicable at the date of termination. The applicable charge is dependent on the contract period subscribed to and will be equal to fifty percent (50%) of the following: the number of months remaining in the contract times the monthly rate provided under the contract. However, Termination Liability charges will not apply for customer requests for moves of service under CSPP subject to the provisions set forth in B2.4.9.A.11. preceding, or for customer requested changes of service under CSPP to Fast Packet Transport Services under the Fast Packet Transport Services Payment Plan, or to AT&T Ethernet Services under the Ethernet Payment Plan, subject to the provisions set forth in B2.4.9.A.4.b.
6. Airline distance between Company central offices shall be developed using the methodology found in B3.3.3. Fractional mileage shall be rounded up to the next full mile.

D. Connections

1. Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Derivation Equipment and Customer-Provided Communications Systems may be connected to MegaLink service when such connection is made in accordance with the provision specified in 2., 3., and 4. following.

Note 1: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service (Cont'd)

B7.1.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

2. Responsibility of the Company

- a. The responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing and maintenance of MegaLink service to a network interface on the customer's premises where provision is made for the connection of local service.
- b. The Company shall not be responsible for installation, operation, or maintenance of any terminal equipment or communications systems provided by a customer. MegaLink service is not represented as adapted for the use of such equipment or system. Where such equipment or system is connected to Company facilities the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities suitable for MegaLink service and to the maintenance and operation in a manner proper for such digital service. The Company shall not be responsible for:
 - the through transmission of signals generated by such equipment or system, or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission or
 - the reception of signals by such equipment or systems, or
 - damage to terminal equipment or communications systems provided by a customer or authorized user due to testing.
- c. The Company shall not be responsible to the customer if changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company utilized in the provision of MegaLink service render any facilities or equipment provided by a customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment or system or otherwise affects its use or performance.
- d. The Company undertakes to maintain and repair the facilities which it furnishes. The customer may not rearrange, disconnect, remove or attempt to repair any equipment installed by the Company without prior written consent of the Company.

3. Responsibilities of the Customer

- a. The customer is responsible for installing and testing his premises equipment or facilities to insure that when they are connected to MegaLink service such equipment or facilities are operating properly.
- b. The operating characteristics of the customer premises equipment or facilities shall be such as to not interfere with any of the services offered by the Company. Such use is subject to the further provisions that the equipment provided by a customer does not: endanger the safety of Company employees or the public; damage, require change in or alteration of the equipment or other facilities of the Company; interfere with the proper functioning of such equipment or facilities; impair the operation of the Company's facilities or otherwise injure the public in its use of the Company's services. Upon notice that the equipment provided by a customer is causing or is likely to cause such hazard or interference, the customer shall take such steps as shall be necessary to remove or prevent such hazard or interference.
- c. The customer's responsibility shall include cooperative testing with the Company as may be necessary. Where regeneration and/or equalization adjustments or changes may be required to compensate for rearrangements and/or changes in outside plant facilities, the customer will be responsible for all expenses incurred in changes to his premises equipment.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service (Cont'd)

B7.1.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

4. Connection of Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Derivation Equipment and Customer-Provided Communications Systems.

a. The following provisions will apply:

- (1) Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment and/or Customer-Provided Communications Systems may be connected at the premises of the customer to MegaLink service.
- (2) The customer by use of its own derivation equipment, may create digital bit streams from a MegaLink service and such equipment may be connected for transmission of such bit streams when connected thru a customer-provided CSU/TE.
- (3) The undertaking of the Company is to furnish MegaLink service as ordered and specified by the customer as specified in d. following.

b. Connections to Other Services Furnished by the Company to the Same Customer

MegaLink service furnished by the Company may be connected by the customer to another service or to other services furnished by the Company as specified in D.2 preceding. Connected services are subject to all **terms and conditions** governing the provisioning of those services.

c. Connections to other services furnished by the Company to different customers

The customer may connect at the premises of the customer to another MegaLink service or other services furnished by the Company to different customers as specified in D.2. preceding. Connected services are subject to all **terms and conditions** governing provisioning of those services.

d. Connection of Channel Service Units

A Channel Service Unit (CSU) or appropriate Termination Equipment (TE) must be provided by the customer to connect a Company-provided digital facility. In accordance with Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations, new grandfathered CSU/TEs may be connected, moved, and reconnected until June 30, 1987. After this date only registered and previously connected grandfathered CSU/TEs may be connected to Company-provided digital facilities.

Grandfathered CSU/TE equipment must comply with the requirements outlined in Technical Reference 73525. This publication is now available from BellSouth Services Documentation Operations, North W5A1, 3535 Colonnade Parkway, Birmingham, Alabama 35243. Registered technical requirements for CSU/TEs are outlined in Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations. A copy may be obtained from the Federal Communications Commission, Room BB300, Washington, D. C. 20054.

(T)

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B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service (Cont'd)

B7.1.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

E. Features

1. Clear Channel Capability

- a. Clear Channel Capability (CCC) is an arrangement that alters a DS1/1.544 Mbps signal with unconstrained information bits, to meet pulse density requirements outlined in Technical Reference 73525. This will allow a customer to transport an all zero octet over a MegaLink service channel providing an available combined maximum 1.536 Mbps data rate. This arrangement requires the customer signal at the channel interface to conform to Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) line code as described in Technical Reference 73525.
- b. CCC is provided on MegaLink service channels between two customer designated premises, from a customer premises to their Serving Wire Center or Node Central Office and/or to a remote Serving Wire Center or Node Central Office, and from a Central Office to a Central Office, and is subject to the availability of facilities. This optional feature may be ordered at the same time the MegaLink service channel is ordered, or it may be ordered as an additional feature of an existing MegaLink service channel.
- c. When providing CCC via a DS3/44.736 Mbps High Capacity channel, that DS3 channel must be designated, in Company records, as having Clear Channel Capability prior to the provisioning of a DS1/1.544 Mbps High Capacity channel with CCC. Customers must agree to out-of-service periods required to add this feature to an existing MegaLink service channel to be optioned for B8ZS.

F. Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance

1. The minimum period for which MegaLink service is furnished and for which charges are applicable is one month.
2. Suspension of service is not allowed.
3. When MegaLink service is interrupted, due to causes other than negligence of the customer, or to the failure of facilities or equipment furnished by the customer, a credit allowance will be made upon request for the portion of service affected. For the purpose of determining the amount of allowance, every month is considered to have thirty days. All credit allowances shall begin from the time of notice by the customer to the Company, and will end when the service is operative. No credit is allowed for interruptions to service of less than thirty minutes. Interruptions of thirty minutes or more are credited to the customer at the proportionate monthly rate in half-hour multiples for each half-hour, or major fraction thereof, of interruption. A customer must report the outage in order to receive service outage credit. The total credit received in any month shall not exceed the monthly rate for the service.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.1 MegaLink Service (Cont'd)

B7.1.3 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

D. Move Charge

A move charge, per MegaLink service channel, applies for each Digital Local Channel moved to a new location in the same building. This move charge is equal to the sum of the Digital Local Channel Nonrecurring Charge, Service Change Charge - Inside Moves, and Premises Visit Charge.

A move charge, per MegaLink service channel under CSPP, applies for each MegaLink service moved to a new location in Company territory within the same state. This move charge is equal to the sum of all nonrecurring charges applicable to a new MegaLink service channel installation at the new location.

E. Service Connection Charges

1. Service Establishment Charges are applicable, for each MegaLink service channel¹ ordered, for receiving and recording information and/or taking action in connection with a customer's request, and processing the necessary data. These charges include engineering design, common centralized testing and coordination.
2. Service Change Charges are applicable for receiving and recording information and/or taking action in connection with a customer's Inside Move or transfer of service responsibility request, for processing the necessary data on an existing MegaLink service channel.¹ A Service Change Charge is applicable for each MegaLink service channel¹ associated with the customer request (in lieu of a Service Establishment Charge).
3. Premises Visit Charges are applicable, per Digital Local Channel, for the termination of a channel at a customer's premises or for inside moves. Only one Premises Visit Charge applies when more than one channel service of the same type is terminated or moved at the same premises at the same time.
4. Connection charges are applicable for the connection and testing of Digital Local Channels and/or Interoffice Channels. The charges applied are those nonrecurring charges contained in A. and B. preceding.
5. Charges for MegaLink service
 - a. Service Establishment Charge
 - (1) Per MegaLink service channel^{1,2}

	Nonrecurring Charge	USOC
(a) Each	\$575.00	MGLSE
b. Service Change Charge		
(1) Per MegaLink service channel ^{1,2}		
(a) For Inside Moves, each	350.00	MGL1M
(b) Per Transfers of Responsibility, each	50.00	MGLTR
c. Premises Visit Charge		
(1) Per Digital Local Channel or for an Inside Move ^{2,3}		
(a) Per Visit	35.00	MGLPV

Note 1: Refer to B7.1.2.A.7. for description of MegaLink service channels. (T)

Note 2: MegaLink ISDN service, specified in B107.5 references rates and charges for this rate element. (T)

Note 3: This charge is applicable to additional stations subsequently installed in a building.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service

B7.2.1 General

- A. SynchroNet service is furnished for IntraLATA Communications by the Company.
- B. The service is provided for the transmission of digital signals only and is furnished only via digital transmission facilities.
- C. SynchroNet service provides for the simultaneous two-way transmission of synchronous digital signals at speeds of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2, 56 and 64 Kbps between customer locations where appropriate digital facilities for this service are available as determined by the Company.
- D. Due to availability of equipment, multipoint Service and/or Secondary Channel Capability may not be available in all SynchroNet service locations.
- E. To ensure satisfactory operation, the terminal equipment provided by the customer must be compatible with the channel facility provided by the Company.
- F. Unless specified following, the *terms and conditions* for SynchroNet service specified herein apply in addition to the *terms and conditions* set forth in Section B2. preceding. (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.1 General (Cont'd)

- G.** The rates specified for SynchroNet service are in B7.2.3 following. The Company will provide a digital facility over existing interoffice carrier equipment and/or transmission facilities compatible with SynchroNet service. If new equipment and facilities or changes to existing facilities are required to provide for SynchroNet service, a special construction charge based on the cost incurred to make the changes may apply in addition to these rates.
- H.** SynchroNet service is available on a month-to-month basis or under contract plans as described in B7.2.2.F. following.

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions

(T)

A. Description of Service

1. Service is furnished for the simultaneous two-way transmission of digital signals at synchronous rates of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2, 56 and 64 Kbps between two points or more located within a LATA. This service may also be furnished on a link (partial channel) basis when connected to FlexServ service, MegaLink channel service and/or SMARTRing service.
2. Service is furnished for duplex operation only.
3. A minimum initial service period of 3 months is required.
4. The design, maintenance and operation of SynchroNet service contemplates communications originating or terminating at stations of the customer. While connections to communications systems provided by others may be made on a permissive basis as provided for in Section B2., the Company does not represent this service as adapted for such connections, and shall not be responsible for the through transmission of signals, or the quality of such transmission on such connections.
5. A Channel Service Unit provided by the customer is required at a customer's premises to perform such functions as:
 - proper termination of the service
 - amplification
 - signal shaping
 - remote loop-back

B. Definitions

CHANNEL SERVICE UNIT

The term "Channel Service Unit" (CSU) denotes equipment provided by the customer to terminate a digital facility on the customer's or Other Common Carrier's premises.

DIGITAL LOCAL CHANNEL

The term "Digital Local Channel" denotes a path for SynchroNet service furnished from the serving wire center to the demarcation point on the customer's premises.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 *Terms and Conditions* (Cont'd)

(T)

B. Definitions (Cont'd)

DIGITAL INTEROFFICE CHANNEL

The term "Digital Interoffice Channel" denotes a path (or paths) for digital transmission between Serving Wire Centers and Node Central Offices or between Node Central Offices, within a LATA. An interoffice channel may be furnished in such manner as the Company may elect.

DIGITAL LOCAL CHANNEL

The term "Digital Local Channel" denotes a path for SynchroNet service furnished from the Serving Wire Center to the demarcation point on a customer's premises.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 *Terms and Conditions* (Cont'd)

(T)

B. Definitions (Cont'd)

MULTIPOINT SERVICE

The term "Multipoint Service" denotes a service which provides communications capability between more than two private line station locations by means of a bridging or hubbing arrangement. For the provision of SynchroNet service the bridging or hubbing arrangement shall be located at the Node Central Office.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

B. Definitions (Cont'd)

NODE CENTRAL OFFICE

The term "Node Central Office" denotes that physical location the Company has designated as a test, maintenance and monitoring center to service one or more Serving Wire Centers. There may be more than one Node Central Office within a LATA.

SECONDARY CHANNEL CAPABILITY

The term "Secondary Channel Capability" denotes the offering of a companion digital transmission capability over the same physical facility as the primary channel at a lower bit rate. Terminal equipment required to support secondary channel capability must be provided by the customer.

SERVING WIRE CENTER

The term "Serving Wire Center" denotes the local telephone central office assigned to subscribers in a well defined area. A Serving Wire Center may be further designated by the Company as a Node Central Office.

C. Method of Applying Rates

1. A Digital Local Channel is furnished between a Serving Wire Center and the demarcation point on the customer's premises.
2. Node Terminations are applied to each termination within the Node Central Office. A charge is applicable for each Local Channel and/or Digital Interoffice channel connected within a Node Central Office.
3. A Digital Interoffice Channel will be required when a Digital Local Channel originates from a Serving Wire Center that is not a Node Central Office. The rate is based on airline mileage, or fraction thereof, between the Serving Wire Center and the Node Central Office.
4. A Digital Interoffice Channel will be required between Nodes when a customer has a requirement to connect premises located in separate Nodal Service Areas. The rate is based on airline mileage, or fraction thereof, between Node Central Offices.¹
5. Airline distance between Company central offices are to be developed from V&H coordinates listed in Section E10. of the Intrastate Access Service Tariff. Fractional miles are to be rounded up to the next full mile.

D. Connections

1. Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Derivation Equipment and Customer-Provided Communications Systems may be connected to SynchroNet service when such a connection is made in accordance with the provision specified in 2. and 3. following.

Note 1: When customer premises terminations are located in wire centers assigned to different primary nodes, interoffice channel mileage will be calculated from each Serving Wire Center to its assigned primary node, and interoffice channel mileage will also be calculated for the distance between the two primary nodes in the routing sequence.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

2. The responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing and maintenance of service to a network interface on the customer's premises where provision is made for the connection of local service. If the customer requires a different location in the same building, it can be provided under B7.2.5.B.1. The customer is responsible for installing and testing his premises equipment or facilities to insure that when they are connected with the SynchroNet service such equipment or facilities are operating properly. (T)
3. The customer responsibility shall include cooperative testing with the Company as may be necessary. Where regeneration and/or equalization adjustments or changes may be required to compensate for rearrangements and/or changes in outside plant facilities, the customer will be responsible for all expenses incurred in changes to his premises equipment. (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

4. Connection of Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Derivation Equipment and Customer-Provided Communications Systems.

a. The following provisions will apply:

- (1) Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Communications Systems may be connected at the premises of the customer, to SynchroNet service.
- (2) The customer, by use of its own derivation equipment, may create digital bit streams from SynchroNet service. Such equipment may be connected for transmission of such bit streams when connected through a customer-provided CSU.

b. Connections to Other Services Furnished by the Company to the Same Customer

SynchroNet service as furnished by the Company may be connected to another service or to other services furnished by the Company as specified following:

- (1) At the premises of the customer to Series 2000 analog data channels furnished under the rates, *terms and conditions* of this Company's Guidebook.

(T)

c. Connections to other services furnished by the Company to different customers

SynchroNet service as furnished by the Company to a customer may be connected at the premises of the customer to other services furnished by the Company to different customers as specified in D.2. preceding.

d. Connection of Channel Service Units

A Channel Service Unit (CSU) must be provided by the customer to connect a Company-provided digital facility. In accordance with Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations, new grandfathered CSUs may be connected, moved, and reconnected until June 30, 1987. After this date only registered and previously connected grandfathered CSUs may be connected to Company-provided digital facilities.

Grandfathered CSU equipment must comply with the requirements outlined in the Bell System Technical Reference Publication 62310, dated September, 1983. This publication is now available from Publishers' Data Center, Inc., P.O. Box C738, Pratt Street Station, Brooklyn, New York 11205. Registered technical requirements for CSUs are outlined in Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations. A copy may be obtained from the Federal Communications Commission, Room BB300, Washington, D. C. 20054.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

4. (Cont'd)

e. Responsibility of the Company

- (1) The Company shall not be responsible for installation, operation or maintenance of any terminal equipment or communications systems provided by a customer. SynchroNet service is not represented as adapted to the use of such equipment or system. Where such equipment or system is connected to Company facilities the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities suitable for SynchroNet service and to the maintenance and operation in a manner proper for such digital service. The Company shall not be responsible for:
- the through transmission of signals generated by such equipment or system, or for the quality of, or defects in such transmission or
 - the reception of signals by such equipment or systems, or
 - damage to terminal equipment or communications systems provided by a customer due to testing.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

4. (Cont'd)

e. Responsibility of the Company (Cont'd)

- (2) The Company shall not be responsible to the customer if changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company utilized in the provision of SynchroNet service render any facilities or equipment provided by a customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment or system or otherwise affects its use or performance.
- (3) The Company undertakes to maintain and repair the facilities which it furnishes. The customer may not rearrange, disconnect, remove or attempt to repair any equipment installed by the Company without prior written consent of the Company.
- (4) The Company has set a design objective of 99.5 percent error free seconds of operation at all speeds with SynchroNet service.

E. Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance

1. The minimum period for which service is furnished and for which charges are applicable is 3 months.
2. Suspension of service is not allowed.
3. When service is interrupted due to causes other than the negligence of the customer, or the failure of facilities furnished by the customer, a credit allowance will be made upon request for the portion of the service which is affected. For the purpose of determining the amount of allowance every month is considered to have 30 days and only those stations on the interrupted portions of a service shall be considered in determining the number of stations affected. All such credit allowances shall begin from the time of notice by the customer to the Company that an unsatisfactory performance level has occurred, provided that the customer promptly releases the service as requested by the Company to perform testing and maintenance.
 - a. Interruptions of less than three hours - no credit is applied.¹
 - b. Interruptions of three hours or over are credited to the customer at the proportionate monthly charge in half-hour multiples for each half-hour or major fraction thereof of interruption.
 - c. Interruption for a period of twenty-four hours or more, credit is allowed for the proportionate part of the monthly charge in multiples of one day for each twenty-four hours or major fraction thereof of interruption for the portion of the service affected by the interruption.

F. Contract Plans

1. SynchroNet service is offered under contract plan periods as described in a. and b. following.
 - a. Twenty-four to forty-two month contract plan^{2,3} - payment periods may be selected from twenty-four months to forty-two months.
 - b. Forty-three to sixty month contract plan^{2,3} - payment periods may be selected from forty-three to sixty months.

Note 1: Two or more interruptions of 30 minutes or more, during any period up to, but not including 3 hours, shall be considered as one interruption.

Note 2: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

Note 3: Effective December 31, 2013, customers may not establish new term plans of any length for SynchroNet Service, and existing term plans may not be renewed. For new service, or for existing service after any term plan expires, service will be provided only on a month-to-month basis.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.2 SynchroNet Service (Cont'd)

B7.2.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

F. Contract Plans (Cont'd)

2. The contract plans are available under conditions specified in the Channel Services Payment Plan in B2.4 except as follows. Increases under contract rate plans are subject to the stipulations of 3., following. (T)
3. SynchroNet service rates under contract plans will not be increased by Company initiative until the contract period expires. Rates in effect at the time the service is installed and/or when the Company is notified in writing of the subscriber's choice of payment period options, will be applicable until the contract plan expires except as specified in B2.4.9.B.7.a. At the expiration date of the customer's payment period option, the customer may select a new payment period option at the current rates. If the customer does not select a new payment period or does not request discontinuance of service, service will be continued under the terms specified in B2.4. (T)
4. A Termination Liability Charge is applicable at the date of termination if the customer terminates or disconnects the service prior to fulfilling the period of the contract plan except as specified in (2) following. However, a Termination Liability Charge will not apply for customer requests for moves of service under CSPP subject to the provisions set forth in B2.4.9.A.11, preceding.

The Termination Liability Charge is fifty percent (50%) of the following: the contracted monthly rate times the number of months in the contract plan, less the contracted monthly rate times the number of months the service has been installed. An example is provided in (1) following.

- (1) A customer subscribes to SynchroNet service using the twenty-four to forty-two month payment plan. The actual duration of the contract plan is for thirty months. The subscriber terminates the service after twelve months. The total liability charge is thirty months times the monthly rate. The amount is then reduced to reflect the number of months the subscriber has had the service, which in this example is twelve months. Therefore, the Termination Liability Charge is fifty percent of that amount calculated as follows:

Termination Liability Charge = .50 x [(30 months x monthly rate) - (12 months x monthly rate)]

- (2) A Termination Liability Charge will not be applicable at the date of termination if the customer terminates or disconnects the service prior to fulfilling the period of the contract plan for customer requested changes to a higher order of service covered by the Channel Services Payment Plan as specified in B2.4.9.B.4.b., or customer requested changes to services not covered by the Channel Services Plan that are offered by the Company under a contract payment plan provided that the applicable conditions set forth in B2.4.9.B.4.b. are satisfied.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.3 MegaLink Channel Service

B7.3.1 General

- A. MegaLink channel service is an intraLATA digital service which provides channelization capability for the customer in the Company's central office. MegaLink channel service is provided in packages based on multiple voice grade channel equivalents (DS0) where 24 voice grade channels are equal to a DS1. This service provides local channels and/or interoffice channels for network exchange access, Foreign Exchange Service, Centrex Type Services main station lines, off-premises stations, tie lines, WATS lines, analog data channels, Broadband Exchange lines, and digital data services (at 2.4 Kbps, 4.8 Kbps, 9.6 Kbps, 19.2 Kbps, 56 Kbps, 64 Kbps and 1.544 Mbps data rates).
- B. Channelization is provided by D type channel banks which are offered in various basic system capacities and feature activation types. Individual channel services are made available by selecting the specific feature activation equipment desired in a basic system. The customer may channelize all or part of a MegaLink channel service package to activate voice and data facilities for interconnection with the exchange network, voice grade and data facilities for private line channels, as well as other MegaLink channel services. The customer may also choose not to channelize all or part of a MegaLink channel service package allowing direct connection to other DS1 services as provided in this *Guidebook* or the General *Exchange Guidebook*. (T)
- C. This service is available within a LATA where appropriate digital facilities are available as determined by the Company. Service inquiries will be necessary to determine availability. Special Construction charges for MegaLink service will apply as specified in B7.1 preceding.
- D. Individual channels within a MegaLink channel service package may be connected with service offered in other sections of this *Guidebook* and General *Exchange Guidebook* as appropriate. The *terms, conditions*, rates and charges in this *Guidebook* are applicable for the MegaLink channel service component of the customer's end-to-end service. Single channel service components (non-MegaLink channel service links) are subject to the *terms, conditions*, rates and charges in their respective *guidebook* sections. (T)
- E. The customer may activate any number or combination of channels within a MegaLink channel service package within the limitations set forth in G. following. Channels may be activated coincident with initial service or at any time subsequent to basic system installation. Once activated, a channel is subject to a minimum service period in accordance with the contract terms. Features (channels) activated under month-to-month rates will have a minimum service period of one month.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.3 MegaLink Channel Service (Cont'd)

B7.3.1 General (Cont'd)

H. (Cont'd)

2. Responsibilities of the Customer:

- a. The customer must be prepared to activate his portion of joint service in a timely manner on the negotiated date, providing testing equipment and personnel to support installation requirements, as may be necessary.
- b. The customer will be responsible for selecting his own equipment. Customer equipment must be compatible with the Company provided channelization at the central office.

3. Trouble resolutions:

The Company will assist the customer in resolving any installation or day to day channel service problems. However, the Company does not assume responsibility for the compatibility or suitability of the customer's equipment. Dispatches to customer premises caused by customer equipment troubles will result in Trouble Determination Charges to the customer.

- I.** The technical specifications and standard network interfaces for DS1 and associated channelized services are contained in Technical Reference #73525. This publication is available from BellSouth Services, Documentation Operations, North W5A1, 3535 Colonnade Parkway, Birmingham, Alabama 35243. Channelized DS1 service is available only with D4 channel bank equipment or compatible, equivalent equipment. (T)

- J.** Emerging technology, such as low bit rate voice multiplexing techniques, may permit additional quantities of individual channels to be channelized on a single DS1 signal. Equipment providing this capability does not generally assure compatibility between different manufacturers. Some equipment may not be suitable for data transmission or tandem network line application. Rates, charges, and availability of this equipment will be negotiated with the customer on an individual case basis.

- K.** When MegaLink channel service is interrupted, due to causes other than customer action/negligence, or to the failure of facilities furnished by the customer, a credit allowance will be made as set forth following for the portion of service which is affected. For the purpose of determining the amount of allowance, every month is considered to have thirty days.

Interruptions of thirty minutes or over are credited to the customer at the proportionate monthly rate in half-hour multiples for each half-hour, or portion thereof, of interruption.

No credit is allowed for interruptions to service of less than thirty minutes.

B7.3.2 Application of Rates

- A.** Monthly rates as specified in B7.3.4 following apply for each MegaLink channel service according to the system capacity of voice grade equivalent channels in each package. These rates apply regardless of the number of voice grade circuit equivalents within each package that are actually activated by the customer at a point in time. In addition, rates and charges for associated MegaLink service in B7.1 are applicable.
- B.** Exchange Network Access is provided for channels within each MegaLink channel service package at the rates and charges specified in B7.3.4 following and apply for each channel within a package that is activated for Exchange Network Access. In addition, all applicable *terms, conditions*, rates, and charges specified in Section A3. of the General Exchange Guidebook will apply. (T)
- C.** Rates and charges specified in other *guidebook* sections for services such as Touch-Tone, Custom Calling Service, etc, are in addition to the monthly rate for MegaLink channel services. Also, the rates and charges for other services that may be interconnected or extended beyond the basic MegaLink channel service, such as Off-premises Stations, Tie Lines, Private Lines, etc., are in addition to the rates specified in this Guidebook for those portions of channel services necessary to provide end-to-end service. Rates and charges for single MegaLink service used to connect MegaLink channel services when used as part of the same communications system, will be as specified in B7.1 preceding. (T)
- D.** All usual and applicable Service Connection Charges and/or Nonrecurring Charges as specified in other *guidebooks* apply to the activation, move or change of channel equivalents within MegaLink channel service packages as well as for installation of the basic system. Suspension of service is not permitted with MegaLink channel service. (T)
- E.** MegaLink channel service systems and feature activations are available on a month-to-month basis or under variable rate periods with rates based on lengths of 36 months, 60 months¹, or 84 months¹ under conditions specified in B2.4 except as modified following. Contract rate increases are subject to the stipulations of F. following. All elements of a contract will expire at the same time (be coterminous).

Note 1: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.3 MegaLink Channel Service (Cont'd)

B7.3.2 Application of Rates (Cont'd)

- E. (Cont'd)
1. Individual exchange network access and private line channel services that are connected to MegaLink channel service are not offered under MegaLink channel service rate stability provisions. They are subject to their standard *guidebook* provisions as appropriate. (T)
- F. MegaLink channel service rates under contract will not be increased by Company initiative until the contract period expires. Those monthly rates for Basic System Capacity and Feature Activation in effect at the time the service is installed and /or as of the service order application date, will be applicable until the contract expires. At the expiration date of the customer's payment period option, the customer may select a new payment period option at current rates or revert to current rates on a month-to-month basis.
- G. A Termination Liability Charge is applicable at the date of termination. The applicable charge is dependent on the contract period subscribed to and will be equal to fifty percent (50%) of the following: the number of months remaining in the contract period times the monthly rate for the Basic System Capacity and Feature Activation which are provided under contract. This is subject to the exemptions of 1. and 2. following.
1. No Termination Liability Charge will be applicable for the Basic System capacity when the customer renegotiates a new contract for the same equipment or larger system at the same location(s) for a period of time greater than the time remaining on the existing contract, subject to contract periods contained in E. preceding.
 2. The Termination Liability Charge basis for Feature Activation rates will be fifty percent (50%) of the total monthly rate for the activated features under contract which are being disconnected. All features activated under contract are coterminous with the basic system with which they are associated. Any features subscribed to on a month-to-month basis have a minimum service period of one month and no associated termination charge liability.
 3. The Termination Liability charge for moves of MegaLink channel service under CSPP from one location to a different location in Company territory within the same state, with the exception of inside moves, will not apply. Instead, the provisions set forth in B2.4.9.A.11. will apply. (T)
- H. Transfer of service responsibility between customers is permitted subject to payment of a Transfer Charge as specified in B7.3.4.C.

B7.3.3 Digital Architecture and Definitions

A. Digital Architecture

MegaLink channel services differ in provisioning method and numbering format from single channel services. These services will be available from the Company on a link (partial channel) basis rather than as an end-to-end service. This architecture is intended to promote more efficient connectivity of analog and digital networks in the future.

Both analog and digital channels are offered by the Company. Where traditional analog voice grade signals are provided to a customer at his premises, then comparable performance specifications to the Series 2100 (or 2000) Channel Services will be provided, as contained in the Private Line or General *Exchange Guidebooks*. (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.3 MegaLink Channel Service (Cont'd)

B7.3.4 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

C. Transfer Charges

- 1. Transfer Between Customers

	Nonrecurring	
	Charge	USOC
	\$50.00	NA

(a) Per transfer

D. Mileage Charges

Rates and charges for MegaLink service and MegaLink Plus service as contained in B7.1 and B7.9 are applicable. Generally, one 1.544 Mbps channel is required for each group of 24 voice equivalent channels provided.

E. Automatic Protection Switching (APS)

APS for a MegaLink service interface provides automatic DS1 channel switching to a backup DS1 channel upon primary facility failure. When provided via MegaLink service, this feature requires purchase of an additional MegaLink service channel from B7.1 for each backup channel required. Rates, charges and availability of this equipment will be negotiated with the customer on an individual case basis. This feature may not be available with lines utilizing the Clear Channel Capability line code (B8ZS). (T)

F. Switching Arrangements, multipoint/multistation Bridging and Data Conditioning rates

Rates and charges are those that would be applicable to single channel services.

G. Signaling Arrangements

Rates and charges for single channels, as contained in Section B3., are not applicable to local channel and interoffice link segments that are channelized under the MegaLink channel services offering. However, rates and charges for automatic ringdown (20 Hz.) signalling, as contained in Section B3., are applicable when this is desired by the customer. (T)

H. Network Access Service

Rates and charges for Network Access lines are applicable as contained in Section A3. of the General *Exchange Guidebook* in addition to Feature Activation and other MegaLink channel service rates and charges contained in this section. (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.4 LightGate Service

B7.4.1 General

A. LightGate service is an intraLATA fiber optic based, digital service which provides channelization capability for the customer in packages based on systems consisting of DS3, DS1, STS-1, OC-3, OC-12, OC-48 and OC-192 channels. It will provide local channels and/or interoffice channels in the following system sizes:

- Asynchronous - LightGate 1
- Synchronous - STS-1, OC-3, OC-12, OC-48 and OC-192 LightGate service

Asynchronous systems are capable of transporting DS1 and DS3 channels. Synchronous systems are capable of transporting all channels. The capacity of each LightGate service System is shown in the following table:

<u>LightGate System</u>	<u>DS1</u>	<u>DS3</u>	<u>STS-1</u>	<u>OC-3</u>	<u>OC-12</u>	<u>OC-48</u>
LightGate 1	28	1				
LightGate STS-1	28		1			
LightGate OC-3	84	3	3	1		
LightGate OC-12	336	12	12	4	1	
LightGate OC-48	1344	48	48	16	4	1
LightGate OC-192	5376	192	192	64	16	4

B. Channelization is provided by LightGate service Systems which furnish fiber optic transport from the central office to a customer's premises. Channel interfaces are offered to provide individual DS1, Flex DS1, DS3, DS3 (Asymmetrical with DS1/Flex DS1), STS-1, OC-3, OC-12, OC-48, 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, Fractional 1000 Mbps and 1000 Mbps channels. The customer may channelize all or part of a LightGate service package to activate data facilities for interconnection with the exchange network, voice grade and data facilities for private line channels, as well as other LightGate services. The customer may also choose not to channelize all or part of a LightGate service package allowing direct connection to other LightGate services DS3 or DS1 services as provided in the Private Line *Guidebook* or the General *Exchange Guidebook*. (OC-12, OC-48 and OC-192 LightGate service local channel systems and OC-192 interoffice channel systems are only available as channelized.) (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.4 LightGate Service (Cont'd)

B7.4.1 General (Cont'd)

- D. OC-3, OC-12 and OC-48 LightGate service local channel systems may have an optical physical interface at either the serving wire center or the customer termination location. Where a customer elects to order a LightGate service local channel system with optical termination at the customer's location. The customer's termination equipment must be compatible with Company equipment in the serving wire center. Customers are also required to utilize compatible channel interface combinations to function with Company provided central office channel interfaces. The Company reserves the right to determine the equipment it employs for service.
- E. This service is available within a LATA where appropriate digital facilities can be made available as determined by the Company. Service inquiries will be necessary to determine availability interval.
- F. All LightGate services in a customer's package must be channelized in a single equipment location on a customer's premises, i.e., a package cannot be split between premises, or multiple locations within a premises. Standard network interfaces will be provided by the Company for digital services consistent with existing practices for single channel services.
- G. Individual channels within a LightGate service package may be connected with service offered in other sections of this *Guidebook* and the General *Exchange Guidebook* as appropriate. The *terms, conditions*, rates and charges in this *Guidebook* are applicable for the LightGate service component of the customer's end-to-end service. Single channel service components (non-LightGate service links) are subject to the *terms, conditions*, rates and charges in their respective *guidebook* sections. (T)
- H. The customer may activate any number or combination of channels within a LightGate service package within the capacity limits of the Basic System. Channels may be activated coincident with installation or at any time subsequent to basic system installation. Once activated, a channel is subject to a minimum service period in accordance with the contract period. Features (channels) activated under month-to-month rates will have a minimum service period of one month.
- I. When the Company provides customer premises LightGate service channelization down to a DS1 data rate level, any Channel Service Units (CSU) for associated 1.544 Mbps channels are the responsibility of the customer.
- J. DS1 channels have the capacity to provide 24 voice grade equivalent channels. Each DS3 channel has the capacity to provide 28 DS1 channels.
- K. The termination of channelization equipment will be in a single equipment location on a customer's premises. The customer must provide suitable floor space, controlled environment, and a source of non-switched 120 volt, 60 Hz AC power to support this service.
- L. Two additional levels of reliability are offered as options of basic LightGate service. These service levels provide guaranteed Separate Alternate Facilities Transport (SAFT Levels I & II) for improved protection of local channel systems extended from the first outside plant service access point outside the Company's serving wire center to the last outside plant service access point prior to entering a customer's premises.
SAFT Level I – Service protection facilities will be guaranteed to be provided in a separate sheath, i.e., cable, from the primary facilities.
SAFT Level II – Service protection facilities will be guaranteed to be provided in a separate sheath, i.e., cable, separate supporting structure and route from the primary facilities. Intermediate equipment, if required, will be configured to prevent a single service interruption point. If existing facilities are not available, special construction charges may apply.
- M. LightGate service interoffice channel systems are intended to extend LightGate service local channels to other central offices. In addition, these channels may be provided on a stand-alone basis when used in a "link" arrangement with other services in this *Guidebook* and the General *Exchange Guidebook*. (T)
- N. The level of automatic protection switching capability varies for LightGate service asynchronous and synchronous channels. For asynchronous channels, automatic protection switching capability is a standard service feature that automatically switches customer service to protection facilities upon primary facility failure. Card protection (1+n) is provided for DS1, DS3 and STS-1 channel interfaces as a standard feature. For synchronous channels, automatic protection switching capability is provided via the synchronous customer or central office channel 4-fiber interfaces. These 4-fiber interfaces provide 1+1 optical card protection of the interface. The specifications for these interfaces are contained in Technical Reference #73501. (T)
- O. The technical specifications and standard network interfaces for LightGate service and associated channelization are contained in Technical Reference #73501. This publication is available from BellSouth Telecommunications Inc., Documentation Operations, North W5A1, 3535 Colonnade Parkway, Birmingham, Alabama 35243. (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.4 LightGate Service (Cont'd)

B7.4.1 General (Cont'd)

P. Credit Allowance

When LightGate service is interrupted due to causes other than negligence of the customer, or to the failure of facilities or equipment furnished by the customer, a credit allowance will be made upon request for the portion of service affected. Where service interruptions of one minute or more per occasion occur, the credit applied shall be at the rate of 1440/1440 of the monthly charges for the LightGate service. All credit allowances shall begin from the time of notice by the customer to the Company, and will end when the service is operative. A customer must report the outage in order to receive service outage credit. The total credit received in any month shall not exceed the monthly rate for the service. Outage credits for DS1 channel interfaces and subtending DS1 services are as set forth in the *guidebook* sections governing those services. (T)

- Q.** 100 Mbps and 1000 Mbps BellSouth Metro Ethernet Backbone interfaces are for use when LightGate service is utilized for transport of a customer's BellSouth Metro Ethernet service. 100 Mbps BellSouth Metro Ethernet Backbone interfaces are further defined regarding the number of STS-1s, utilized in conjunction with the interface.

B7.4.2 Application of Rates

- A.** Monthly rates and charges as specified in B7.4.5 following apply for each LightGate service. These rates apply regardless of the number of circuit equivalents within each package that are actually activated by the customer at a point in time.

1. Local channel systems furnished between a Serving Wire Center and the customer's premises are distance sensitive. Local channel systems include the transport common equipment, and first half air-mile of local channel facilities at rates specified in B7.4.5.A. following. Rates for additional lengths of local channel facilities are as specified in B7.4.5.B. following.
2. Separate Alternate Facility Transport (SAFT) options for LightGate service local channels are offered at the rates specified in B7.4.5.C. following. These rates are in addition to local channel system rates.
3. Interoffice channel system mileage rates and charges are as specified in B7.4.5.D. following.

- B.** Suspension of service is not permitted with LightGate service.

- C.** Channel interfaces are required for LightGate service based upon the following guidelines:

1. Channel interfaces are required at both the customer's location and the serving wire center for LightGate service local channel systems and at both termination points of a LightGate service interoffice channel, except as specified in 2. following.
2. A LightGate service central office channel interface is not required for a synchronous LightGate service local channel system with optical termination in the serving wire center. A LightGate service local channel system with optical termination in the serving wire center may connect in one of the following ways:
 - to another LightGate service local channel or interoffice channel at the compatible optical level,
 - to a SMARTRing service channel interface (CI) at the compatible optical level, or
 - to a compatible optical level channel interface from a higher level LightGate service local channel or interoffice channel.
3. LightGate service channel interfaces are only offered in conjunction with a LightGate service System.
4. Company provided DS1 customer channel interfaces are offered only with LightGate 1, LightGate STS-1 and LightGate OC-3 Basic Systems. Also, a maximum of 96 DS1 customer channel interfaces are available on LightGate OC-48 and LightGate OC-192 Basic Systems installed on or after November 12, 2003.
5. OC-12 and OC-48 LightGate service local channel systems require a 28 DS1, STS-1, or OC-3 channel system in addition to DS1 channel interfaces in the central office to derive DS1 channels in the serving wire center. OC-192 LightGate service local channel systems require an OC-3 channel system in addition to DS1 channel interfaces to terminate DS1 channels in the serving wire center.
6. OC-192 LightGate service local channel systems, installed prior to November 12, 2003, require an OC-3, OC-12 or OC-48 channel system in addition to DS3 or STS-1 channel interfaces to terminate DS3 or STS-1 channels in the serving wire center.
7. OC-3 LightGate service local channel systems which require a DS3 termination at one location and DS1 terminations at the other, have two options available:
 - A DS3 channel interface at the customer location and a 28 DS1 channel system in addition to DS1 channel interfaces at the serving wire center, or
 - A DS3 (asymmetrical with DS1) interface at one termination point and DS1 channel interfaces at the other termination point.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.4 LightGate Service (Cont'd)

B7.4.2 Application of Rates (Cont'd)

- I. LightGate service rates under contract will not be increased by Company initiative until the contract period expires. Those monthly rates for LightGate service in effect at the time the service is installed and/or as of the service order application date, will be applicable until the contract expires. At the expiration date of the customer's payment period option, the customer may select a new payment period option at current contract rates or revert to current rates on a month-to-month basis. If the customer does not select a new payment period or does not request discontinuance of service, service will be continued under the terms specified in B2.4. (T)
- J. A Termination Liability Charge is applicable at the date of termination. The applicable charge is dependent on the contract period subscribed to and will be equal to the number of months remaining in the contract times fifty percent (50%) of the monthly rates for the LightGate service rates which are provided under contract, and are subject to the exemptions of 1. and 2. following.
 - 1. No Termination Liability Charge will be applicable for the LightGate service System when the customer renegotiates a new contract for the same system at the same location(s) for a period of time greater than the time remaining on the existing contract.
 - 2. Termination Liability Charges do not apply to channel interfaces under the Channel Services Payment Plan.
- K. Transfer of service responsibility between customers is permitted subject to payment of a Transfer Charge as determined on an individual case basis.

B7.4.3 Digital Architecture and Definitions

A. Digital Architecture

- 1. LightGate services differ in provisioning method and numbering format from single channel services. These services will be available from the Company on a link (partial channel) basis rather than as an end-to-end service. This architecture is intended to promote more efficient connectivity of analog and digital networks in the future.

Many LightGate service channels will be available on a digital basis at the network interface on a customer's premises. Traditional analog services, like tie lines, off-premises stations, and PBX trunks can be provided on a digital basis to a premises by the Company when a customer desires them encoded in a DS1 bit stream. Under those conditions, they will be provided as DS0 channels by the Company. Both the Company and the customer have joint responsibilities to ensure the proper transmission of the provided services. Normal analog channel network interface specifications will be superseded by the electrical specifications of the 1.544 Mbps (DS1) channel which is actually terminated. Each DS0 channel provided will have identity only as a "time slot" within a DS1 channel. Compatible digital to analog conversion equipment must be provided by the customer to derive the desired analog services. Any Channel Service Units (CSUs) necessary for digital services are the responsibility of the customer.

B. Definitions

CHANNEL SERVICE UNIT (CSU)

This denotes network channel terminating equipment provided by the customer to terminate digital channel facilities on a customer's or user's premises.

DS0

This denotes a channel service expressed in terms of its digitally encoded data bit rate in accordance with the North American hierarchy of digital signal levels. It is generally referred to as having a 64 kbps transmission data rate signal. The required format and interface specifications are referenced in Technical Reference #73501. (T)

DS1

This denotes a channel service expressed in terms of its digitally encoded data bit rate in accordance with the North American hierarchy of digital signal levels. It 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, except where intentional bipolar violations are introduced by Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) format. Unframed signal formats are not permitted or compatible with Company equipment. The required format and interface specifications are contained in Technical Reference #73501. (T)

DS3

This denotes a channel service expressed in terms of its digitally encoded data bit rate in accordance with the North American hierarchy of digital signal levels. It has a 44.736 Mbps transmission data rate, and provides for two-way simultaneous transmission of randomized Non-Return-to-Zero (NRZ) signals with a B3ZS format. The required format and interface specifications are contained in Technical Reference #73501. (T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.7 Self-Healing Multi-Nodal Alternate Route Topology Ring (SMARTRing) Service (Cont'd)

B7.7.1 General (Cont'd)

B. (Cont'd)

SMARTRing service OC-3, OC-12, or OC-48 channel interfaces are associated with optical circuits within a SMARTRing service arrangement. These optical circuits may be provisioned as concatenated. When an optical circuit is provisioned as concatenated, the multiple STS-1s within the optical circuit are provided as a single entity with a single overhead channel.

SMARTRing Service channel interfaces for OC-3, OC-12, OC-48 and OC-192¹ asymmetrical arrangements are associated with optical circuits within a SMARTRing Service arrangement. These optical circuit asymmetrical channel interfaces are non-concatenated and may not be provisioned as concatenated.

SMARTRing service interfaces may be ordered as asymmetrical (i.e., a circuit enters one node at a lower level interface and exits at another node at a higher level interface). For example, a customer may have a service that connects to a ring via an OC-3 interface at a node. That service is then transported around the ring and connects via an OC-12 interface to another of the customer's services. The allowable asymmetrical interface arrangements for the various ring sizes are as shown in Technical Reference TR-73582.

The DS3 (Asymmetrical with DS1) interface allows a customer to aggregate DS1s originating from multiple nodes on a ring into a single DS3 interface at a designated node. A DS3 (Asymmetrical with DS1) interface has the capacity to aggregate 28 DS1s.

The DS1 within an STS-1 Asymmetrical Arrangement interface rate element applies in lieu of the STS-1 interface for the higher level termination of an asymmetrical arrangement when the lower level interface is a DS1.

SMARTRing Service Overlay Ring Arrangements are available as follows:

<u>OVERLAYING SMARTRing Service</u>	<u>Host SMARTRing Service</u>				
	OC-12	OC-48	OC-48+	OC-192	OC-192+
OC-3	X	X	X	X	X
OC-3+		X	X	X	X
OC-12		X	X	X	X
OC-48				X	X
OC-48+					X

- C. SMARTRing service is connectible at Company central offices to any compatible high capacity service as provided in Section B7. and to Broadband Exchange Line Service at compatible data rates (e.g., 1.586 Mbps) as provided in Section A40.5 of the General *Exchange Guidebook*. Rates and charges for such other services are as set forth in the applicable sections of this *Guidebook* for such other services. (T)
- D. The customer must provide suitable floor space, controlled environment, and source of non-switched suitable power to support this service.
- E. Where the customer provides two separate entrance facility cable routes for SMARTRing service, the primary and alternate entrance facilities will be separate and will enter the customer node over such different routes. When the customer requests a connection at a Customer Node via two Local Channels and Company facilities do not exist for the second Local Channel, the Company may provide an equivalent second Local Channel via an existing alternate route. When facilities become available for the second Local Channel, the Company may rearrange the alternate route at any time. (T)
- F. The compatibility requirements, technical specifications, and generic requirements for SMARTRing service terminated at the customer's designated locations are referenced in Technical Reference ANSI T1.404-1989, and ANSI T1.403-1989.
- G. DS3 interface combinations and technical specifications are referenced in Bellcore TR-INS-000342.
- H. DS1 interface combinations and technical specifications are referenced in Bellcore TR-NPL-000054.

Note 1: OC-192 channel interfaces are available only in an asymmetrical arrangement (non-concatenated).

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.7 Self-Healing Multi-Nodal Alternate Route Topology Ring (SMARTRing) Service (Cont'd)

B7.7.1 General (Cont'd)

- I. SMARTRing service DS3 high capacity service channels have a performance objective of 99.5 percent error-free seconds over a continuous twenty-four hour period. Self-healing multi-nodal DS1 high capacity service channels have a performance objective of 99.95 percent error-free seconds over a continuous twenty-four hour period.
- J. SMARTRing service OC-3, OC-3+, OC-12, OC-48, OC-48+, OC-192 or OC-192+ capacity installed on or after June 3, 1994, is also available with FlexServ service Customer Network Management (CNM) under the rates, *terms and conditions* set forth following. FlexServ service CNM is available with two options: (1) Surveillance or (2) Reconfiguration. Customers wishing to incorporate either of these capabilities into their SMARTRing service should advise the Company at the time the initial service is requested. When the customer requests to add either FlexServ service option subsequent to the initial service installation, a SMARTRing service Rearrangement charge applies as set forth in 7.5.14 following. Customers who desire to only monitor their rings may order only Surveillance. However, customers who order Reconfiguration must already be subscribing to Surveillance or be ordering Surveillance coincident with Reconfiguration. Reconfiguration may not be ordered without Surveillance. (T)

Reconfiguration is provided on a per STS-1 basis. Within each STS-1 group, all activated interfaces must be optioned the same (either all Surveillance only or all Surveillance and Reconfiguration). Customers who wish to utilize this service to reconfigure DS1 interfaces must purchase the FlexServ service Reconfiguration option for all DS1 interfaces associated with the STS-1 group with which the customer desires to have equipped with FlexServ service capability.

When the customer orders Reconfiguration, the customer must order a sufficient quantity of SMARTRing service channel interfaces at every Customer Node and Central Office Node where reconfiguration capability is desired.

Reconfiguration is not available with 100 Mbps and 1000 Mbps Metro Ethernet Backbone interfaces.

- K. SMARTRing service ordered and installed after April 27, 2006, is available with an optional feature and function capability in which a customer may utilize all or part of his SMARTRing service to establish an adjunct virtual packet ring. A virtual packet ring is separate and apart from the SONET capabilities associated with high capacity channel transport via DS1 through OC-48 interfaces. A virtual packet ring provides the capability for a customer to transport Ethernet LAN traffic utilizing Basic Shared Ethernet LAN Access Links that have best effort service capabilities in which the throughput associated with a virtual packet ring are controlled/affected by the customer's traffic and network configuration. Since this is a Best-Effort service, the Company does not guarantee any performance levels including packet loss, latency or jitter of the customer's network if the customer chooses to oversubscribe his network. (T)

SMARTRing service Basic Shared Ethernet LAN Access Links are available based on equipment capability and a customer's requested service configuration. Upon a customer request for Basic Shared Ethernet LAN Access Links, equipment capability associated with the requested configuration shall be determined. Upon successful determination of the functionality of the customer's requested arrangement, the requested service shall be made available.

Basic Shared Ethernet LAN Access Links are further defined per TR 73582. Basic Shared Ethernet LAN Access Links are available only at Customer Nodes.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.7 Self-Healing Multi-Nodal Alternate Route Topology Ring (SMARTRing) Service (Cont'd)

B7.7.2 Application of Rates (Cont'd)

- E.** SMARTRing service OC-3, OC-12, or OC-48 channel interfaces are associated with optical circuits within a SMARTRing service arrangement. These optical circuits may be provisioned as concatenated. When an optical circuit is provisioned as concatenated, the multiple STS-1s within the optical circuit are provided as a single entity with a single overhead channel. When an optical circuit is provisioned as concatenated at the time the circuit is installed, there is no additional charge for provisioning it as concatenated. When an existing non-concatenated optical circuit is requested to be reconfigured as concatenated, a concatenation rearrangement charge shall apply. This rearrangement charge shall also apply for existing concatenated circuits that are requested to be converted to non-concatenated.
- F.** SMARTRing service interfaces may be ordered as asymmetrical (i.e., a circuit enters one node at a lower level interface and exits at another node at a higher level interface). For example, a customer may have a service that connects to a ring via an OC-3 interface at a node. That service is then transported around the ring and connects via an OC-12 interface to another of the customer's services. The allowable asymmetrical interface arrangements for the various ring sizes are as shown in Technical Reference TR-73582. The interface rates for asymmetrical arrangements are the same as the rates for symmetrical arrangements except as follows:
- For lower level DS1 interfaces in an asymmetrical arrangement with an STS-1 interface, the DS1 within an STS-1 Asymmetrical Arrangement interface rate element applies in lieu of the STS-1 interface for the higher level termination.
 - For lower level DS1 interfaces in an asymmetrical arrangement with a DS3 interface, the DS3 (Asymmetrical with DS1) interface rate element applies in lieu of the DS3 interface for the higher level termination of the asymmetrical arrangement
- G.** In addition, customers with DS3 interfaces at the Customer Node electing to connect with DS1 services at a Central Office Node, must obtain a 28 DS1 Channel System, and the appropriate number of DS1 Channel Interfaces. The applicable rate elements for this arrangement are a DS3 Interface at the Customer Node and a 28 DS1 Channel System with DS1 Interfaces at the Central Office Node. The SMARTRing service 28 DS1 Channel System does not require a DS3 interface at the Central Office Node. A maximum of 28 DS1 Channel Interfaces can be activated for each 28 DS1 System utilized. Nonrecurring charges apply for each 28 DS1 Channel System. Nonrecurring charges also apply for each DS1 Channel Interface in a 28 DS1 Channel System. The recurring rate applies for each 28 DS1 Channel System and each DS1 Channel Interface in a 28 DS1 Channel System.
- H.** In order to accommodate more flexible customer situations, SMARTRing service is available under several payment plans¹: 36 Month Term Payment Plan (24-48 months), 60 Month Term Payment Plan (49-72 months), or 84 Month Term Payment Plan (73-96 months). The 36, 60, and 84 Month Term Payment Plans¹ are provided under conditions specified in the Channel Services Payment Plan, (CSPP), B2.4.9 preceding, except as modified following. For all payment plans, the following *terms and conditions* apply:
1. All rate elements, except Channel Interfaces for a given SMARTRing service, whether initially or subsequently ordered, must be provided under the same payment plan with the same service period and are coterminous upon disconnect of the SMARTRing service. Channel Interfaces may be ordered under payment plans equal to or less than the selected payment period for the given SMARTRing service.
 2. The rates applicable to a month-to-month payment plan are subject to Company initiated changes.

Note 1: All term plans for SMARTRing Service which are established, renewed or extended after December 13, 2013, for term lengths which are scheduled to expire at any time after February 1, 2019, will instead expire on February 1, 2019. All such services provided on or after February 1, 2019 will be provided on a Month-to-Month (MTM) basis at the applicable, then-current MTM rates.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.7 Self-Healing Multi-Nodal Alternate Route Topology Ring (SMARTRing) Service (Cont'd)

B7.7.2 Application of Rates (Cont'd)

- J.** The SMARTRing service Interoffice Channel mileage is calculated per quarter airline mile between two directly connected central offices on the ring. Interoffice Channel mileage is computed by using the V&H coordinates method as set forth in the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. No. 4. To determine the rate to be billed, multiply the appropriate per quarter mile rate by the distance involved. Fractions of a quarter mile always round up to the next quarter mile before determining the mileage and applying the rate. For channels which are less than one quarter mile, a minimum charge of one quarter mile applies.
- K.** A nonrecurring charge applies for SMARTRing service Surveillance, one for each Customer Node and each Central Office Node, per SMARTRing service rearranged. A nonrecurring charge applies for Reconfiguration, one per reconfiguration of each STS-1 group at each node where such reconfiguration capability is desired. These rate elements apply when the Customer adds FlexServ service to an existing SMARTRing service.
- L.** For SMARTRing service configured with a Virtual Packet Ring(s), an individual VPR requires multiple (i.e., two or more) Basic Shared Ethernet LAN Access Links.
- M.** A Virtual Packet Ring Rearrangement charge applies for the complete removal of a Virtual Packet Ring from a SMARTRing service. This charge does not apply to an increase or decrease in the size of a Virtual Packet Ring or to changes involving the addition or removal of individual nodes on the ring.
- N.** For conversions of LightGate service to a higher capacity OC-12, OC-48, OC-48+, OC-192 or OC-192+ SMARTRing service and for conversions of SMARTRing service to a higher capacity SMARTRing service arrangement, customers will be allowed to defer the start of SMARTRing service ring level billing when the new service arrangement is provided under the Channel Services Payment Plan (CSPP), as described in B2.4.9, preceding. The period of deferred billing shall be based on the Company's estimation of the time required for conversion, up to a maximum of 60 days. This applies to orders for new service associated with conversions, as described above, or orders associated with a project for conversion that is pending completion, as of September 22, 2006. For orders associated with a project for conversion that is pending completion, the deferred start of ring level billing shall be accomplished via credits to the customer's bill. For upgrades, as described above, that are completed in less than 60 days, the deferred start of ring level billing shall be associated with the completion of the upgrade. Customer's SMARTRing service CSPP arrangements shall begin after the deferral period and continue to completion, as described in B2.4.9, preceding, for the customers selected CSPP commitment period.
- Ring level billing is defined as billing for the following rate elements: Local Channel, Interoffice Channel, Internodal Channel Alternate Central Office Channel, Customer Node and Central Office Node. Billing for Customer Channel Interfaces and Central Office Channel Interfaces recurring will be effective upon activation of the interface and is not available for deferred billing.
- In case of a service outage associated with SMARTRing service ring level rate elements that have deferred billing, as described above, for new service associated with conversions or service associated with a project for conversion that is pending completion, a service outage credit will not apply.
- O.** For situations where a customer requests Local Channel and Interoffice Channel service components to a central office and alternate facilities are available that provide an equal or higher level of protection than the requested service arrangement, such alternate facilities may be utilized, with concurrence of the customer, and the rate application shall be that of the Local Channel and Interoffice Channel service components as requested by the customer.
- P.** Shared Node Interconnection Central Office Node charges apply for each location on a Shared Node Interconnection Secondary Ring involved in a Shared Node Interconnection arrangement. SMARTRing service Local Channel, Interoffice Channel, etc., ring level service components apply to the Shared Node Interconnection Central Office Node in the same manner as associated with a Central Office Node.

The credit for service outages associated with Shared Node Interconnection Central Office Nodes shall be the same as is applicable to ring level nodes.

Should the customer require more capacity at a shared node central office location than is available on the Primary Ring node, then additional billable service components will be required.

(T)

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.7 Self-Healing Multi-Nodal Alternate Route Topology Ring (SMARTRing) Service (Cont'd)

B7.7.3 Architecture

A. SMARTRing Service

The SMARTRing service configuration utilizes a multi-nodal ring architecture which is specified jointly by the Company and the customer. The minimum configuration provides dedicated DS3 (44.736 Mbps) and/or DS1 digital services and must include at least three nodes. One node must be a Central Office Node in Company Central Office. The remaining two nodes may be either Central Office Nodes in a Company Central Offices or Customer Nodes at customer designated locations, or one of each. Additional nodes above the three node minimum may be any combination thereof. The maximum number of nodes will be determined based on equipment capability. The nodes are connected by SMARTRing service Local Channels, Alternate Central Office Channels, Interoffice Channels and Internodal Channels as applicable. SMARTRing service may be connected to other high capacity services only at Central Office Nodes.

Applicable rate elements for this service are:

- Customer Nodes provide ring switching capabilities at customer designated locations other than Company Premises that are part of SMARTRing service. This rate element offers OC-3, OC-3+, OC-12, OC-48, OC-48+, OC-192, or OC-192+ network capacities. A summary of the channel interfaces available with each node are specified in B7.7.1 preceding (T)
- Customer Channel Interface provides DS1, DS3, STS-1, OC-3, OC-12, OC-48, 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, Fractional 1000 Mbps and/or 1000 Mbps connectivity that may take place at each Customer Node of SMARTRing service. The Customer Channel Interface rate element applies for every interface capacity that originates or terminates at a Customer Node
- Central Office Node (at least one), provides ring switching capabilities at Company Central Offices that are a part of SMARTRing service. This rate element offers OC-3, OC-3+, OC-12, OC-48, OC-48+, OC-192, or OC-192+ network capacities. A summary of the channel interfaces available with each node are specified in B7.7.1 preceding.
- Central Office Channel Interface provides DS1, DS3, STS-1, OC-3, OC-12, OC-48, 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, Fractional 1000 Mbps and/or 1000 Mbps connectivity that may take place at each Central Office Node located on SMARTRing service. The Central Office Channel Interface rate element applies for every interface capacity that originates or terminates at a Central Office Node. Customers with DS3 interfaces at the Customer Node, electing to connect with DS1 services at a Central Office Node, must obtain a 28 DS1 Channel System. STS-1 interfaces may only connect to other compatible STS-1 services.
- Local Channel (at least one for each Customer Node which is directly connected to the serving wire center), provides for the communications path between a Customer Node and the serving wire center of the premises where located.
- Alternate Central Office Channel (at least one for each Customer Node which is directly connected to an Alternate Central Office), provides for the communications path, where requested, between a Customer Node and an Alternate Central Office.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.8 Reserved For Future Use

B7.9 MegaLink Plus Service

B7.9.1 General

- A. MegaLink Plus service is furnished for Private Line IntraLATA Communications by the Company.
- B. MegaLink Plus service is a service for transmission of digital signals only and uses only digital transmission facilities.
- C. MegaLink Plus service is a fiber-based high capacity network service providing a 1.544 Mbps transport link with high performance and reliability parameters. This service utilizes structurally diverse loop facilities designed to limit single points of failure between a customer's location and its normal serving wire center.
- D. MegaLink Plus service is available to customer locations where existing loop facilities are fiber-based and utilize structurally diverse routes. For locations where loop facilities are not available to satisfy customer requests for MegaLink Plus service, special construction charges will apply as set forth in Section B5. preceding.
- E. The technical specifications and standard network interfaces for MegaLink Plus service are contained in Technical Reference Publication 73525. This publication is available from Regional Documentation Services, 600 North 19th Street, 20th Floor, Birmingham, Alabama 35203. (T)

B7.9.2 Terms and Conditions (T)

- A. Description of Service
 - 1. MegaLink Plus service utilizes a self-healing diverse fiber-based local channel (loop) transport link between a customer designated premises and the normal serving wire center.
 - 2. MegaLink Plus service is furnished on a link (partial) basis for connection at the normal serving wire center to another MegaLink Plus service, an ESSX service¹, MegaLink channel service, FlexServ service, or SMARTRing service. Connectivity between MegaLink Plus service and these other services may be provided via a MegaLink service Interoffice Channel between central offices.
 - 3. All appropriate rates, charges, *terms and conditions* specified in other *guidebook* sections for connected services are in addition to those for MegaLink Plus service specified in this *guidebook*. (T)
 - 4. Performance objectives for MegaLink Plus service between the customer's location and the serving wire center are as follows:
 - a. Meet or exceed 99.98 percent Circuit Availability.
 - b. Meet or exceed 99.95 percent Error Free Seconds.
 - c. Meet or exceed .010 Severely Errored Seconds.

The objectives apply except when a customer's equipment and/or cabling is disconnected and/or inoperative, or when a MegaLink service Interoffice Channel is used in conjunction with a MegaLink Plus service Local Channel. Consult TR73525 for additional information concerning service performance objectives.
 - 5. Performance guarantees for MegaLink Plus service are as follows:
 - a. Service Installation

The Company will meet negotiated due date or credit an amount equal to the month-to-month payment plan nonrecurring charge according to the Service Installation Guarantee provisions described in B2.4.17 preceding.
 - b. Service Continuity

In the event of primary failure, service is guaranteed to switch to an alternate facility path in sixty seconds or less. Failure to meet this guarantee will result in a credit as described in E.3. following where the trouble is in the local loop facility on public right-of-way.

Note 1: Connection from MegaLink Plus service to a Centrex type service may not be available from all Serving Wire Centers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.9 MegaLink Plus Service (Cont'd)

B7.9.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

B. Definitions

MEGALINK PLUS SERVICE LOCAL CHANNEL

The MegaLink Plus service Local Channel provides for the connection between a customer's designated premises to their serving wire center.

C. Application of Rates

1. Monthly rates and charges as specified in B7.9.3.A. following apply for each MegaLink Plus service local channel.
2. Recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges apply for each MegaLink Plus service. Nonrecurring charges will not apply for the MegaLink Plus service Local Channel rate element when MegaLink Plus service is furnished under a payment plan other than month-to-month. Available payment plans are described in 3. following.
3. MegaLink Plus service is available under several payment plans: Month-to-month (with a one month minimum), Plan A (24-48 Months)¹, Plan B (49-72 Months)¹, and Plan C (73-96 Months)¹ under conditions specified in the Channel Services Payment Plan (CSPP) in B2.4 preceding.
4. Month-to-month payment plan rates are subject to Company initiated changes. MegaLink Plus service rates provided under a CSPP arrangement are exempt from Company initiated rate increases for the duration of the payment plan length selected; however, decreases on recurring rates will flow through to the customer.
5. A Termination Liability Charge (TLC) is applicable at the date of termination. The applicable charge is dependent on the customer-specified payment period subscribed to and will be equal to fifty percent (50%) of the following: the number of months remaining in the payment period times the monthly rate applicable. However, a TLC will not apply subject to the provisions set forth in B2.4.9.A. or customer requested changes to services not covered by the CSPP that are offered by the Company under an optional payment plan.
6. A service performance credit as specified in E.3 following will apply.

D. Connections

1. Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Derivation Equipment and Customer-Provided Communications Systems may be connected to MegaLink Plus service when such connection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in 2. and 3. following.
2. Responsibility of the Company
 - a. The responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing and maintenance of MegaLink Plus service to a network interface on the customer's premises.
 - b. The Company shall not be responsible for installation, operation, or maintenance of any terminal equipment or communications system provided by a customer. MegaLink Plus service is not represented as adapted for the use of such equipment or system. Where such equipment or system is connected to Company facilities, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to furnishing of facilities suitable for MegaLink Plus service and to the maintenance and operation in a manner proper for such digital service. The Company shall not be responsible for:
 - the through transmission of signals generated by such equipment or system, or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission, or
 - the reception of signals by such equipment or systems, or
 - damage to terminal equipment or communication system provided by a customer or authorized user due to testing.
 - c. The Company shall not be responsible to the customer if changes in any of the facilities, operations, or procedures of the Company utilized in the provision of MegaLink Plus service render any facilities or equipment provided by the customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment or system or otherwise affects its use or performance.
 - d. The Company undertakes to maintain and repair facilities, which it furnishes. The customer may not rearrange, disconnect, remove, or attempt to repair any equipment installed by the Company without prior written consent of the Company.

Note 1: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.9 MegaLink Plus Service (Cont'd)

B7.9.2 Terms and Conditions (cont'd)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

3. Responsibility of the Customer

- a. The customer is responsible for installing and testing premises equipment or facilities to insure that when they are connected to MegaLink Plus service such equipment or facilities are operating properly.
- b. The operating characteristics of the customer premises equipment shall be such as to not interfere with any of the services offered by the Company. Such use is subject to the further provisions that the equipment provided by the customer does not: endanger the safety of Company employees or the public; damage, require change in or alteration of the equipment or other facilities of the Company; interfere with the proper functioning of such equipment or other facilities of the Company; impair the operation of the Company's facilities or otherwise injure the public in its use of the Company's services. Upon notice that the equipment provided by a customer is causing or is likely to cause such hazard or interference, the customer shall take such steps as shall be necessary to remove or prevent such hazard or interference.
- c. The customer's responsibility shall include cooperative testing with the Company as may be necessary. Where regeneration and/or equalization adjustments or changes may be required to compensate for rearrangements and/or changes in outside plant facilities, the customer will be responsible for all expenses incurred in changes to his premises equipment.
- d. When MegaLink Plus service is connected at the serving wire center to another service which is provisioned with ANSI T1.403-1995 Extended Superframe Format (ESF) and/or Clear Channel Capability, the customer will be required to add the same format and/or line code standard to the MegaLink Plus service to ensure compatibility. Rates, *terms and conditions* associated with Clear Channel Capability are located in B7.1. (T)
- e. The Company is authorized to provide MegaLink Plus service for use in application testing subject to the *terms and conditions* set forth in B2.1.16. Up to three each of MegaLink Plus service local channels and interoffice channels may be utilized in a typical applications test configuration. The Company is authorized to deviate from this average in order to fully participate in an application test with a customer which cannot otherwise be performed to the customer's satisfaction. (T)

E. Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

1. The minimum service period for MegaLink Plus service is one month.
2. Suspension of service is not allowed.
3. Failure by the Company to meet the performance guarantee described in A.5.b. preceding will result in a credit of an amount equal to the monthly rate billed for the service. Credit for interruptions of sixty (60) seconds or more will be applied through normal administrative processes and the dollar amount will be reflected on the customer's bill. A customer must report the outage in order to receive credit. The credit will apply no more than once per calendar month, and shall not exceed the monthly rate for the service.
4. MegaLink Plus service is eligible for credit of nonrecurring charges under "Service Installation Guarantee" found in B2.4.17 preceding.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.10 MegaLink Light Service

B7.10.1 General

- A. MegaLink Light service is furnished for Private Line IntraLATA Communications by the Company.
- B. MegaLink Light service is a service for transmission of digital signals only and uses only digital transmission facilities.
- C. MegaLink Light service is a fiber-based high capacity network service providing a 1.544 Mbps (DS1) transport link.
- D. MegaLink Light service provides for the simultaneous two-way transmission of serial, Bipolar Return-to-Zero (BPRZ) isochronous digital signals, except where intentional bipolar violations are introduced by Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) format, at DS1 speeds of 1.544 Mbps, and is available to customer locations where existing loop facilities are fiber-based. The rates specified for MegaLink Light service in B7.10.3 following, contemplate the provision of a digital quality facility via existing exchange facilities compatible with this service. When MegaLink Light service is requested at locations where loop facilities are not available to satisfy customer requests for MegaLink Light service, special construction charges will apply as set forth in Section B5. preceding.
- E. The performance objectives, technical specifications and standard network interfaces for MegaLink Light service are contained in Technical Reference Publication 73525. The performance objectives apply except when a customer's equipment and/or cabling is disconnected and/or inoperative, when customer provided power is disconnected and/or inoperative, or when a MegaLink Light service is extended beyond its normal Serving Wire Center. TR 73525 is available from Regional Documentation Services, 600 North 19th Street, 20th Floor, Birmingham, Alabama 35203. (T)
- F. Unless specified following, the *terms and conditions* for MegaLink Light service specified herein apply in addition to the *terms and conditions* set forth in Section B2. preceding. (T)

B7.10.2 Terms and Conditions (T)

A. Description of Service

1. MegaLink Light service utilizes a fiber-based local channel (loop) transport link between a customer designated premises and its normal serving wire center.
2. MegaLink Light service is furnished on a link (partial channel) basis for connection at the normal serving wire center to Centrex Type Services¹, MegaLink channel service, FlexServ service or SMARTRing service. Connectivity between MegaLink Light service and these other services may be provided via a MegaLink service Interoffice Channel between central offices. Except for MegaLink service and MegaLink Plus service, those services connectable to a MegaLink service Interoffice Channel or a MegaLink Light service Local Channel may be utilized for completion of a customer's point-to-point channel service.
3. All appropriate rates, charges, *terms and conditions* specified in other *guidebook* sections for connected services are in addition to those for MegaLink Light service specified in this *guidebook*. (T)
4. Performance objectives for MegaLink Light service between the customer's location and the serving wire center are as specified in Technical Reference Publication 73525. (T)
5. Performance guarantees for MegaLink Light service are as follows:
 - a. Service Installation

The Company will meet negotiated due date or credit an amount equal to the month-to-month payment plan nonrecurring charge according to the Service Installation Guarantee provisions described in B2.4.17 preceding.
 - b. Service Continuity

Service outages in the local loop facility, will result in a credit as described in E.3. following where the trouble is in the local loop facility on public right-of-way.

Note 1: Connection from MegaLink Light service to Centrex Type Services may not be available from all serving wire centers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.10 MegaLink Light Service (Cont'd)

B7.10.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

B. Definitions

MegaLink Light Service Local Channel

The MegaLink Light service Local Channel denotes a path for MegaLink Light service furnished between the customer's premises and its normal serving wire center.

DS1

This denotes a channel service in terms of its digitally encoded data bit rate in accordance with the North American hierarchy of digital signal levels. It has a 1.544 Mbps data transmission rate, and provides for the two-way simultaneous transmission of isochronous timed, Bipolar Return-to-Zero (BPRZ) bit stream format except where intentional bipolar violations are introduced by Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution (B8ZS) format. Unframed signal formats are not permitted or compatible with Company equipment. The required interface specifications are contained in Technical Reference Publication 73525.

C. Application of Rates

1. MegaLink Light service Local Channels will be charged for at rates based on the first half mile and each additional half mile for the airline distance measured between the customer's premises and its normal Serving Wire Center.
2. Recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges apply for each MegaLink Light service. Available payment plans are described in 3. following.
3. MegaLink Light service is available under several payment plans: Month-to-Month, Plan A (24-48 Months)¹, Plan B (49-72 Months)¹, and Plan C (73-96 Months)¹ under conditions specified in the Channel Services Payment Plan (CSPP) in B2.4 preceding.
4. Month-to-Month payment plan rates are subject to Company initiated changes. MegaLink Light service rates provided under a CSPP arrangement, as specified in B2.4.9.A preceding, are exempt from Company initiated rate increases for the duration of the payment plan length selected; however, decreases on recurring rates will flow through to the customer. At the expiration date of the customer's payment period option, the customer may select a new payment period option at current rates or revert to current Month-to-Month rates. Renewal options for MegaLink Light service will be as specified in B2.4.9.A preceding.
5. A Termination Liability Charge (TLC) is applicable at the date of termination. The applicable charge is dependent on the payment period subscribed to and will be equal to fifty percent (50%) of the following: the number of months remaining in the payment period times the monthly rate applicable. However, a TLC will not apply for; 1) moves of service subject to the provisions set forth in B7.10.3.B.5., 2) customer requested changes as specified in B2.4.9.A, CSPP or 3) customer requested change to services not covered by the CSPP that are offered by the Company under a contract payment plan.
6. When a customer requests B8ZS format be provided on a MegaLink Light service Local Channel, *terms, conditions, rates and charges* appropriate for Clear Channel Capability (CCC) as specified for MegaLink service, located in B7.1 preceding, will apply.

D. Connections

1. Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment, Customer-Provided Derivation Equipment and Customer-Provided Communications Systems may be connected to MegaLink Light service when such connection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in 2. and 3. following.
2. Responsibility of the Company
 - a. The responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing and maintenance of MegaLink Light service to a network interface on the customer's premises.

Note 1: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

B7. DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.10 MegaLink Light Service (Cont'd)

B7.10.2 Terms and Conditions (cont'd)

D. Connections (Cont'd)

2. (Cont'd)

- b. The Company shall not be responsible for installation, operation, or maintenance of any terminal equipment or communications system provided by a customer. MegaLink Light service is not represented as adapted for the use of such equipment or system. Where such equipment or system is connected to Company facilities, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to furnishing of facilities suitable for MegaLink Light service and to the maintenance and operation in a manner proper for such digital service. The Company shall not be responsible for:
 - the through transmission of signals generated by such equipment or system, or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission, or
 - the reception of signals by such equipment or systems, or
 - damage to terminal equipment or communication system provided by a customer or authorized user due to testing.
- c. The Company shall not be responsible to the customer if changes in any of the facilities, operations, or procedures of the Company utilized in the provision of MegaLink Light service render any facilities or equipment provided by the customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment or system or otherwise affects its use or performance.
- d. The Company undertakes to maintain and repair facilities which it furnishes. The customer may not rearrange, disconnect, remove, or attempt to repair any equipment installed by the Company without prior written consent of the Company.

3. Responsibility of the Customer

- a. The customer is responsible for installing and testing premises equipment or facilities to insure that when they are connected to MegaLink Light service such equipment or facilities are operating properly.
- b. The operating characteristics of the customer premises equipment shall be such as to not interfere with any of the services offered by the Company. Such use is subject to the further provisions that the equipment provided by the customer does not: endanger the safety of Company employees or the public; damage, require change in or alteration of the equipment or other facilities of the Company; interfere with the proper functioning of such equipment or other facilities of the Company; impair the operation of the Company's facilities or otherwise injure the public in its use of the Company's services. Upon notice that the equipment provided by a customer is causing or is likely to cause such hazard or interference, the customer shall take such steps as shall be necessary to remove or prevent such hazard or interference.
- c. The customer's responsibility shall include cooperative testing with the Company as may be necessary. Where regeneration and/or equalization adjustments or changes may be required to compensate for rearrangements and/or changes in outside plant facilities, the customer will be responsible for all expenses incurred in changes to his premises equipment.
- d. When MegaLink Light service is connected at the serving wire center to another service which is provisioned with ANSI T1.403-1995 Extended Superframe Format (ESF) and/or Clear Channel Capability, the customer will be required to add the same format and/or line code standard to the MegaLink Light service to ensure compatibility. Rates, *terms and conditions* associated with Clear Channel Capability are located in B7.1.
- e. It will be the responsibility of the customer to make a power supply available when required by the Company for its use, using Company-provided, location specific, specifications for termination, type and location.

E. Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

- 1. The minimum initial service period for MegaLink Light service is 24 months. Month-to-Month rates may be specified upon completion of the initial 24 month service period.
- 2. Suspension of service is not allowed.

(T)

(T)

B7 DIGITAL NETWORK SERVICE

B7.10 MegaLink Light Service

B7.10.2 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

(T)

E. Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

3. A service interruption of 30 minutes or more, attributable to the MegaLink Light service Local Channel portion of the customer's end-to-end service, will result in the credit of an amount as specified in a. through e. following. These credits are applicable to the Company's MegaLink Light service Local Channel portion of the customer's end-to-end service, where the trouble is in the Company's local channel facility on public right-of-way. Credits will be applied through normal administrative processes and the dollar amount will be reflected on the customer's bill. A customer must report the outage in order to receive service outage credit, and the total credit received in any month shall not exceed the monthly rate for the service.
 - a. For service interruptions of from 30 to 150 minutes duration, the customer will receive a credit of an amount equal to 25 percent of the Local Channel monthly recurring rate.
 - b. For service interruptions of from 151 to 210 minutes duration, the customer will receive a credit of an amount equal to 50 percent of the Local Channel monthly recurring rate.
 - c. For service interruptions greater than 210 minutes duration, the customer will receive a credit of an amount equal to 100 percent of the Local Channel monthly recurring rate.
 - d. Service outages of less than 30 minutes duration will not receive credit.
 - e. Service outage credits for services into which MegaLink Light service Local Channels are terminated will be as is appropriate for those other services.
4. MegaLink Light service is eligible for credit of nonrecurring charges under provisions of the "Service Installation Guarantee" found in B2.4.17 preceding.

F. Service Changes

If the change involves changing a customer's MegaLink service Local Channel to a MegaLink Light service Local Channel, the change will be considered a disconnect of the existing service and full nonrecurring charges will apply for the MegaLink Light service, as appropriate. Changes from MegaLink service to MegaLink Light service will be considered an upgrade with regard to application of termination liability charges in accordance with the CSPP provisions provided in B2.4 preceding.

G. Independent Company Territories

Terms, conditions, rates and charges applicable for MegaLink Light service apply to MegaLink Light service provided in *the Company's* serving areas and areas of Independent Companies that concur in *the Company's* Private Line *Guidebook*. In those cases where a portion of MegaLink Light service is furnished by an Independent Company that does not concur in *the Company's* Private Line *Guidebook*, the rates, *terms and conditions* of the Independent Company apply to the portion of MegaLink Light service it furnishes.

(T)

B7.10.3 Rates and Charges

A. Recurring Rates

1. A MegaLink Light service Local Channel is furnished between a customer's premises and its normal Serving Wire Center (SWC). Rates are based on the airline distance between the customer's premises and its normal SWC.

B. Nonrecurring Charges

1. Service Establishment Charges are applicable, for each MegaLink Light service Local Channel ordered, for receiving and recording information and/or taking action in connection with a customer's request, and processing the necessary data. These charges include engineering design, common centralized testing and coordination.
2. Service Change Charges are applicable for receiving and recording information and/or taking action in connection with a customer's Inside Move or Transfer of Service responsibility request, for processing the necessary data on an existing MegaLink Light service Local Channel. A Service Change Charge is applicable for each MegaLink Light service Local Channel associated with the customer request (in lieu of a Service Establishment Charge).
3. A Premises Visit Charge is applicable, per MegaLink Light service Local Channel, for termination of the channel at a customer's premises or for Inside Moves. Only one Premises Visit Charge applies when more than one MegaLink Light service Local Channel is terminated or moved at the same premises, during the same visit.
4. Connection charges are applicable for the connection and testing of MegaLink Light service Local Channels. The applicable charges are those nonrecurring charges specified in C.1. following.

B9. OPTICAL NETWORK SERVICE

B9.1 BellSouth Wavelength Service (Basic Arrangement) (Cont'd)

B9.1.1 General (Cont'd)

D. (Cont'd)

- OC-48 Wavelength Transport – provides fiber based synchronous optical full duplex data transmission capability and a transparent data communications channel.
- OC-192 Wavelength Transport – provides fiber based synchronous optical full duplex data transmission capability and a transparent data communications channel.

(Obsoleted, See Section B109)

The Company will install, test and verify that Wavelength Channels can be carried and transmitted from *Company* network interface to *Company* network interface. BellSouth Wavelength service Wavelength Channels do not provide protocol functionality, they only provide a transport for the protocol. (T)

- E. The compatibility requirements and technical specifications (including Channel Network Protection and Optical Network Protection) for BellSouth Wavelength service are as shown in technical reference TR-73630 BT.
- F. (Obsoleted, See Section B109)
- G. The customer must provide suitable floor space, controlled environment, and source of non-switched suitable power to support this service.
- H. Where the customer provides two separate entrance facility cable routes BellSouth Wavelength service, the primary and alternate facilities will be separate and will enter the customer location, at the initial installation of the service, over such different routes. Request for separate entrance facilities to a customer location, subsequent to installation of the service, shall be accommodated via a Special Construction request.
- I. BellSouth Wavelength service provides physical layer transport only. The Company assumes no responsibility for the signals generated by the customer, for the quality of or defects in such signals, for the reception of signals by the customer, or address signaling, to the extent addressing is performed by the customer. Error detection and correction of data generated by the customer is the customer's responsibility.
- J. Reserved for future use.
- K. Neither electrical interfaces nor optical add/drop multiplexing are available with BellSouth Wavelength service.
- L. The customer is responsible to ensure that customer provided CPE meets any applicable technical requirements or limitations for the protocol used for the connection to the BellSouth Wavelength Service.
- M. (Obsoleted, See Section B109)
- N. A BellSouth Wavelength service Basic Arrangement Wavelength Interoffice Channel must have a connection to a Basic Arrangement Wavelength Local Channel, to a BellSouth Wavelength service Dedicated Ring Arrangement¹ wavelength channel or to LightGate service or SMARTRing service where LightGate service or SMARTRing service interfaces are compatible with a wavelength channel.
- O. When BellSouth Wavelength service is requested at locations where fiber facilities are not available to satisfy customer requests, special construction charges will apply as set forth in Section B5., preceding.

Note 1: Effective December 1, 2012, BellSouth Wavelength Service Dedicated Ring Arrangements are obsolete, see Section B109.

B9. OPTICAL NETWORK SERVICE

B9.1 BellSouth Wavelength Service (Basic Arrangement) (Cont'd)

B9.1.2 Application of Rates (Cont'd)

- H.** (Obsoleted, See Section B109)
- I.** (Obsoleted, See Section B109)
- J.** In order to accommodate more flexible customer situations, BellSouth Wavelength service arrangements are available under several payment plans: Month-to-Month, 36 Month Term Payment Plan (24-48 months)², 60 Month Term Payment Plan (49-72 months)², or 84 Month Term Payment Plan (73-96 months)². The month-to-month service arrangement is only available upon completion of a Channel Services Payment Plan agreement. The 36, 60², and 84² Month Term Payment Plans are provided under conditions specified in the Channel Services Payment Plan, (CSPP), B2.4.9 preceding, except as modified following. For all payment plans, the following *terms and conditions* apply: (T)
1. (Obsoleted, See Section B109)
 2. The minimum service period for BellSouth Wavelength service components is 24 months.
 3. BellSouth Wavelength service wavelength channels must initially be provided under a CSPP service arrangement. BellSouth Wavelength service wavelength channels associated with a BellSouth Wavelength service Dedicated Ring Arrangement¹ are not required to be under the same CSPP payment plan or service period as their associated BellSouth Wavelength service Dedicated Ring Arrangement.
 4. The rates applicable to a month-to-month payment plan are subject to Company initiated changes.
 5. A termination liability charge will be applicable if services provided under a CSPP arrangement are disconnected prior to the end of the chosen service period. The applicable charge is equal to the number of months remaining in the rate stabilized service period times fifty percent (50%) of the monthly rates for BellSouth Wavelength service which include all service components under the CSPP arrangement.
 6. When a service period under an existing CSPP arrangement is completed and a customer elects to revert to a month-to-month payment option, no minimum period is applicable. If the customer does not select a new payment period or does not request discontinuance of service, service will be continued under the terms specified in B2.4.
 7. Each BellSouth Wavelength service Basic Arrangement wavelength channel is an individual standalone payment plan, independent of any other BellSouth Wavelength service payment plan subscribed to by a customer.
 8. (Obsoleted, See Section B109)
- K.** When Wavelength Channels are setup in a Client Protection arrangement, there is no charge for establishing Client Protection if it is setup at the time the associated Wavelength Channels are activated. If Client Protection is established on Wavelength Channels subsequent to their activation, a Client Protection Rearrangement Charge applies per existing Wavelength Channel configured for Client Protection. This charge would also apply if a customer has Client Protection existing and wants to rearrange the Wavelength Channels associated with the existing Client Protection arrangement. Also, if a customer removes channels from an existing Client Protection arrangement, the Client Protection Rearrangement Charge applies to the Wavelength Channel(s) that are removed from the Client Protection arrangement, unless both the Wavelength Channels are disconnected.

Note 1: Effective December 1, 2012, BellSouth Wavelength Service Dedicated Ring Arrangements are obsolete, see Section B109.

Note 2: As of October 1, 2013, payment periods greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers. (N)