

TARIFF DISTRIBUTION

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**E5. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR BellSouth SWA
AND SPECIAL ACCESS (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) SERVICE**

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Note 1: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change. (N)

E5. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR BELLSOUTH SWA AND SPECIAL ACCESS (A.K.A. BELLSOUTH SPA) SERVICE

E5.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

E5.2.7 Minimum Period Charges (Cont'd)

- B.** The Minimum Period Charges for BellSouth SWA FGD and BellSouth SWA TSBSA 3 service will be as set forth in E2.4.2 preceding.
- C.** *(DELETED)*
- D.** All applicable nonrecurring charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.
- E.** Should billing for a service which is disconnected prior to the expiration of the minimum period cover multiple billing cycles, the bill reflecting the disconnect of service will be adjusted to account for that portion of the Minimum Period Charge previously billed to the customer. In no event shall the total recurring charge billed to the customer for such service exceed the applicable Minimum Period Charge.

All applicable nonrecurring charges associated with the provision of service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge. Such nonrecurring charges include the nonrecurring charge for the installation of service and/or optional features, Basic Service Elements, Service Order Modification Charges, Additional Engineering and Labor Charges, if any, etc.

E5.2.8 Shared Use⁽¹⁾ Facilities

Shared Use occurs when BellSouth SWA and Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) services are provided over the same high capacity facility through a common interface. The digital high capacity facility may be ordered either as BellSouth SWA or Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA).

Billing will commence for the high capacity facility as soon as the facility is turned over to the customer for use (i.e., on the service date.) Such billing will include charges for the Local Channel or Switched Local Channel, the Channelization Equipment (i.e., the multiplexer) and the interoffice transport mileage, if any. Nonrecurring installation charges will also apply at this time.

Such billing will continue until such time as the customer requests, by placing an order for service, that one or more of the derived channels be used in the provisioning of an end to end BellSouth SWA or Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service. When the end to end service is turned over to the customer for use, the existing billing may be modified and billing for the end to end service will commence.

When the original facility is ordered as Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA), the billing change to the existing facility, if any, will depend on whether the end to end service provisioned over the derived channel(s) is Special (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) or BellSouth SWA. If Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service, the billing for the facility will not change but additional billing will commence for the end to end service provisioned over the facility. This billing will include an additional local channel(s) and interoffice mileage, if applicable, of a lower capacity level (e.g., voice grade).

When the original facility is ordered as Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) and BellSouth SWA service is provisioned over a derived channel(s), the Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) billing for the original facility will be reduced in direct proportion to the number of channels being utilized for BellSouth SWA service. For example, if six channels of BellSouth SWA DS1 are to be used for BellSouth SWA, the Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) rate will be reduced by one fourth. The customer will be billed one fourth of the BellSouth SWA DS1 rate, plus all other applicable BellSouth SWA charges for the BellSouth SWA FG service provided.

When the original facility is ordered as BellSouth SWA, the billing change to the existing facility, if any, will depend on whether the end to end service provisioned over the derived channel(s) is BellSouth SWA or Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service. If BellSouth SWA service, the billing for the facility will not change but additional billing will commence for the end to end service provisioned over the facility. This billing will include local switching, carrier common line and additional interoffice transport at a lower capacity, if applicable.

BellSouth Dedicated Ring is only available for Shared Use with SMARTRing[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) and vice versa. When these services are ordered for Shared Use arrangements, all ring level components must be ordered as either BellSouth SWA or Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service.

Note 1: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change.

E5. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR BELLSOUTH SWA AND SPECIAL ACCESS (A.K.A. BELLSOUTH SPA) SERVICE

E5.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

E5.2.8 Shared Use⁽¹⁾ Facilities (Cont'd)

When these services are ordered for Shared Use arrangements, all ring level components must be ordered as either BellSouth SWA or Dedicated Access service.

When the original facility is ordered as BellSouth SWA and Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service is provisioned over a derived channel(s), the BellSouth SWA billing for the original facility will be reduced in direct proportion to the number of channels being utilized for Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service. For example, if six channels of a DS1 are to be used for Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA), the BellSouth SWA rate will be reduced by one fourth. The customer will be billed three fourths of the BellSouth SWA DS1 rate, plus all other applicable BellSouth SWA charges. The customer will be billed one fourth of the Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) DS1 rate, plus all other applicable charges for the Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service provided.

E5.2.9 BellSouth SWA service To Cellular Interconnections

For BellSouth SWA FGB, BellSouth SWA FGD and BellSouth SWA TSBSA 1 and TSBSA 3 service provided to a Mobile Telephone Switching Office (MTSO) directly interconnected to a Company access tandem office, the customer shall provide information to the Company indicating the NXX code(s) to be accessed.

E5.3 Available Inventory

Available inventory is limited and does not include facilities previously ordered. The Company will make every reasonable effort to maintain sufficient available inventory to provide Access Service in accordance with customer's requested service date intervals. To the extent that service can be provided, Access Orders will be satisfied from available inventory.

E5.4 Shared Network Arrangement

E5.4.1 General

- A. Shared Network Arrangement (SNA) is a service offering whereby one or more customers may share capacity on a channelized high capacity service. The BellSouth SWA DS3 and BellSouth SWA DS1 service customers who are sharing capacity on their services with others are considered to be the host subscribers under these arrangements. The host subscriber is considered the customer for the higher level service and is solely responsible for payment of the rate elements for such level of service, from the subscribers terminal location through channelization. SNAs will be limited to customers utilizing BellSouth SWA DS3 service sharing capacity with other customers utilizing sub-BellSouth SWA DS3 services and/or customers utilizing BellSouth SWA DS1 service sharing capacity with other customers utilizing sub-BellSouth SWA DS1 services. Each rate element of any complete service, associated with the SNA, will be billed to a single subscriber and the Company will maintain separate records (including billing and network configuration) for each customer's portion of the SNA.
- B. Each service user of the lower level service is responsible for payment of the charges associated with lower level service. Under the SNA, the Company may provide the host subscriber record information (e.g. traffic patterns, percent interstate usage, etc.) pertaining to the services of other users of the shared network. Disclosure of record information will be under the sole discretion of the Company as is necessary to perform billing reconciliations and/or other functions required in connection with maintaining separate account records.
- C. Each subscriber entering into the SNA is solely responsible to the Company for charges associated with that subscriber's portion of the shared network.
 1. For example, SNAs for Switched Access Dedicated Transport, the host customer would be responsible for a BellSouth SWA DS3 service Switched Local Channel and the DS3 to DS1 Channelization Equipment. The service user will be responsible for payment of the Switched Dedicated Interoffice Channel charges as well as any end office based BellSouth SWA charges associated with the service.

Note 1: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change.

E7. SPECIAL ACCESS (A.K.A. BELLSOUTH SPA) SERVICE

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Note 1: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change. (N)

E7. SPECIAL ACCESS (A.K.A. BELLSOUTH SPA) SERVICE

E7.1 General (Cont'd)

E7.1.2 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

- E.** Self-healing Multi-nodal Alternate Route Topology Ring (SMARTRing¹ service [a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring]) (Cont'd)
4. **Central Office Channel Interface**
A Central Office Channel Interface provides DS1, DS3, STS-1 electrical channelization and/or OC-3 and/or OC-12 optical channelization that may take place at each Central Office Node located on SMARTRing[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring). The Central Office Channel Interface rate element applies for every interface capacity that originates or terminates at a Central Office Node. A summary of the channel interfaces available with each node are specified in E7.2.16.A. following. Customers with DS3 or STS-1 interfaces at the Customer Node electing to connect with DS1 services at a Central Office Node, must obtain a 28-DS1 Channel System.
 5. **Local Channel**
The Local Channel rate category provides for the communications path between a Customer Node and the serving wire center of the premises where located. Charges for Local Channels apply as described in A. preceding. It is available with all capacities of SMARTRing[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) except OC-1.
 6. **Alternate Central Office Channel**
The Alternate Central Office Channel provides for the communications path between a customer node and an alternate central office. It is available with all capacities of SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) except OC-1.
 7. **Interoffice Channel**
The Interoffice Channel provides for the communications path between directly connected Telephone Company central offices located on a SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring). It is available with all capacities of SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) except OC-1. This rate element does not apply where Central Office Nodes are adjacently connected in the same Central Office on the same SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) for the purpose of providing additional node capacity.
 8. **Internodal Channel**
The Internodal Channel provides for the communications path between two directly connected Customer Nodes of a given SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) located (a) in the same Serving Wire Center area or (b) in the same Office Park/Campus Environment or contiguous property, located in contiguous Serving Wire Center areas. It is available with all capacities of SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) except OC-1. This rate element does not apply where Customer Nodes are adjacently connected in the same building on the same SMARTRing service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) for the purpose of providing additional node capacity.
 9. **Channel Interface Capacity Reallocation**
Channel Interface Capacity Reallocation allows the customer to reallocate STS-1, DS3 capacity interfaces at each node subsequent to the initial service installation.
- F. Reserved for Future Use**
- G. Access Collocation Cross-Connects**
Access Collocation Cross-Connects provide a means for customers to interconnect their Shared Use⁽²⁾ and Digital High Capacity (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) to Central Office Collocation arrangements within the same Central Office. Terms, conditions, and rates for Physical Access Collocation Cross-Connects and Virtual Access Collocation Cross-Connects are set forth in Section E13. of this Tariff. (C)

Note 1: Effective on or after December 1, 2021, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to purchase new SMARTRing Service (Service). In addition, (A) Service Payment Plans greater than 12-months in length will no longer be available; and (B) requests to move, add, change, upgrade, or downgrade existing service arrangements will not be accepted, with the following exceptions: (1) existing customers will be permitted to modify their existing Service and will be able to add new circuits to their existing Service, but will not be permitted to add new nodes in any locations; and (2) any such new circuits will be subject to the customer's existing term payment plan or term agreement for the Service to which they are added. Following the expiration of a customer's existing term agreement, Service will be provided on a month-to-month basis at the applicable Month-to-Month rates until the Service is discontinued.

Effective November 30, 2023, unless specified to the contrary in their existing Service agreements, existing customers may not renew Term Payment Plans or term agreements for Service. In addition, no move, add, or change orders of any type will be accepted.

Note 2: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change. (N)

ISSUED: June 10, 2024
BY: President - Tennessee
Nashville, Tennessee

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2024

E7. SPECIAL ACCESS (A.K.A. BELLSOUTH SPA) SERVICE

E7.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)

E7.4.8 Shared Use⁽³⁾ Analog And Digital High Capacity (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) Services

(C)

Shared use occurs when Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service and BellSouth SWA are provided over the same High Capacity (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) facility through a common interface. When the customer orders Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service, the facility will be ordered and rated as Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service (i.e., Local Channel or Virtual Collocation Cross-Connect/Interoffice Channel as appropriate, and Basic Channelization System, if applicable) until such time as the customer chooses to use a portion of the available capacity for providing BellSouth SWA. As each individual channel is activated for BellSouth SWA, the Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) Local Channel rates, and Interoffice Channel rates will be reduced accordingly (e.g., 1/24th for a DS1 service, etc.). The customer must place an order for each individual BellSouth SWA Channel utilizing the Shared Use Facilities and specify the channel assignment for each such service. BellSouth SWA rates and charges as set forth in E6.8 preceding will apply for each channel of the shared use facility that is used to provide BellSouth SWA. Where Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service is provided utilizing a channel of the shared use facility to the hub, High Capacity (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) rates and charges will apply for the facility to the hub as set forth preceding and individual service rates and charges will apply from the hub to the customer designated premises. The rates and charges that will apply to the portion from the hub to the customer designated premises will be dependent on the specific type of Special Access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA) service that is provided (e.g., Voice Grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹, etc.). The applicable rates and charges will include a Local Channel and Interoffice Channel, and appropriate channelization elements, if applicable.

Access Collocation Cross-Connects provide a means for customers to interconnect their BellSouth Shared Use and Digital High Capacity (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) services to Central Office Collocation arrangements within the same Central Office. Terms, conditions, and rates for Physical Access Collocation Cross-Connects and Virtual Access Collocation Cross-Connects are set forth in Section E13. of this Tariff.

The capability exists for a customer to utilize all or part of a SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) to transport switched access provided the SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) channel interface transporting the BellSouth SWA service does not have FlexServ service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration) capability. The customer must place an order for each individual BellSouth SWA Channel provided over Dedicated Access service Shared Use Facilities and specify the channel assignment for each such service. The switched traffic would enter and exit the SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) at Customer and Central Office Nodes on that network. When this occurs, ratcheting of Dedicated Access rate elements (i.e. Nodes, Channel Interfaces, Local Channels, Alternate Central Office Channels, Internodal Channels, or Interoffice Channels) will be based on the number of voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent trunks/lines of that rate element used for BellSouth SWA access.

Reduction factors will be developed to reduce the charges on system level billing as well as the billing on individual DS1, DS3, STS-1, OC-3, and/or OC-12 Channel Interfaces. For ratcheting purposes, the system level charges include Customer Nodes, Central Office Nodes, Local Channels, Alternate Central Office Channels, Internodal Channels, and Interoffice Channels as appropriate to make up a customer's SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring). Individual OC-1, OC-3 and OC-12 Channel Interfaces used in Overlay Ring Arrangements will be ratcheted as system level charges. The system reduction factor will apply to the system level charges.

Note 1: Effective June 30, 2021, this Service will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. In addition, requests to move, add, change, or renew existing service arrangements will not be accepted. Following the expiration of a customer's existing term agreement, service will be provided on a month-to-month basis at the applicable Monthly rates until the service is discontinued. The Company currently plans to discontinue this service on or after June 30, 2024.

Note 2: Effective on or after December 1, 2021, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to purchase new SMARTRing Service (Service). In addition, (A) Service Payment Plans greater than 12-months in length will no longer be available; and (B) requests to move, add, change, upgrade, or downgrade existing service arrangements will not be accepted, with the following exceptions: (1) existing customers will be permitted to modify their existing Service and will be able to add new circuits to their existing Service, but will not be permitted to add new nodes in any locations; and (2) any such new circuits will be subject to the customer's existing term payment plan or term agreement for the Service to which they are added. Following the expiration of a customer's existing term agreement, Service will be provided on a month-to-month basis at the applicable Month-to-Month rates until the Service is discontinued.

Effective November 30, 2023, unless specified to the contrary in their existing Service agreements, existing customers may not renew Term Payment Plans or term agreements for Service. In addition, no move, add, or change orders of any type will be accepted.

Note 3: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change.

(N)

E7. SPECIAL ACCESS (A.K.A. BELLSOUTH SPA) SERVICE

E7.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)

E7.4.8 Shared Use⁽³⁾ Analog And Digital High Capacity (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) Services (Cont'd)

(C)

The system reduction factor will be derived by dividing the number of activated BellSouth SWA access circuits by the voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ channel equivalent capacity of the self-healing ring. An OC-1 SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) has 672 voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent channels. An OC-3 SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) has 2,016 voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent channels. An OC-3+ or OC-12 SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) has 8,064 voice grade¹ equivalent channels. An OC-48 SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) or OC-48+ SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) with 48 or less activated DS3s has 32,256 voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent channels. However, when an OC-48+ SMARTRing² service (a.k.a. BellSouth Dedicated Ring) is used to transport BellSouth SWA service, and more than 48 equivalent DS3s are activated on the service, the factor will be based upon the actual number of activated DS3s times 672 DS0s. A factor for individual DS3 channel interfaces and 28 DS1 channel systems, will be derived by dividing the number of activated BellSouth SWA access circuits associated with the DS3 channel by the voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent capacity of the DS3 channel. A DS3 has 672 voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent channels. For DS1 channel interfaces, a factor is derived by dividing the number of BellSouth SWA access circuits associated with the DS1 channel by the voice grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG)¹ equivalent capacity of the DS1 channel, which is 24. Each reduction factor is rounded to four decimal places and then multiplied against the respective monthly charges to determine the reduction amount.

BellSouth SWA rates and charges as set forth in E6.8 preceding will apply for each channel of the shared use facility that is used to provide BellSouth SWA.

E7.4.9 Reserved For Future Use

E7.4.10 Reserved For Future Use

E7.4.11 Reserved For Future Use

E7.4.12 FlexServ[®] Service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration)

When associated with digital single special access services or bulk special access services (1.544 Mbps or greater) this service is a Flex-Price service and is regulated under terms and conditions as described in E2.1.14 of this Tariff.

A. General

FlexServ[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration) is an optional feature that enables the customer to monitor and reconfigure his Voice Grade (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 VG), DDAS (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA DS0 Digital Data), and High Capacity special access (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA High Capacity) services without the direct intervention of Company personnel.

1. Basic FlexServ[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration)

Basic FlexServ[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration) includes monitoring and reconfiguration of the customer's private line services equipped with FlexServ[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration). Monitoring consists of unsolicited signals of major and minor facility alarms. These alarms include carrier group alarms, out of service alarms, bit error rate, bipolar violations, slip errors, errored seconds, out-of-frame alarms and invalid connections. Invalid connections are connections between special access services with incompatible signals or between services without FlexServ[®] service (a.k.a. BellSouth SPA Customer Reconfiguration). Customer requests for such connections will be denied. The Company shall not be responsible for service interruptions, troubles, loss of customer data, or any other losses resulting from attempted invalid connections.

Note 1: Effective June 30, 2021, this Service will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. In addition, requests to move, add, change, or renew existing service arrangements will not be accepted. Following the expiration of a customer's existing term agreement, service will be provided on a month-to-month basis at the applicable Monthly rates until the service is discontinued. The Company currently plans to discontinue this service on or after June 30, 2024.

Note 2: Effective on or after December 1, 2021, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to purchase new SMARTRing Service (Service). In addition, (A) Service Payment Plans greater than 12-months in length will no longer be available; and (B) requests to move, add, change, upgrade, or downgrade existing service arrangements will not be accepted, with the following exceptions: (1) existing customers will be permitted to modify their existing Service and will be able to add new circuits to their existing Service, but will not be permitted to add new nodes in any locations; and (2) any such new circuits will be subject to the customer's existing term payment plan or term agreement for the Service to which they are added. Following the expiration of a customer's existing term agreement, Service will be provided on a month-to-month basis at the applicable Month-to-Month rates until the Service is discontinued.

Effective November 30, 2023, unless specified to the contrary in their existing Service agreements, existing customers may not renew Term Payment Plans or term agreements for Service. In addition, no move, add, or change orders of any type will be accepted.

Note 3: Effective July 1, 2024, neither new nor existing customers will be permitted to create new Shared Use arrangements. In addition, requests to move, add, or change existing Shared Use arrangements will not be accepted. Shared Use arrangements existing prior to July 1, 2024 are otherwise unaffected by this change.

(N)