



December 26, 2011

Robin Ancona
Director
Telecommunications Division
Michigan Public Service Commission
6545 Mercantile Way
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Ms. Ancona:

RE: MECA Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 25-U
TAM Transmittal No. 8

Enclosed is one copy of MECA's Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 25(U) revisions for filing with the Commission pursuant to Public Act 179 of 1991, as amended, MCL 484.2101 et seq.

This filing modifies Section 6 (Switched Access Service) to introduce new provisions in compliance with the FCC's Intercarrier Compensation rule changes that become effective December 29, 2011.

The proposed revisions to Section 6.1 specify that in the absence of a negotiated interconnection agreement between an interconnecting carrier and the Telephone Company addressing the treatment of Toll Voice over Internet Protocol – Public Switched Telephone Network (VoIP-PSTN) traffic, the rates and charges for Switched Access Service specified in Section 17.2 of the tariff will apply on all jurisdictionally intrastate Toll VoIP-PSTN traffic.

This filing also revises Section 6.3 (Obligations of the Customer) to specify the call signaling information the customer is required to transmit on traffic handed off to the Telephone Company for termination to the Telephone Company's end user subscribers.

Finally, this filing makes a number of changes to existing definitions in Section 2.6 (Definitions) as well as to introduce a number of new definitions related to the proposed changes to the regulations in Section 6.

MECA M.P.S.C. Tariff No. 25(U) can be viewed in its entirety at www.telecommich.org/news/?newsid=163.

The sheets that contain changes can be viewed at www.telecommich.org/Documents/25TAMtransmittal8.pdf.

The effective date of these changes is December 29, 2011.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact our office.

Yours truly,

Scott Stevenson
President

SS/ma

ACCESS SERVICE
 CHECK SHEETS

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 Telecommunications Association of Michigan
 MECA Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 25U-TAM Transmittal No. 8
 Lansing, Michigan

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ACCESS SERVICE

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

- (C) - To signify changed regulation
- (D) - To signify discontinued rate or regulation
- (I) - To signify increase to a rate or charge
- (N) - To signify new rate or regulation
- (R) - To signify reduction to a rate or charge
- (T) - To signify a change in text but no rate or regulation

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

- ACR - Alternate Carrier Routing
- ADA - Abbreviated Dialing Arrangement
- ADM - Add/Drop Multiplexing
- ADSL - Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line
- AIN - Advance Intelligent Network
- AML - Actual Measured Loss
- ANI - Automatic Number Identification
- AP - Program Audio
- AT&T - AT&T Corp.
- BHMC - Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity
- CCS - Common Channel Signaling
- CDP - Customer Designated Premises
- CI - Channel Interface
- CIR - Committed Information Rate
- CN - Charge Number
- CNP - Charge Number Parameter
- CO - Central Office
- Cont'd - Continued
- CPE - Customer Provided Equipment
- CPN - Calling Party Number
- CSP - Carrier Selection Parameter
- DA - Directory Assistance
- dB - Decibel
- dBrnC - Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting
- dBrnC0 - Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighted 0
- dc - direct current
- DDD - Direct Distance Dialing
- DSL - Digital Subscriber Line
- EAS - Extended Area Service
- EDD - Envelope Delay Distortion
- EML - Expected Measured Loss
- EPL - Echo Path Loss
- ERL - Echo Return Loss
- ESS - Electronic Switching System
- ESSX - Electronic Switching System Exchange
- f - Ofrequency
- F.C.C. - Federal Communications Commission
- FRAS - Frame Relay Access Service

(N)

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EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

GETS	- Government Emergency Telecommunications Service	
HC	- High Capacity	
HPC	- High Probability of Completion	
Hz	- Hertz	
IC	- Interexchange Carrier	
ICB	- Individual Case Basis	
ICL	- Inserted Connection Loss	
IPG	- Internet Protocol Gateway Access Service	(N)
kbps	- kilobits per second	
kHz	- kilohertz	
LAN	- Local Area Network	
LATA	- Local Access and Transport Area	
LNP	- Local Number Portability	
LRN	- Location Routing Number	
ma	- milliamperes	
Mbps	- Megabits per second	
mcs	- Microsecond	
MHz	- Megahertz	
MRC	- Monthly Recurring Charge	
MT	- Metallic	
MTS	- Message Telecommunications Service(s)	
NPA	- Numbering Plan Area	
NRC	- Nonrecurring Charge	
NXX	- Three-Digit Central Office Code	
OC	- Optical Carrier	
OLT	- Optical Line Termination	
PBX	- Private Branch Exchange	
PIC	- Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier	
POT	- Point of Termination	
PTSN	- Public Switched Telephone Network	(N)
PVC	- Permanent Virtual Connection	
SAC	- Service Access Code	
SDSL	- Symmetric Digital Subscriber Line	
SNAL	- Signaling Network Access Line	
SONET	- Synchronous Optical Network	
SP	- Signaling Point	
SPOI	- Signaling Point of Interface	
SRL	- Singing Return Loss	
SSP	- Service Switching Point	
SS7	- Signaling System 7	
STP	- Signal Transfer Point	
STS	- Synchronous Transport Signal	
SWC	- Serving Wire Center	
TDM	- Time Division Multiplexing	(N)
TG	- Telegraph Grade	
TLP	- Transmission Level Point	
TV	- Television	
VG	- Voice Grade	
V & H	- Vertical & Horizontal	
WATS	- Wide Area Telecommunications Service(s)	
WSC	- Wireless Switching Center	
WSO	- WATS Serving Office	

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Attenuation Distortion

The term "Attenuation Distortion" denotes the difference in loss at specified frequencies relative to the loss at 1004 Hz, unless otherwise specified.

Automatic Number Identification (ANI)

The term "Automatic Number Identification" denotes the Multi-Frequency (MF) signaling parameter that identifies the billing number of the calling party.

(N)

(N)

Balance (100 Type) Test Line

The term "Balance (100 Type) Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides for balance and noise testing.

Bearer Channel

The term "Bearer Channel" denotes a basic communications channel with no enhanced or value-added service included other than the bandwidth transmission capability provided with the channel.

(N)

(N)

Bit

The term "Bit" denotes the smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Business Day

The term "Business Day" denotes the times of day that a company is open for business. Generally, in the business community, these are 8:00 or 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 or 6:00 P.M., respectively, with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, resulting in a standard forty (40) hour work week. However, Business Day hours for the Telephone Company may vary based on company policy, union contract and location. To determine such hours for an individual company, or company location, that company should be contacted at the address shown under the Participating Carrier's name listed on Preface Pages 2 and 3 preceding.

Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

The term "Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)" denotes the customer specified maximum amount of Switched Access Service and/or Directory Assistance Service access minutes the customer expects to be handled in an end office switch during any hour in an 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. period for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered. This customer specified BHMC quantity is the input data the Telephone Company uses to determine the number of transmission paths for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered.

Call

The term "Call" denotes a customer attempt for which the complete address code (e.g., 0-, 911, or 10 digits) is provided to the serving dial tone office.

Calling Party Number (CPN)

The term "Calling Party Number" denotes the SS7 signaling parameter that identifies the subscriber line number or directory number of the calling party. (N)
(N)
(N)

Carrier Identification Code (CIC)

The term "Carrier Identification Code (CIC)" denotes a numeric code assigned by the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) Administrator for the provisioning of Feature Group B or Feature Group D Switched Access Services. The Numeric code is unique to each carrier and is used by the Telephone Company to route switched traffic to the Customer Designated Premises.

Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

CCS

The term "CCS" denotes a hundred call seconds, which is a standard unit of traffic load that is equal to 100 seconds of usage or capacity of a group of servers (e.g., trunks).

Central Office

See End Office.

Central Office Maintenance Technician

The term "Central Office Maintenance Technician" denotes a Telephone Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, within the Telephone Company Central Office.

Central Office Prefix

The term "Central Office Prefix" denotes the first three digits (NXX) of the seven digit telephone number assigned to a customer's Telephone Exchange Service when dialed on a local basis.

Channel(s)

The term "Channel(s)" denotes an electrical or photonic, in the case of fiber optic based transmission systems, communications path between two or more points of termination.

Channel Service Unit

The term "Channel Service Unit" denotes equipment which performs one or more of the following functions: termination of a digital facility, regeneration of digital signals, detection and/or correction of signal format error, and remote loop back.

Channelize

The term "Channelize" denotes the process of multiplexing-demultiplexing wider bandwidth or higher speed channels into narrower bandwidth or lower speed channels.

Charge Number (CN)

The term "Charge Number" denotes the SS7 signaling parameter that identifies the billing telephone number of the calling party. (N)
(N)

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Communications System

The term "Communications System" denotes channels and other facilities which are capable of communications between terminal equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company.

Customer(s)

The term "Customer(s)" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this tariff, including but not limited to end Users, Interexchange Carriers (ICs) and other telecommunications carriers or providers originating or terminating Toll VOIP-PTSN Traffic.

(C)
|
(C)

Customer Designated Premises

The term "Customer Designated Premises" denotes the premises specified by the customer for the provision of Access Service.

Customer Node

The term "Customer Node" denotes Telephone Company provided equipment located at a customer designated premises that terminates a high speed optical channel.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Installation and Repair Technician

The term "Installation and Repair Technician" denotes a Telephone Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, outside of the Telephone Company Central Office and generally at the customer designated premises.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms "Interexchange Carrier" (IC) or "Interexchange Common Carrier" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in intrastate interexchange, interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

Intermediate Hub

The term "Intermediate Hub" denotes a wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for customers served by that wire center and wire centers that subtend the hub, as specified in National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 4.

Intermodulation Distortion

The term "Intermodulation Distortion" denotes a measure of the nonlinearity of a channel. It is measured using four tones, and evaluating the ratios (in dB) of the transmitted composite four-tone signal power to the second-order products of the tones (R2), and the third-order products of the tones (R3).

Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling

The term "Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling" denotes a packet data-oriented protocol used for communicating call signaling information.

(N)
|
(N)

Interstate Communications

The term "Interstate Communications" denotes both interstate and foreign communications.

Intrastate Communications

The term "Intrastate Communications" denotes any communications within a state subject to oversight by a state regulatory commission as provided by the laws of the state involved.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line

The term "Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides a 1004 Hz tone at 0 dBm0 for one-way transmission measurements towards the customer's premises from the Telephone Company end office.

Multi-Frequency (MF) Signaling

The term "Multi-Frequency (MF) Signaling" denotes an in-band signaling method in which call signaling information is transmitted between network switches using the same voiceband channel used for voice.

(N)

(N)

N-1 Carrier

The term AN-1 Carrier@ denotes the telecommunications carrier, prior to the terminating carrier, responsible for querying and LNP database to determine the routing of a call for a number portable NXX code.

Network Control Signaling

The term "Network Control Signaling" denotes the transmission of signals used in the telecommunications system which perform functions such as supervision (control, status, and charge signals), address signaling (e.g., dialing), calling and called number identifications, rate of flow, service selection error control and audible tone signals (call progress signals indicating re-order or busy conditions, alerting, coin denominations, coin collect and coin return tones) to control the operation of the telecommunications system.

Nonsynchronous Test Line

The term "Nonsynchronous Test Line" denotes an arrangement in step-by-step end offices which provides operational tests which are not as complete as those provided by the synchronous test lines, but can be made more rapidly.

North American Numbering Plan

The term "North American Numbering Plan" denotes a three-digit area code (Numbering Plan Area - NPA) and a seven-digit telephone number made up of a three-digit Central Office prefix plus a four-digit station number.

Off-Hook

The term "Off-Hook" denotes the active condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

On-Hook

The term "On-Hook" denotes the idle condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

Open Circuit Test Line

The term "Open Circuit Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides an ac open circuit termination of a trunk or line by means of an indicator of several Henries.

Optical Carrier Channel

The term "Optical Carrier Channel" denotes the high speed optical communications path for transporting information utilizing a Synchronous Optical Channel platform. The channel is provided at transmission rates of 155.52 Mbps (OC3) and 622.08 Mbps (OC12).

Optical Carrier Rate (OC-N)

The term "Optical Carrier Rate" denotes the line rate being transmitted on an optical carrier channel. A SONET transmission rate is equivalent to "N" times the OC1 line rate of 51.84 Mbps.

Optical Carrier Rate Concatenated

The term "Optical Carrier Rate Concatenated" denotes the transmission of a combined signal formed by linking together multiple individual signals.

Optical Line Termination (OLT)

The term "Optical Line Termination" denotes the network interface on the customer designated premises equipment that provides for an optical handoff.

Originating Direction

The term "Originating Direction" denotes the use of Access Service for the origination of calls from an End User premises to a Customer's Premises. (T)
(C)

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Payphone Service Provider

The term "Payphone Service Provider" denotes an entity that provides pay telephone service, which is the provision of public, semi-public or inmate pay telephone service.

Permanent Virtual Connection (PVC)

The term "PVC" denotes a software defined communications path between two port connections within the Frame Relay Access Service network.

Phase Jitter

The term "Phase Jitter" denotes the unwanted phase variations of a signal.

Point of Termination

The term "Point of Termination" denotes the point of demarcation within a customer-designated premises at which the Telephone Company's responsibility for the provision of Access Service ends.

Premises

The term "Premises" denotes a building or buildings on continuous property (except Railroad Right-of-Way, etc.) not separated by a public highway.

Release Message

The term "Release Message" denotes an SS7 message sent in either direction to indicate that a specific circuit is being released.

Remote Switching Modules/Systems

The term "Remote Switching Modules/Systems" denotes small, remotely controlled electronic end office switches which obtain their call processing capability from an electronic Host Central Office. The Remote Switching Modules/Systems cannot accommodate direct trunks. (C)

Return Loss

The term "Return Loss" denotes a measure of the similarity between the two impedances at the junction of two transmission paths. The higher the return loss, the higher the similarity.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Synchronous Test Line

The term "Synchronous Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Synchronous Transport Signal (STS)

The term "Synchronous Transport Signal" denotes a 51.84 Mbps. electrical signal used within the SONET optical carrier network. The signal consists of the information content and the overhead used by SONET. The overhead is used for controlling, framing and maintaining the STS signal so it can be directly connected to other SONET carrier channels. STS signals are in exact multiples of 51.84 Mbps. (STS-1 is 51.84 Mbps., STS-3 is 155.52 Mbps., etc.).

Tandem Switched Transport

The term "Tandem Switched Transport" denotes transport from the tandem to the end office that is switched at a tandem.

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from a Customer's premises to an End User Premises. (T)

Terminus Hub

The term "Terminus Hub" denotes a wire center at which bridging or multiplexing functions are performed only for Customers served directly by the same wire center.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Throughput

(*)

The term "Throughput" denotes the number of data bits successfully transferred in one direction per unit of time.

(*)

Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic

(N)

The term "Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic" denotes a customer's interexchange voice traffic exchanged with the Telephone Company in Time Division Multiplexing format over PSTN facilities, which originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. "Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic" originates and/or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

(N)

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

(*)

The term "Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a responder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

(*)

*Certain material currently found on this page formerly appeared on 4th Revised Page 78.1.

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ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service

6.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a customer designated premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching and trunking facilities and for the use of common subscriber plant of the Telephone Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer designated premises, and to terminate calls from a customer designated premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided. Specific references to material describing the elements of Switched Access Service are provided in 6.1.3 and 6.5 through 6.9 following.

Rates and charges for Switched Access Service depend generally on the specific Feature Group ordered by the customer, e.g. for MTS or WATS services or MTS/WATS equivalent services, and whether it is provided in a Telephone Company end office that is equipped to provide equal or non-equal access. Rates and charges for Switched Access Service are set forth in 17.2 following. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in 6.4 following. Rates and charges for services other than Switched Access Service, e.g., a customer's interLATA toll message service, may also be applicable when Switched Access Service is used in conjunction with these other services. Descriptions of such applicability are provided in 6.4.5, 6.4.9, 6.5.1(H), 6.5.3, 6.6.1(G), 6.6.2(D), 6.7.1(F) and 6.8.1(E) following. Finally, a credit is applied against line side Switched Access Service charges as described in 6.4.8 following.

The following provision applies to the treatment of Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Part 51 Interconnection Rules and in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 01-92; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket Nos. 03-109, 05-337, 07-135 and 10-90; and WT Docket No. 10-208, adopted October 27, 2011 and released November 18, 2011 (FCC 11-161). In the absence of an interconnection agreement between the Telephone Company and the customer specifying the treatment of Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic, the Telephone Company will bill the customer the applicable switched access rates and charges specified in Section 17.2, following, on all jurisdictionally intrastate voice traffic Identified as Toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic.

(N)

(N)

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ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

Arrangements

(A) Description

Switched Access Service is provided in four different Feature Group arrangements which are service categories of standard and optional features. These are differentiated by their technical characteristics, e.g., line side vs. trunk side connection at the Telephone Company first point of switching. They are also differentiated by optional feature availability and the manner in which the end user accesses them in originating calling, e.g., with or without access codes of various lengths and digits.

Except as provided for in Section 6.1.3 (A)(1), following, the provision of each Feature Group requires Local Transport facilities, including an Entrance Facility and the appropriate End Office functions. In addition, Special Access Service may, at the option of the customer, be connected with Feature Groups A, B, C, or D at Telephone Company designated WATS Serving Offices. In addition, IPG may, at the option of the customer, be connected with Feature Group D at Telephone Company designated IPG SWCs.

(N)
|
(N)

Switched Access is furnished in either quantities of lines or trunks, or in busy hour minutes of capacity (BHMCs). FGA Access and FGB Access are furnished on a per-line or per-trunk basis respectively. FGC Access and FGD Access are furnished on a BHMC and on a per trunk basis as set forth in 5.2 preceding.

BHMCs are differentiated by type and directionality of traffic carried over a Switched Access Service arrangement. Differentiation of traffic among BHMC types is necessary for the Telephone Company to properly design Switched Access Service to meet the traffic carrying capacity requirement of the customer.

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ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

(N)

6.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

6.3.5 Call Signaling

Depending on the signaling system used by the customer in its network, the customer's facilities shall transmit the following call signaling information to the Telephone Company on traffic the customer's end users originate which is handed off for termination on the Telephone Company's network.

(A) Signaling System 7 (SS7) Signaling

When the customer uses SS7 signaling, it will transmit the Calling Party Number (CPN) or, if different from the CPN, the Charge Number (CN) information in the SS7 signaling stream.

(B) Multi-Frequency (MF) Signaling

When the customer uses MF signaling, it will transmit the number of the calling party or, if different from the number of the calling party, the Charge Number (CN) information in the MF Automatic Number Identification (ANI) field.

(C) Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling

When the customer uses IP signaling, it will transmit the telephone number of the calling party or, if different from the telephone number, the billing number of the calling party.

(N)

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