

GENERAL TARIFF

CARRIER ACCESS TARIFF

1. GENERAL

1.01 This Section provides for the interconnection (on a trunk-side basis) between the Company's switched network and those of Telecommunications Providers that are interexchange carriers (IXCs). An IXC that wishes to interconnect the Company must also enter into an interconnection agreement with the Company.

2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO INTERCONNECTION WITH IXCs

2.01 Access to the Company's switched network is provided through the Company's designated central office.

2.02 Equal Access is available to IXCs in the Company's operating territory.

2.03 The Company does not make any representation that access interconnection services shall at all times be available in the quantities requested and at the locations specified by the IXC. The Company shall, however, devote its best reasonable efforts to make such interconnection services available on request, in accordance with the provisions of an interconnection agreement between the IXC and the Company and taking account of the Company's own requirements.

2.04 Where it is necessary for the Company to install special equipment or to incur unusual or additional expense in order to meet an IXC's requirements, an additional charge may be assessed based upon the equipment to be installed or the expense to be incurred.

2.05 When the Company agrees to provide interconnection services under this Section at the IXC's premises or at its customers' premises, the IXC will furnish or arrange to furnish to the Company, at no charge, adequate equipment space and electrical power.

2.06 The IXC will also furnish or arrange to furnish to the Company, at no charge, any additional facilities or protective apparatus that may be required due to particular hazards at the interconnection locations.

2.07 Where equipment or facilities are provided by the IXC or its customers, the interface with the Company shall comply with industry accepted guidelines.

2.08 Prior to receiving interconnection service pursuant to this Section, an IXC must register with the CRTC and with the Company, except IXCs that resell the Company's switched local exchange or switched interexchange service only to persons physically located in or on the IXC's business premises.

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2.09 Together with its registration, an IXC shall file with the CRTC a full description of its interexchange network, including information regarding the extent of owned and leased transmission facilities and shall notify the Company of such filing.

2.10 Network Changes

- a) The Company makes no representations that its equipment and facilities are adapted or will remain adapted for use in connection with IXC-provided or facilities.
- b) Where the Company's network does not meet the technical or operational service requirements of the IXC's system and network service (or any part thereof), the IXC shall supply, or obtain from the Company, additional service and equipment as required to meet such technical or operational service requirements. The IXC shall pay to the Company all of the Company's charges for such additional labor, service and equipment in addition to all other charges the IXC is required to pay to the Company pursuant to this Tariff Section.
- c) The Company reserves the right to change in whole or in part, the design, function operation or layout of its equipment or facilities as it considers necessary. The Company shall not be responsible to an IXC or its customers for any equipment or facilities which cease to be compatible with the Company's equipment or facilities or become inoperative because of such changes to the Company's equipment or facilities.
- d) The Company will provide the IXC with advance notice of changes to the Company's equipment or facilities that may affect the IXC's interconnection with the Company in accordance with applicable CRTC requirements.
- e) The Company shall not implement any change to its operations, services or network which would, in the reasonable assessment of the Company, materially affect the Company's operation, interconnection services or network, without the prior consent of the Company, which shall not unreasonably be withheld.
- f) The IXC will provide the Company with advance notice of changes to the IXC's equipment or facilities that may affect the Company's interconnection with the IXC in accordance with applicable CRTC requirements.

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2.11 Network Outages

The Company does not guarantee uninterrupted working of its interconnection services, and shall not be liable to the IXC, its customers or to any other person, for any failure or delay in performance of any interconnection service provided pursuant to this Section, to the extent that such failure or delay is attributable to causes or results from events beyond the Company's reasonable control. Nothing in this paragraph shall extend the liability of the Company in the event of network outages or service problems.

2.12 Protection

The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, equipment or facilities of the IXC, when connected to the Company's circuits, equipment or facilities, shall not:

- a) Interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the Company or any Telecommunications Providers with which the Company interchanges traffic;
- b) Cause damage to the Company's facilities;
- c) Impair the privacy of any communication carried over the Company's equipment or facilities; or
- d) Create hazards to the Company's employees or to the public.

2.13 If such characteristics or methods of operation are not in accordance with Item 2.XX, the Company will, where practicable, notify the IXC that temporary discontinuance of the use of any equipment or facilities may be required. When prior notice is not practicable, nothing contained within the Tariff shall be deemed to preclude the Company from temporarily discontinuing forthwith the availability to the IXC of any equipment or facility if such action is reasonable under the circumstances. In cases of such discontinuance, the IXC will be promptly notified and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which caused the temporary discontinuance.

2.14 During any period of temporary discontinuance of service caused by a trouble or condition arising in the IXC's operations, equipment or facilities, no refund for interruption of service, as set forth in the Company's Terms, Section 80, Item 14, shall be made.

2.15 The IXC shall be responsible for all charges due in respect of equipment, facilities and interconnection services provided by the Company pursuant to this Section. The IXC shall be the sole point of contact with the Company in respect of the equipment, facilities or services provided, including for the purpose of making trouble reports.

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3 RESERVED

4. INTERCONNECTING CIRCUITS WITH TRUNK-SIDE ACCESS

4.01 An interconnecting circuit "with trunk-side access" refers to a connecting arrangement provided by the Company over which traffic from the IXC's network can be routed for termination in the local PSTN.

4.02 An interconnecting circuit with trunk-side access may be arranged for Feature Group D service, which provides the IXC with the capability of offering subscribers access to its network by dialing 1+,0+,00-,01+or 011+. Interconnecting circuits with trunk-side access arranged for Feature Group D service may be connected to an End Office (Direct Connection), and use CCS7 signaling.

4.03 An interconnecting circuit with trunk-side access may be arranged to provide for the routing of 800/888 calls destined for the IXC's network. This arrangement is available for AT Connections only and may use MF or CCS7 signaling.

4.04 Interconnecting circuits with trunk-side access established for the purpose of routing 800/888 calls destined for the IXC's network must be arranged for one-way service.

4.05 Digital Access Service Channel

Digital Access Service Channel provides the facilities from the IXC's point of interconnection to the Company's central office.

The facilities used for trunk-side access may be provided by the Company or any Telecommunications Provider. Where the facilities used to provide Digital Access Service Channel are provided by the Company, the monthly rate, service charge and construction charge applicable for each Digital Access Channel as per Section 900-Digital Network Services apply, in addition to the rates and charges identified below for Trunk-Side Termination service.

4.06 Feature Group D Interconnecting Circuits

The following order processing charges specified below apply for each DS-0 set used as FGD interconnecting circuits. A "DS-0 set" means a group of FGD DS-0s within the same DS-1 connected at the same locations and ordered at the same time.

Feature Group D Interconnecting Circuits	
Initial Order, each DS-0 set	Change Order, each DS-0 set
\$1,021.45	\$667.06

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4.07 CCS7 Signaling Interconnection

- (a) Trunk-side interconnection uses CCS7 signaling, CCS7 Signaling Interconnection (ie., CCS7 signaling on trunk-side interconnection) will provide IXCs using trunk-side interconnection with the ability to interconnect their own CCS7 signaling network with the Company's CCS7 signaling network in order to exchange ISUP (ie, ISDN User Part) signaling information necessary to support the completion of calls between the two networks.
- (b) The digital access and network transport facilities to carry the CCS7 signal between the Company's switch and the IXC's signal transfer point (STP) or switch can be supplied by the IXC, or subscribed to from the Company. Where the facilities used to provide the digital access and network transport facilities to carry the CCS7 signal between the Company and the IXC are provided by the Company, the monthly rate, service charge and construction charge applicable for each Digital Access Channel as per Section 900-Digital Network Services apply, in addition to the rates and charges identified below for CCS7 Signaling Interconnection.
- (c) The monthly rate specified below applies for each CCS7 port connection used to establish CCS7 Signaling Interconnection between an IXC's STP or switch and the Company's switch. STP-to-switch links are to be made in multiples of two.
- (d) The initial order processing charges specified below apply for each DS-0s within the same DS-1 connected at the same location and ordered at the same time.
- (e) When it is necessary for the Company to incur expense in order to meet IXC requirements to add/change a signaling route after the initial set-up, the ISC shall pay additional charges based on estimated time and costs incurred to meet the IXC's request as well as the service charge specified below for a Change/Add Order.
- (f) In addition, the service charge specified below applies for operations and translations associated with the provisioning of port connections to establish DS-0 channels for links between the IXC's STP or switch and the Company's switch. This charge applies to each IXC request for work to be completed at the same time and applies only once for all connections ordered at the same time

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g) **CCS7 Signaling Interconnection Rates and Charges**

Monthly Rate, each port connection	\$1,393.00
Initial Order, each DS-0 set	\$1,021.45
Change/Add Order, each DS-0 set	\$ 667.06
Operation and translation for link	\$3,266.50

4.08 Network Charges

- a) When IXC requests an interconnecting circuit with trunk side access, a switching and aggregation charge applies to each minute of originating or terminating traffic carried on the interconnecting circuit.
- b) The switching and aggregation charge relates to all associated switching, transport and signaling functions performed by the Company at the originating or terminating end of a call, including, subject to availability:
 - (i) hardware answer supervision;
 - (ii) delivery of calling line identification
- c) The switching and aggregation charge is assessed on the basis of conversation minutes

SWITCHING AND AGGREGATION CHARGE

Charge based on conversation minutes (Direct Connection at Company Central Office	\$.003700
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5. **CARRIER NETWORK PROFILE CHANGE**

- 5.01 Prior to an IXC initially being provided with inter-connecting circuits with trunk-side access, the IXC is required to complete a Carrier Profile Questionnaire (CPQ) to select network and translation options. The CPQ data is subsequently programmed into the Company's switch as required.
- 5.02 Service charges, as outlined in Item 4.03 below, apply to change the selected options and change the network translations in the Company's switch associated with each impacted Carrier Identification Code (CIC) at any time subsequent to the initial programming.
- 5.03 The following service charges apply at each End Office switch impacted by the IXC's request:

Carrier Network Profile Change Charge

Service charge, each CPQ option being changed	\$189.00
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