

RULES, REGULATIONS, AND SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES APPLICABLE TO END USER

LOCAL EXCHANGE, INTEREXCHANGE & VOIP TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN LOUISIANA

FURNISHED BY TRITON NETWORKS, LLC

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This Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the all services which the Company offers within the state of Louisiana.

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SYMBOLS

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

C - to signify change in regulation;

D - to signify a deletion;

I - to signify a rate increase.

L - to signify material relocated in the tariff;

N - to signify a new rate or regulation;

R - to signify a rate reduction.

T - to signify a change in text, but no change in rate or regulation.

CHECK SHEET

The Title Page and pages listed below are inclusive and effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes from the original Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP Tariff that are in effect on the date shown on each page.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Tariff, the following definitions will apply:

Triton Networks, LLC - Triton Networks, LLC, the issuer of this Tariff.

Access Services - The Company's intrastate telephone services offered pursuant to this Tariff.

Access Service Request ("ASR") - he written request for access services executed by the Customer and the Company in the format devised by the Company. The signing of an ASR by the Customer and acceptance by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this Tariff, but the duration of the service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date. Should a Customer use the Company's access service without an executed ASR, the Company will then request the Customer to submit one.

Account Codes - Permits Centrex Stations and attendants to dial an account code number of up to eight digits. For use when placing calls over facilities arranged for Automatic Message Accounting (AMA) recording. The account or project number must be input prior to dialing the called number.

Advance Payment - Part or all of a payment required before the start of service.

Automatic Number Identification ("ANI") - Allows the automatic transmission of a caller's billing account telephone number to a local exchange company, interexchange carrier or a third party subscriber. The primary purpose of ANI is to allow for billing of toll calls.

Bit - The smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

Collocation - An arrangement whereby the Company's switching equipment is located in a local exchange Company's central office.

Customer or Subscriber - The person, firm or corporation which orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's regulations.

Dedicated Inbound Calls - Refers to calls that are terminated via dedicated access facilities connecting he Customer's premises and the Company's Point of Presence ("POP"). This service is offered to the extent facilities are available and where the Company and the Customer jointly arrange for the establishment of dedicated access facilities connecting the Customer's trunk-compatible PBX or other suitable equipment to the Company's POP. The Customer shall be responsible for all costs and charges associated with the dedicated access facilities.

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

Dedicated Outbound Calls - Refers to service that is offered to the extent facilities are available in those cases where the Company and the Customer jointly arrange for the establishment of dedicated access facilities connecting the Customer's trunk-compatible PBX or other suitable equipment to the Company's (POP). The Customer shall be responsible for all costs and charges associated with the dedicated access facilities.

Deposit - Refers to a cash or equivalent of cash security held as a guarantee for payment of the charges. Dial Pulse (or "DP") - The pulse type employed by rotary dial station sets.

Direct Inward Dial (or "DID") - A service attribute that routes incoming calls directly to stations, by- passing a central answering point.

Direct Outward Dial (or "DOD") - A service attribute that allows individual station users to access and dial outside numbers directly.

DID Trunk - A form of local switched access that provides the ability for an outside party to call an internal extension directly without the intervention of the Company operator.

Dual Tone Multi-Frequency (or "DTMF") - The pulse type employed by tone dial station sets. Duplex Service - Service which provides for simultaneous transmission in both directions.

End Office - With respect to each NPA-NXX code prefix assigned to the Company, the location of the Company's "end office" for purposes of this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP shall be the point of interconnection associated with that NPA-NXX code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide ("LERG"), issued by BellCore.

Exchange Telephone Company or Telephone Company - Denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, or corporation authorized by the appropriate regulatory bodies to engage in providing public switched communication service throughout an exchange area, and between exchange areas within the LATA.

Fiber Optic Cable - A thin filament of glass with a protective outer coating through which a light beam carrying communications signals may be transmitted by means of multiple internal reflections to a receiver, which translates the message.

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

Hearing Impaired - Those persons with communication impairments, including those hearing impaired, deaf, deaf/blind, and speech impaired persons who have an impairment that prevents them from communicating over the telephone without the aid of a telecommunications device for the deaf.

Hunting - Routes a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy.

Individual Case Basis Pricing (ICB) - Individual Case Basis ("ICB") – A determination that the Customer's service requirements can only be satisfied by a complex Customer-Carrier arrangement for which it is difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions. ICB rates will be structured to recover the Company's cost of providing service and will be made available to similarly situated customers in a non-discriminatory manner. Terms of the specific ICB contracts will be made available to the Commission staff on a confidential basis upon staff's written request to the Company.

In-Only - A service attribute that restricts outward dial access and routes incoming calls to a designated answer point.

IXC or Interexchange Carrier - A long distance telecommunications services provider and/or alternatively the Company.

Kbps - Kilobits per second, denotes thousands of bits per second.

LATA - A Local Access and Transport Area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192; or any other geographic area designated as a LATA in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 4.

Local Interconnection Trunking Service - A local circuit administration point, other than a cross-connect or an information outlet, that provides capability for routing and re-routing circuits.

Mbps - Megabits, denotes millions of bits per second.

Minimum Point of Presence ("MPOP") - The main telephone closet in the Customer's building.

Monthly Recurring Charges - The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Multi-Frequency or ("MF") - An inter-machine pulse-type used for signaling between telephone switches, or between telephone switches and PBX/key systems.

Non-Recurring Charge ("NRC") - The initial charge, usually assessed on a one-time basis, to initiate and establish service.

NPA - Numbering plan area or area code.

Other Telephone Company - An Exchange Telephone Company, other than the company.

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

PBX - Private Branch Exchange

Point of Presence ("POP") - Point of Presence

Recurring Charges - The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Service Commencement Date - the first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this Tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The Company and Customer may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

Service Order - The written request for Network Services executed by the Customer and the Company in the format devised by the Company. The signing of a Service Order by the Customer and acceptance by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this Tariff, but the duration of the service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date.

Shared A facility or equipment system or subsystem that can be used simultaneously by several Customers.

Shared Inbound Calls Refers to calls that are terminated via the Customer's Company-provided local exchange line.

Shared Outbound Calls - Refers to calls in Feature Group (FGD) exchanges whereby the Customer's local telephone lines are presubscribed by the Company to the Company's outbound service such that "1 + 10- digit number" calls are automatically routed to the Company's or an IXC's network. Calls to stations within the Customer's LATA may be placed by dialing "10XXX" or "101XXXX" with 1 + 10-digit number."

Tandem - A class 4 switch facility to which NPA and NXX codes are subtended.

Two Way - A service attribute that includes outward dial capabilities for outbound calls and can also be used to carry inbound calls to a central point for further processing.

UNE - Unbundled Network Element is a component element of local service the Company purchases from another local exchange company. The UNE elements as utilized in this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP refer to local services the company provides through a combination of its facilities and the facilities of other local exchange carriers.

Usage Based Charges - Charges for minutes or messages traversing over local exchange facilities.

User or End User - A Customer, Joint User, or any other person authorized by a Customer to use service provided under this Tariff.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish communications service pursuant to the terms of this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP in connection with one-way and/or two-way information transmission originating from points within the State of Louisiana, and terminating within a local calling area as defined herein.

The Company is responsible under this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP only for the services and facilities provided hereunder, and it assumes no responsibility for any service provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company network in order to originate or terminate its own services, or to communicate with its own Customers.

2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- (A) The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company, when necessary because of lack of facilities, or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- (B) The furnishing of service under this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the Company may obtain from other carriers to furnish service from time to time as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

- (A) Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least six months, 24-hours per day. For the purpose of computing charges in this Tariff, a month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- (B) Customers may be required to enter into written service orders which shall contain or reference a specific description of the service ordered, the rates to be charged, the duration of the services, and the terms and conditions in this Tariff. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.
- (C) Except as otherwise stated in the Tariff, at the expiration of the initial term specified in each Service Order, or in any extension thereof, service shall continue on a month to month basis at the then current rates unless terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice. Any termination shall not relieve the Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the service order and this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term of the service order shall survive such termination.
- (D) Service may be terminated upon written notice to the Customer if:
 - (1) the Customer is using the service in violation of this Tariff; or
 - (2) the Customer is using the service in violation of the law.
- (E) This Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of Louisiana without regard for its choice of laws provision.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions, (Cont'd.)

- (F) Any Other Telephone Company may not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the Company. No person or entity shall be required to make any payment, incur any penalty, monetary or otherwise, or purchase any services in order to have the right to obtain service directly from the Company.
- (G) To the extent that either the Company or any Other Telephone Company exercises control over available cable pairs, conduit, duct space, raceways, or other facilities needed by the other to reach a person or entity, the party exercising such control shall make them available to the other on terms equivalent to those under which the Company makes similar facilities under its control available to its Customers. At the reasonable request of either party, the Company and the Other Telephone Company shall jointly attempt to obtain from the owner of the property access for the other party to serve a person or entity.
- (H) The Company hereby reserves its rights to establish service packages specific to a particular Customer. These contracts may or may not be associated with volume and/or term discounts.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability

- (A) Except as otherwise stated in this section, the liability of the Company for damages arising out of either: (1) the furnishing of its services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, or errors, or other defects, representations, or use of these services or (2) the failure to furnish its service, whether caused by acts or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in Section 2.7.
- (B) Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in Section 2.7, the Company shall not be liable to a Customer or third party for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, reliance, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages, including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, for any reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any act or omission, failure to perform, delay, interruption, failure to provide any service or any failure in or breakdown of facilities associated with the service.
- (C) The liability of the Company for errors in billing that result in overpayment by the Customer shall be limited to a credit equal to the dollar amount erroneously billed or, in the event that payment has been made and service has been discontinued, to a refund of the amount erroneously billed.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, (Cont'd.)

- (D) The Company shall be indemnified and saved harmless by the Customer from and against all loss, liability, damage and expense, including reasonable counsel fees, due to:
- (1) Any act or omission of: (a) the Customer, (b) any other entity furnishing service, equipment or facilities for use in conjunction with services or facilities provided by the Company; or (c) common carriers or warehousemen, except as contracted by the Company;
 - (2) Any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond the Company's control, including but not limited to, acts of God, fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, or other catastrophes; national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars or other civil commotions; strikes, lockouts, work stoppages or other labor difficulties; criminal actions taken against the Company; unavailability, failure or malfunction of equipment or facilities provided by the Customer or third parties; and any law, order, regulation or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof;
 - (3) Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and services;
 - (4) Libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of patents, trade secrets, or copyrights arising from or in connection with the material transmitted by means of Company-provided facilities or services; or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or services;
 - (5) Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, (Cont'd.)

(D) (cont'd)

- (6) Changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company that render any equipment, facilities or services provided by the Customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment, facilities or services, or otherwise affect their use or performance, except where reasonable notice is required by the Company and is not provided to the Customer, in which event the Company's liability is limited as set forth in paragraph (A) of this Subsection 2.1.4.
- (7) Defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such premises or the installation or removal thereof;
- (8) Injury to property or injury or death to persons, including claims for payments made under Workers' Compensation law or under any plan for employee disability or death benefits, arising out of, or caused by, any act or omission of the Customer, or the construction, installation, maintenance, presence, use or removal of the Customer's facilities or equipment connected, or to be connected to the Company's facilities;
- (9) Any noncompletion of calls due to network busy conditions;
- (10) Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that service is unavailable;
- (11) And any other claim resulting from any act or omission of the Customer or patron(s) of the Customer relating to the use of the Company's services or facilities.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, (Cont'd.)

- (E) The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere.
- (F) The Company makes no warranties or representations, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, either in fact or by operation of law, statutory or otherwise, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.
- (G) Failure by the Company to assert its rights pursuant to one provision of this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.

2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- (A) The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain only the facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not nor may the Customer permit others to rearrange, disconnect, remove, and attempt to repair, or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- (B) The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the service provided the Customer.
- (C) Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the equipment is provided.
- (D) Except as otherwise indicated, Customer provided station equipment at the Customer's premises for use in connection with this service shall be so constructed, maintained and operated as to work satisfactorily with the facilities of the Company.
- (E) The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this Tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:
 - (1) the through transmission of signals by Customer provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission; or
 - (2) the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
 - (3) network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer-provided network control signaling equipment.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.7 Non-Routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

2.1.8 Special Construction

Subject to the agreement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this Tariff, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is construction undertaken:

- (A) where facilities are not presently available, and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- (B) of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- (C) over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- (D) in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- (E) on an expedited basis;
- (F) on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
- (G) involving abnormal costs; or
- (H) in advance of its normal construction.

2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.2 Prohibited Uses

- 2.2.1 The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits.
- 2.2.2 The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and the Louisiana Public Service Commission's regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- 2.2.3 The Company may block any signals being transmitted over its Network by Customers which cause interference to the Company or other users. Customer shall be relieved of all obligations to make payments for charges relating to any blocked Service and shall indemnify the Company for any claim, judgment or liability resulting from such blockage.
- 2.2.4 A Customer, joint user, or authorized user may not assign, or transfer in any manner, the service or any rights associated with the service without the written consent of the Company. The Company will permit a Customer to transfer its existing service to another entity if the existing Customer has paid all charges owed to the Company for regulated communications services. Such a transfer will be treated as a disconnection of existing service and installation of new service, and non-recurring installation charges as stated in this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP will apply.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer

2.3.1 General

The Customer shall be responsible for:

- (A) the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this Tariff;
- (B) damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer, with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company;
- (C) providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed equipment, space and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the premises of the Customer, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such premises;
- (D) obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Communications Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in Section 2.3.1(C). Any and all costs associated with the obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company provided facilities, shall be borne entirely by, or may be charged by the Company, to the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this section prior to accepting an order for service.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

2.3.1 General (cont'd.)

- (E) providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g., friable asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
- (F) complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible under Section 2.3.1(D); and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the premises of the Customer at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company;
- (G) not creating or allowing to be placed any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and
- (H) making Company facilities and equipment available periodically for maintenance purposes at a time agreeable to both the Company and the Customer. No allowance will be made for the period during which service is interrupted for such purposes.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

2.3.2 Liability of the Customer

- (A) The Customer will be liable for damages to the facilities of the Company and for all incidental and consequential damages caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the Customer, its officers, employees, agents, invites, or contractors where such acts or omissions are not the direct result of the Company's negligence or intentional misconduct.
- (B) To the extent caused by any negligent or intentional act of the Customer as described in (A), preceding, the Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for (1) any loss, destruction or damage to property of any third party, and (2) any liability incurred by the Company to any third party pursuant to this or any other Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP of the Company, or otherwise, for any interruption of, interference to, or other defect in any service provided by the Company to such third party.
- (C) The Customer shall not assert any claim against any other Customer or user of the Company's services for damages resulting in whole or in part from or arising in connection with the furnishing of service under this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or other defects or misrepresentations, whether or not such other Customer or user contributed in any way to the occurrence of the damages, unless such damages were caused solely by the negligent or intentional act or omission of the other Customer or user and not by any act or omission of the Company. Nothing in this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP is intended either to limit or to expand Customer's right to assert any claims against third parties for damages of any nature other than those described in the preceding sentence.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 General

A user may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. The Company's services are designed primarily for the transmission of voice-grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this Tariff. A user may transmit any form of signal that is compatible with the Company's equipment, but the Company does not guarantee that its services will be suitable for purposes other than voice-grade telephonic communication except as specifically stated in this Tariff.

2.4.2 Station Equipment

- (A) Terminal equipment on the user's premises and the electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the user. The user is responsible for the provision of wiring or cable to connect its terminal equipment to the Company MPOP.
- (B) The Customer is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company-provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or to other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense, subject to prior Customer approval of the equipment expense.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities

SECTION 2.4.3 IS AVAILABLE ONLY TO CARRIERS WHICH ARE CERTIFIED BY Louisiana PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE INTRASTATE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES.

- (A) Local Traffic Exchange provides the ability for another local exchange provider to terminate local traffic on the Company's network. In order to qualify for Local Traffic Exchange the call must: (a) be originated by an end user of a company that is authorized by the Louisiana Public Service Commission to provide local exchange service; (b) originate and terminate within a local calling area of the Company.
- (B) Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Communications Services and the channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- (C) Communications Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the Tariffs of the other communications carriers which are applicable to such connections.
- (D) Facilities furnished under this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP may be connected to Customer provided terminal equipment in accordance with the provisions of this Tariff. All such terminal equipment shall be registered by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to Part 68 of Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; and all user-provided wiring shall be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.4.4 Inspections

- (A) Upon suitable notification to the Customer, and at a reasonable time, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2(B) for the installation, operation, and maintenance of Customer-provided facilities, equipment, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment.
- (B) If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment and personnel from harm.
- (C) If harm to the Company's network, personnel or services is imminent, the Company reserves the right to shut down Customer's service immediately, with no prior notice required.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments

2.5.1 Advance Payments

To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment before services and facilities are furnished, where special construction is involved. The advance payment will not exceed an amount equal to the nonrecurring charge(s) and one (1) month's charges for the service or facilities. In addition, the advance payment may also include an amount equal to the estimated non-recurring charges for the special construction and recurring charges (if any) for a period to be set between the Company and the Customer. The advance payment will be credited to the Customer's initial bill. Advance payments do not accrue interest. An advance payment may be required in addition to a deposit.

2.5.2 Deposits

- (A) To safeguard its interests, the Company may require the Customer to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee for the payment of charges in accordance with Louisiana Public Service Commission Rules. And these policies shall reflect the General Order dated September 17, 1991 which will require Company to pay interest of five percent (5%) per annum for Customer deposits if such Customer deposits are retained for more than six (6) months. Further as stated in the General Order the Company shall not collect deposits from Customers' in excess of two and one half (2 ½) times the
- (B) A deposit may be required if the Customer's financial condition is not acceptable to the Company or is not a matter of general knowledge. A deposit does not relieve the Customer of the responsibility for the prompt payment of bills on presentation. The deposit will not exceed an amount equal to two and one-half twelfths of the estimated charge for the service for the ensuing twelve months. A deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment.
- (C) Upon discontinuance of service, the Company shall promptly and automatically refund the Customer's deposit plus accrued interest, or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills including any penalties assessed for service furnished by the Company.
- (D) Simple interest at the rate specified by the Commission shall be credited or paid to the Customer while the Company holds the deposit. Upon request of the Customer, accrued interest shall be annually credited to the Customer by deducting such interest from the amount of the next bill for service following the accrual date.
- (E) The Company shall annually and automatically refund the deposits of Customers who have paid bills for twelve consecutive months without having had service discontinued for nonpayment or had more than one occasion on which a bill was ~~not paid within the period prescribed and are not then delinquent in payment.~~

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.6.1 Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and services furnished by the Company to the Customer.

The Customer is responsible for the payment of federal excise taxes, state and local sales and use taxes and similar taxes imposed by governmental jurisdictions, all of which shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices. The Company will not separately charge for the Louisiana gross receipts tax on the Company's invoice for local services. Any taxes imposed by a local jurisdiction (e.g., county and municipal) will only be recovered from those Customers residing in the affected jurisdictions.

Certain telecommunications services, as defined in the Louisiana Revised Code, are subject to state sales tax at the prevailing tax rates, if the services originate, or terminate in Louisiana, or both, and are charged to a subscriber's telephone number or account in Louisiana.

2.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges incurred by the Customer or other users for services and facilities furnished to the Customer by the Company.

- (A) Non-recurring charges are due and payable within thirty (30) days after the date the invoice is mailed to the Customer by the Company.
- (B) The Company shall present invoices for recurring charges monthly to the Customer, in advance of the month in which service is provided, and recurring charges shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days after the date the invoice is mailed to the Customer by the Company. When billing is based upon Customer usage, usage charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing period.
- (C) When service does not begin on the first day of the month, or end on the last day of the month, the charge for the fraction of the month in which service was furnished will be calculated on a pro rata basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges, (Cont'd.)

- (D) Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the day on which the Company notifies the Customer that the service or facility is available for use, except that the Service Commencement Date may be postponed by mutual agreement of the parties, or if the service or facility does not conform to standards set forth in this Local Exchange, Interexchange and VoIP and VoIP and VoIP or the Service Order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- (E) Customer's bills for telephone service are due on the due date specified on their bill. A customer is in default unless full payment is made on or before the due date. If a bill is not paid in full, a late charge of 1.5% per month will be applied against all balances that are past due. Terms apply as well to any payments received by the Company where the funds are not immediately available upon presentment. Late payment charge of 1.5% shall not be charged to Customer on a previously unpaid late charge of 1.5% that precedes it on a dollar based past due invoice for which Customer owes Company unpaid balances. Therefore no late payment charge of 1.5% will be applied to an already charged late 1.5% late charge. For an account to be brought current, both the overdue balance and any outstanding finance charges must be paid in full. For partial payment received, finance charges will continue to be applied against the amount of the bill's outstanding balance until full payment of both the outstanding balance and any outstanding finance charges are received. A minimum finance charge of \$10 for Business Accounts may be applied if an invoice is past due.
- (F) The Customer should notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the Louisiana Public Service Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure. The address of the Commission is as follows:

Louisiana Public Service
Commission Galvez Building
602 North 5th Street, 12th
Floor Baton Rouge, LA 70802
- (G) If service is disconnected by the Company (in accordance with Section 2.6.3 following) and later re-installed, re-installation of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges. If service is suspended by the Company (in accordance with Section 2.6.3 following) and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to the rates in Section 4.