

INTERCITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TARIFF

SECTION A - DEFINITION OF TERMS

For the purposes of this tariff, the following definitions shall apply:

Authorization Code: The term "authorization code" means a numeric code which identifies an individual or company to be billed for calls charged by authorized users.

Breaks: The term "breaks" means the number of divisional or departmental subtotals required under the corporate billing option.

Building: The term "building" means a structure occupied by a customer. Multi-occupant structures will be considered different buildings as to a customer when spaces of that customer are separated by space occupied by others.

Called Station: The station called, or the terminating point of a call.

Calling Card Billing: A billing arrangement by which a call may be charged to an authorized calling card number.

Calling Station: The station from which a call is originated.

Calls: The term "calls" means telephone messages as completed by customers or users.

Casual Caller: Denotes any person who uses the Company service from an equal access end office who does not have a current account with the Company for services subject to this tariff, to include: (i) any person who has not established an account with the Company who places calls over the Company's network from an equal access area, (ii) any presubscribed customer located in an equal access area who has either voluntarily terminated his Company account or has had his Company account terminated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Section B-20 and (iii) (new or allocated customers whose accounts are not yet established in the Company's billing system.

Central Office: The term "central office" means a unit in a local utility's telephone system which provides service to the general public, having the necessary equipment and operating arrangements for terminating and interconnecting customer lines and trunks or trunks only. There may be more than one central office in a building.

Charges: The term "charges" means nonrecurring and monthly recurring amounts billed to customers for tariffed services.

Collect Call: A billing arrangement which bills the charge for a long distance call to the called station's telephone number. The person agreeing to accept the call, whether they are a Teleconnect customer or not, is responsible for all charges related to the call. Regardless of whether the person is a Teleconnect customer or not, he or she is subject to the provisions of this Tariff which are applicable to the call accepted.

Commercial Credit Card Billing: A billing arrangement by which a call may be charged to an authorized credit card number, such as MasterCard, VISA, or American Express.

Commission: The term "Commission" means the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission.

Contract: The term "contract" means the agreement between the customer and Teleconnect containing or referring to the rates and regulations applicable to the service being furnished.

Customer: The term "customer" means any person, firm, association, corporation, agency of the federal, state, or local government, or legal entity, responsible by law for the payment of charges and compliance with the regulations of Teleconnect.

Deactivate or Deactivation: The terms "deactivate" and "deactivation" mean the removal of an authorization code from effectiveness.

Delinquent or Delinquency: The terms "delinquent" and "delinquency" mean an account for which an uncontested bill or payment agreement for regulated services has not been paid in full on or before the last day for timely payment. The term can also relate to a contested bill once the Commission finds the customer's complaint without merit.

Depositor: The term "depositor" means the customer from whom a deposit is required.

Disconnect: The term "disconnect" means the disabling of circuitry preventing outgoing and/or incoming communications from the Teleconnect switch.

Due Date: The term "due date" means the last day for payment without unpaid amounts being considered delinquent or subject to additional collection efforts. The due date may be designated "due by," "pay by" or "if paid by" on the customer's bill.

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SECTION A - DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont.)

Exchange: The term "exchange" means a unit established for the administration of local communication services.

Exchange Service: The term "exchange service" means a local communication service furnished by means of local exchange plant and facilities.

Exchange Service Area or Exchange Area: The terms "exchange service area" or "exchange area" refer to the general area in which the local telephone utility holds itself out to furnish exchange telephone service.

Extended Area Service: The term "Extended Area Service" means telephone service, furnished at a flat local rate, between customers located within an exchange area and all of the customers of an additional exchange area.

Feature Group D: The term "Feature Group D" means the method of 1+ and 10-TEL access available through the switched network of the local exchange utility. FGD is also known as equal access.

Initial Service Period: The term "initial service period" means the minimum period for which service will be installed and charged. Except as noted elsewhere in this tariff, the initial service period is one (1) month from the initiation of service. All recurring rates and charges will be assessed without proration for services terminated during the initial service period.

Interexchange Company: The term "interexchange company" means a company, a resale carrier or other entity that provides intrastate telecommunications services and facilities between exchanges within Rhode Island without regard to how such traffic is carried. A local exchange utility that provides interexchange service may also be considered an interexchange company.

Interexchange Service: The term "interexchange service" is the provision of intrastate telecommunications services and facilities between local exchanges, excluding EAS.

Invoice: The monthly statement of amounts owed by and credited to a Teleconnect account.

Local Exchange Carrier: A company which furnishes exchange telephone service.

Local Service: The term "local service" means telephone service furnished between customers or users located within an exchange area.

Local Service Area: The term "local service area" means the area within which are located the lines to which calls may be made under a specified schedule of exchange rates without payment of toll charges.

Local Utility: See "local exchange utility."

Message: The term "message" means a telephone call by a customer or user.

Operator Station: Service whereby a call is completed with the assistance of a Company operator, except for customer dialed Calling/Commercial Credit Card and Person-to-Person calls.

Person-to-Person: A service for which the person originating the call specifies to the Company operator a particular person, mobile station, department, extension, or office to be reached. If the called party is unavailable and the calling party requests or agrees to speak to a party other than the party initially Specified, the call is still billed as a Person-to-Person call.

Point of Presence: The term "Point of Presence" means the physical locations where Teleconnect maintains a terminal facility which allows interconnection between the carrier's network, the customer's premises or the serving local exchange carrier's network for purposes of providing telecommunications service.

Premises: The term "premises" denotes the space occupied by an individual customer in a building, in adjoining buildings occupied entirely by that customer, or on contiguous property occupied by the customer not separated by a public thoroughfare, a railroad right-of-way, or a natural barrier.

Prorate: The term "prorate" means the basis sometimes used for determining the charge for service furnished for a period less than that used in specifying rates. The pro rata charge for a service for which the rate is specified on a monthly basis is 1/30 of the monthly rate times the number of days service was furnished.

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SECTION A - DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont.)

Rates: The term "rates" shall mean recurring amounts billed to customers for regulated services and equipment.

Serving Exchange: The term "serving exchange" means a unit established for the administration of communication services in which Teleconnect holds itself out to provide service. The boundary of the serving exchange for Teleconnect is identical to that filed by the local utility.

Special Dialing Procedures: The term "Special Dialing Procedures" means dialing procedures which are available when a customer is in an equal access area and has registered specific lines with Teleconnect for either "1+" or "10-TEL" dialing. In such a case, and only when dialing from such customer's designated telephone lines, the call may be dialed in the following sequence:

10 + TEL + 1 + area code + long distance telephone number.

Additionally, in the above case and when Teleconnect has been designated as the customer's primary interLATA carrier, and the call is an interLATA call, the call may be dialed in the following sequence:

1 + area code + long distance telephone number.

Station: The term "station" denotes the transmitting or receiving equipment, or combination transmitting or receiving equipment, at any location on a premises and connected for private line service, or, when the service involves only channels, denotes a point on a premises at which a channel is terminated.

Subscriber: The person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity who owns the pay telephone, PBX, or other switch vehicle from which a Customer places a call utilizing the services of the Company.

Suspend: The term "suspend" means temporary disconnection or impairment of service which shall disable either outgoing or incoming communications or both.

Switching Service: The term "switching service" means switching performed for the service lines.

Tariff: The term "tariff" means the entire body of regulated rates, tolls, rentals, charges, classifications, rules, procedures, policies, etc. adopted and filed with the Commission by a telephone utility in fulfilling its role of furnishing communications service.

Telephone Utility or Utility: The term "telephone utility" or "utility" mean any person, partnership, business association or corporation, domestic or foreign, determined to be such by the Commission.

Third Party Billing: An optional billing procedure which permits the charges for a long distance call to be billed to a number that is different from the number of the calling station or the number of the called station. The person agreeing to accept the call, whether they are an Teleconnect customer or not, is responsible for all charges related to the call. Regardless of whether the person is an Teleconnect customer or not, he or she is subject to the provisions of this Tariff which are applicable to the call accepted.

Time of Day: The term "time of day" means the time, based on the calling party's location, associated with each minute, or fraction minute of use. When expressed as a range, the beginning time is included in the range and the ending time is not. Each minute is rated in the period in which it starts.

Timely Payment: The term "timely payment" is a payment on a customer's account made on or before the due date shown: (1) on a current bill for rates and charges, or (2) by an agreement between the customer and Teleconnect for a series of partial payments to settle a delinquent account.

Toll Message: The term "toll message" means a message made between different exchange areas for which a rate is made.

Toll Rate: The term "toll rate" means the tariff charge prescribed either in the tariff for regulated utilities or in this tariff for Teleconnect for toll messages, usually based upon duration of the message, the distance between the exchanges, and the day and time of the message.

Traffic: The term "traffic" means telephone call volume, based on number and duration of calls.

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SECTION A - DEFINITION OF TERMS (Cont.)

CALL BLOCKING: Without notice, the Company may block calls to or from certain countries, country codes, cities, city codes, NXX exchanges, individual telephone stations, groups or ranges of individual telephone stations or calls that use certain authorization codes, whenever the Company deems it necessary to take such action to prevent: (a) the unlawful use of service; (b) fraud; (c) nonpayment for service; (d) the use of service in violation of the requirements of this Tariff; or (e) Company network blockage or the degradation of service furnished to the Customer or to other customers; or when actions taken by foreign governments or foreign telecommunications agencies, or responsive actions taken by the U. S. Government or any instrumentality thereof, render it impossible or impracticable to provide service. The Company will unblock as soon as it determines it can do so without undue risk, and it will, upon request by an affected Customer, assign new authorization codes to replace any that were deactivated. Whenever call blocking occurs on lines presubscribed to the Company, Customers or former Customers will be unable to make calls via any of the Company's CICs or those of its affiliates. At the request of a private payphone owner, the Company will arrange to block direct dial (i.e., completed without the assistance of an operator) calls made from a payphone to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and to all international locations, except Canada. The Company may refuse to accept calling or credit card, collect calling and/or third number calls which it determines are or may be fraudulent, or it may limit the use of these billing options to or from certain countries or areas, including all or part of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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