

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

This tariff contains the rules and regulations, service descriptions, and rates applicable to the furnishing of competitive interexchange telecommunications services offered by Computer Techniques, Inc. within the state of Illinois. This tariff is filed pursuant to Section 13-502 (b) of the Public Utilities Act. Computer Techniques, Inc. declares all services contained in this tariff to be competitive.

ALL MATERIAL IN THIS TARIFF IS NEW

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

CHECK SHEET

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INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

- (C) to signify changes in regulation
- (D) to signify discontinued rate or regulation
- (I) to signify increase
- (M) to signify matter relocated without change
- (N) to signify new rate or regulation
- (R) to signify reduction
- (S) to signify reissued matter
- (T) to signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation
- (Z) to signify a correction

CONCURRING CARRIER

None

CONNECTING CARRIERS

None

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

None

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

1. **APPLICATION OF TARIFF**

1.1 This tariff applies to specialized switching services furnished by COMPUTER TECHNIQUES, INC., hereinafter referred to as the "Company", with its principle address at 1100 North Sportsman Drive, Taylorville, Illinois 62568, for communications within the State of Illinois.

1.2 From time to time, the Company shall offer special promotional offerings allowing special discounts or modifications of its regular service offerings to its Customers. Such offerings may be limited to certain dates, times, and locations.

1.3 In the event the Company files to increase a rate(s) with the Commission, the Company will provide its Customers with notice of such filing prior to its effective date.

1.4 When services and facilities are provided in part by the Company and in part by other Companies, the regulations of the Company apply to that portion of the service or facilities which it supplies.

1.5 Service/trademarks of the Company are indicated by "™", registered service/trademark are indicated by "®", and copyrights are indicated by "©". In addition, the Company logo is a registered servicemark of the Company.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

2. **DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions apply for certain terms used generally throughout this tariff:

Access Code: A sequence of numbers that, when dialed, connect the caller to the provider of operator services associated with that sequence.

Access Line: A communication channel which is used for access to a Company service point.

Access Line Group: An access line or a number of access lines from a single Customer or authorized user location which have the same termination characteristics and which are arranged in a hunting sequence.

Additional Minute: The rate element used to bill for the chargeable time when a call continues beyond the initial minute.

Aggregator: Any person or entity, that is not an operator service provider and that in the ordinary course of its operations makes telephones available to the public or transient users of its premises, or university for telephone calls between points within this state that are specified by the user using an operator service provider.

Authorized User: A person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity which is authorized by the Customer to be connected to the service of the Customer. An Authorized user(s) must be named in the application for service.

Autodialer: A device which allows the Customer to dial pre-programmed telephone numbers, by pushing one or two buttons. Dialers can be bought as a separate device and added to a phone.

Automatic Numbering Identification (ANI): A type of signaling provided by a local exchange telephone Company which automatically identifies the local exchange line from which a call originates.

Billed Party: The person or entity responsible for payment of the Company's service as follows:

Billing Period: The interval between Customer invoice to Customer invoice which shall consist of approximately 30 days.

Business Service: The phrase "Business Service" means telecommunications service provided to the Customer for use primarily or substantially for a business, professional, institutional or other occupational purpose.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

2. **DEFINITIONS** (Cont'd)

Cancellation of Order: A Customer initiated request to discontinue processing a service order, either in part or in its entirety, prior to its completion.

Channel: The path for electrical transmission between two or more points.

Commission: The Illinois Commerce Commission.

Company: COMPUTER TECHNIQUES, INC.

Connecting Carrier: A telecommunications Company, which may be either an interexchange or a local exchange carrier, that supplies the Company with facilities to originate or terminate the Company's long distance services.

Consumer: The term consumer means a person initiating any telephone call using operator services.

Customer: The Customer is the person, firm, corporation or other legal entity which: orders, cancels or amends service; is responsible for the payment of charges; and is responsible for compliance with all the Company tariff regulations.

Customer-Provided Facilities: All facilities, including those obtained from other communications common carriers, provided by the Customer and/or authorized user, other than those provided by the Company.

Dedicated Access Service: The generic term for a service in which the Customer's traffic passes over an access line connecting the Customer's premise to a Company switch, which is used solely for that Customer's traffic.

Designated Service Date: Denotes the Customer specified installation date requested at the time the order for service is initiated. If the Company finds it cannot provide service by that date, the designated service date becomes that date specified by the Company on which the installation of service can be performed.

Designated Service Point: The Customer designated point of termination of a local distribution channel. The designated service point may be a Customer or authorized user premise or a local exchange Company central office or Centrex station.

Disconnection: The disconnection of a circuit, dedicated access line or port connection being used for existing service.

End User: An individual or entity designated by the consumer to be responsible for the payment of calls placed using the Company's Services.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

2. **DEFINITIONS** (Cont'd)

Local Access Line or Local Distribution Channel: The facility consisting of the necessary equipment and local telephone Company lines which are required to interconnect the Customer's or authorized user's premises to a Company Service Point within the same local exchange area or extended service area.

Local Access Transport Area (LATA): A geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic and other purposes.

Local Calling Area: Denotes a geographic area in which a Local Exchange Company end user may complete a call without incurring long distance charges.

Local Exchange Area: The term "Local Exchange Area" denotes a unit established by the company for the administration of communications services in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town, or village and its environs. Specific definitions of the Company local exchange areas are available upon request.

Local Exchange Carrier (LEC): A Company which provides telecommunications service within a local exchange LATA.

Measured Charge: A charge assessed on a per minute basis in calculating a portion of the charges due for a completed Operator Assisted, Direct Dial Call, Calling Card or Third Party Call.

Message: Represents an interexchange toll call for which appropriate charges shall be assessed.

Measured Service: The provision of intrastate long distance measured time communications telephone service to Customers who access the Company's service at its switching and call processing equipment by means of access facilities obtained from a local exchange carrier. The Company is responsible for arranging for the access line.

Mileage Rate Band: Mileage interval used to establish rates for the Company services.

Minimum Average Time Requirements (MATR): A generic term indicating a specified period of time, used in the determination of usage charges, which represents the minimum average duration of calls completed during a billing period.

Modem: A device which modulates and/or demodulates signals for proper transmission via dedicated or switched facilities.

Multiple Channel Service: Is a service offering whereby a Customer may order more than one leased channel where the line haul mileage of the channels falls within the same mileage rate band.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

2. **DEFINITIONS** (Cont'd)

Point of Presence: Locations where the Company maintains through its own facilities or through arrangements with other carriers an operations center for purposes of providing long distance service.

Premises: All buildings occupied by the Customer and/or his authorized user on a contiguous property (except railroad right of way, etc.) not intersected by a public road.

Presubscribed Provider of Operator Services: The Provider of Operator Services to which the Consumer is connected when the Consumer places a call using a Provider of Operator Services without dialing an access code.

Responsible Organization (Resp. Org.): The carrier entity that has responsibility for the management of 8xx numbers in the Service Management System (SMS) including maintaining Customer records in the SMS system. Also, the entity which accesses the SMS to: a) search for and reserve 8xx numbers; b) create and maintain 800 number Customer records, including call processing records; and c) provide a single point of contact for trouble reporting. The SMS recognizes one Resp. Org. for each 8xx number.

Service: Service means any or all service(s) provided pursuant to this tariff.

Service Points: Those cities from which the Company makes its services available to its customers.

Special Access Line (SAL): A dedicated Analog DAL or Digital T-1 Access Line(s) directly connecting Customer's telephone equipment to the Long Distance Provider without using the Local Exchange Carrier's switching equipment.

Special Promotional Offering: Special discounts or modifications of the company's regular service offerings which may, from time to time, be offered to its Customers for a particular service. Such offerings may be limited to certain dates, times, and locations.

Special Services: Denotes service provided and performed by the Company involving special engineering, design, programming, development or production activities to provide services requested by a Customer to meet special needs not otherwise provided under this tariff.

Station: Any location from which a message can be originated or received.

Station-to-Station Call: A call placed to a telephone number, with the understanding that the caller will speak to any person who answers the called number.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

2. **DEFINITIONS** (Cont'd)

Subscriber: A person or other entity that selects a telecommunications Company to be the Presubscribed Provider of Operator Services for one or more locations within that person or entity's control.

Telecommunications: The transmission of voice communications or, subject to the transmission capabilities of the service, the transmission capabilities of the service, the transmission of data, facsimile, signaling, metering, or any other form of intelligence over dedicated or switched facilities.

Third Party Call: A call for which charges are billed, not to the originating telephone number, but to a third party telephone number which is neither the originating nor the terminating telephone number.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

3.1 **UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY**

3.1.1 **General**

3.1.1.1 The services furnished herein are for the transmission and reception of voice, data and other types of communications. Services provided pursuant to this tariff may be utilized only for the transmission of communications by Customers consistent with the terms of this tariff, and the rules and regulations of the State of Illinois.

3.1.1.2 Subject to unavoidable network interruptions, the Company shall endeavor to provide services and facilities 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

3.1.2 **Availability**

3.1.2.1 Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities and/or equipment of the Company and/or the Local Exchange Carrier serving the customer. The Company reserves the right to provide services to and from locations where the necessary facilities and/or equipment are available.

3.1.2.2 The Company reserves the right to suspend service or delay service installation until sufficient network facilities are available to meet the anticipated traffic demand, or terminate a service request with a full refund of any charges billed to the Customer if satisfactory arrangements cannot be concluded within what the Company determines to be a reasonable amount of time.

3.2 **USE OF SERVICE**

3.2.1 Services furnished by the Company may not be used for any unlawful purpose.

3.2.2 No restrictions apply on sharing or resale of services. The Customer remains liable for all obligations under this tariff notwithstanding such sharing or resale and regardless of the Company's knowledge of same.

3.2.3 Use of the services herein in a manner that could interfere with the services provided to other Customers, harm the facilities of the Company or others is prohibited.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.2 **USE OF SERVICE** (Cont'd)

3.2.4 In the event that the Company determines, based upon its sole judgment, that there is fraudulent use of either the services furnished by the Company or the Company's network, the Company will without liability to the Customer discontinue service and/or seek legal recourse to recover from the Customer all costs involved in enforcement of this provision.

3.2.4.1 Service may be discontinued by the Company, without notice to the Customer, by blocking traffic to or from certain cities, or NXX exchanges, or by blocking calls using certain Customer codes, such as calling card codes, which the Company deems, in its sole judgment, is necessary to take such action to prevent unlawful use of its services. The Company will restore service as soon as it can be provided without undue risk.

3.2.4.2 Without incurring any liability, the Company may discontinue the furnishing of service(s) to a Customer immediately and without notice if the Company deems, in its sole judgment, that such action is necessary to prevent or protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services.

3.2.5 The Company may, but is not required to, advise the Customer of abnormal calling patterns or other possible unauthorized use of facilities or calling cards assigned to the Customer. Additionally, the Company may, but is not required to, block calls which the Company believes to be unauthorized or fraudulent.

3.2.6 If a Customer utilizes a dedicated access line between the Customer's premises and the Company's service office for the origination or termination of calls, the Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for usage over that access line, including any usage which may be fraudulent or unauthorized.

3.2.7 The use and restoration of service shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.3 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY**

3.3.1 **Liability**

Except as provided in this Section, the Company's sole liability for any claim, loss, expense or damages of any kind, whether direct, indirect, special or consequential, arising from, or in any way attributable to, acts or omissions of the Company relating to the installation, provision, termination, maintenance, repair, restoration, or billing of any service, feature or option available under this tariff shall not exceed an amount equal to the monthly recurring charge to the Customer for one (1) month, if any, or as otherwise set forth in the outage credit provisions of this tariff provided, however, that:

3.3.1.1 The Company's liability for its willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff.

3.3.1.2 The Company is not liable for any failure of facilities or performance of services due to causes beyond its control, including, not limited to, civil disorder, fire, flood, storm or other natural or man-made disasters or elements, labor problems or regulations issued by or action taken by any government agency having jurisdiction over the Company or its services or equipment.

3.3.1.3 The Company shall have no liability to any person or entity other than its Customer.

3.3.1.4 The Company shall not be liable for, and shall be fully indemnified and held harmless by the Customer against the following:

.1 Any claim, loss, expense or damage (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney's fees and expenses) for engaging in a criminal enterprise defamation, liable, slander, invasion of privacy, infringement of copyright or patent, arising from, or in connection with, the material, data, information, or other content transmitted over the services or facilities furnished by the Company.

.2 Any claim, loss, expense or damage (including, but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees and expenses) for any act or omission of the Customer or its agents and contractors, or due to the failure of Customer-provided equipment, facilities, systems or services.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.3 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY** (Cont'd)

3.3.1 **Liability** (Cont'd)

.3 Any claim, loss, expense or damage (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney's fees and expenses) for personal injury or death of any person caused directly or indirectly by the installation, maintenance, location, condition, operation, failure, presence, use or removal of equipment or wiring provided by the Company, if not caused by negligence of the Company; and/or

.4 Any use by the Customer of the Company's products or services which use has been restricted or limited by action of a government agency having jurisdiction over the Customer, the Company or its products or services.

3.3.1.5 All or a portion of the service provided pursuant to this tariff may be provided over facilities of third parties, and the Company shall not be liable to the Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever arising out of errors or defects caused by such third parties.

3.3.1.6 Where any claim arises out of the Company's acting as a Resp. Org. or where the Company's Services are not made available on the date committed to the Customer, or cannot otherwise be made available after the Company's acceptance of the Customer's order, or is provided with a number(s) other than the one(s) committed by the Company to the Customer, or the number(s) is not included in the Directory Assistance or is included in an incorrect form, or Vertical Features are not obtained or are obtained in error, and any such failure(s) is due solely to the negligence of the Company, in such case the Company's liability, if any, is limited to the lesser of (a) the actual monetary damages incurred and proved by the Customer as the direct result of such failure(s), or (b) the sum of \$100.00.

3.3.1.7 The Company shall not be liable for the use, misuse or abuse of a Customer's service by third parties, including, without limitation, the Customer's employees or members of the public who dial the Customer's telephone number in error. Compensation for any injury the Customer may suffer due to the fault of others must be sought from such other parties.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.3 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY** (Cont'd)

3.3.1 **Liability** (Cont'd)

3.3.1.8 Notwithstanding Section 3.3.1.5, in the event that the Company causes the misrouting of calls, the Company's sole liability shall be to provide a credit equal to the charges for the affected calls.

3.3.1.9 The Company reserves the right to immediately suspend or cancel without advance written notice and without any liability whatsoever, the provision of any service(s) to any Customer if the Company determines in its sole discretion that the Customer is using the service(s) to make or permit any telephone facility under such Customer's control to be used for any purpose or activity, including, but not limited to, any obscene, indecent or harassing purpose or activity, prohibited by Section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and 8xx calls placed with the intent of gaining access to a Customer's outbound calling services without authorization from the Customer.

3.3.1.10 The Company is not liable for any damages, including toll usage charges, the Customer may incur as a result of the unauthorized use of its telephone facilities. This unauthorized use of the Customer's facilities includes, but is not limited to, the placement of calls from the Customer-provided equipment which are transmitted or carried on the Company network or the network over which its traffic is carried. The Company's Customer Service agents may work with Customers to recommend possible solutions to reduce unauthorized use of their facilities. However, the Company does not warrant or guarantee that its recommendations will prevent all unauthorized use, and the Customer is responsible for controlling access to, and use of, its own telephone facilities.

3.4.1 The Customer shall be responsible for damages to the Company's facilities or that of its network providers caused by the act or omission of the Customer, its authorized users, officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, licensees or invitees or any person or entity who gains access to the service at the customer through the negligence of the customer.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.4 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER**

3.4.2 The Customer will guarantee the performance by his authorized user(s) of all provisions of this tariff and contractual obligations between the Customer and the Company. The Customer will be liable for the acts or omissions of its authorized user(s) relative to the compliance with the provision of this tariff.

3.4.3 The Customer may not assign or transfer to a third party, whether by operation of law or otherwise, the right to use the services provided under this tariff, provided however, that where there is no interruption of use or relocation of the services, such assignment or transfer may be made to the following:

(a) Another Customer of the Company, provided that the assignee or transferee assumes all accrued and unpaid obligations of the transferring Customer including, but not limited to, all indebtedness for such services, and the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services if any; or

(b) A court-appointed receiver, trustee or other person acting pursuant to the laws of bankruptcy, receivership, reorganization, insolvency, liquidation or other similar proceedings, provided that the assignee or transferee assumes all accrued and unpaid obligations of the transferring Customer including, but not limited to, all indebtedness for such services, and the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services, if any.

If the Customer wishes to assign or transfer the right to use services provided under this tariff, written consent of the Company is required prior to such assignment or transfer which consent may be granted or withheld in the sole discretion of the Company. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to such assignee or transferee.

The assignment or transfer of services does not relieve or discharge the assignor or transferor from remaining jointly and severally liable with the assignee or transferee for any obligations existing at the time of the assignment or transfer.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.4 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER** (Cont'd)

3.4.4 The Customer of the Company's 1+, 0+ (sent paid) and/or inbound service is responsible for payment for all calls placed:

- (a) via the Customer's local telephone service number(s);
- (b) via dedicated access lines to the Company facilities and/or network;
- (c) via the Customer's 8xx Service number(s) either intentionally or mistakenly placed;
- (d) originated at the Customer's number(s);
- (e) accepted at the Customer's number(s) (e.g. collect calls); and
- (f) billed to the Customers number via third number billing.

This responsibility is not changed by virtue of any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's service, Customer provided systems, equipment, facilities, services interconnected to the Customer's local telephone service, 0+ (sent paid), dedicated lines or inbound service; which use, misuse or abuse may be occasioned by third parties, including, without limitation, the Customer's employees and members of the public.

3.4.5 The Customer must obtain an adequate number of access lines for service to handle its expected demand in order to prevent interference or impairment of the service or any other service provided by the Company. The Company will have the right to determine such adequacy giving due consideration to (1) the total call volume; (2) average call duration; (3) time-of-day characteristics; and (4) peak calling period.

The Company, without incurring any liability, may disconnect or refuse to furnish Service to any Customer that fails to obtain an adequate number of lines. In the case of disconnections, the Customer will be notified in writing in advance of the termination of service.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.4 **OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER** (Cont'd)

3.4.6 Any mistakes, accidents, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects in transmission or service which are caused or contributed to, directly or indirectly, by an act or omission of the Customer, by others, through the use of Customer-provided facilities or equipment, or through the use of facilities or equipment furnished by any other person using the Customer's facilities shall not result in the imposition of any liability upon the Company. The Customer shall pay to the Company any reasonable costs, expenses, damages, fees or penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including the costs of any local exchange Company labor and materials. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer against any and all claims, demands, causes of action and liability relating to services provide pursuant to this agreement, including payment to the Company associated with reasonable attorney's fees.

3.5 **PAYMENT REGULATIONS**

3.5.1 Service shall be provided and billed for on a monthly basis. Service shall continue to be provided until 30 days after the Company's receipt of a written request from the Customer for the disconnection of service, unless other restrictions apply. Payment is to be made to the address designated on the invoice or such other location as the Company may direct in writing from time to time. In addition to the charges for the Company's services, the Customer shall pay any applicable federal, state or local use, excise, sales or privileges taxes resulting from the services furnished by the Company. Such taxes shall not be counted toward the attainment of any volume or revenue commitment and will not be discounted.

3.5.2 The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service(s) furnished by the Company. This includes payment for calls or services (a) originated at the Customer's number(s) whether authorized or not; (b) accepted at the Customer's number(s) (e.g. 8xx Service and collect calls); (c) billed to the Customer's number via third number billing, a calling card, or other special billing number; and/or (d) incurred at the specific request of the Customer.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.5 **PAYMENT REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.5.3 A Customer is responsible for payment for all calls placed to or via the Customer's telephone number(s). This responsibility is not changed by virtue of any use, misuse, or abuse of the customer's service or Customer provided systems, equipment, facilities or services interconnected to the Customer's 8xx Service, which use, misuse or abuse may be occasioned by third parties, including, without limitation, the Customer's employees and members of the public who dial the customer's 8xx number by mistake.

3.5.4 If notice of a dispute with respect to charge is not received, in writing, within 30 days after an invoice is rendered, such invoice shall be deemed to be correct and binding upon the Customer. In instances of a dispute, the Customer is required to pay the undisputed portion of the bill in its entirety. Accounts not paid within 30 days from the due date stated on the bill will be considered delinquent. Delinquent payments may result in the imposition of a late fee which shall be imposed at the rate of 1.5% of the unpaid balance per month or the maximum allowable rate under applicable state law.

3.5.5 If a Customer accumulates more than \$1,000 of undisputed delinquent charges, the Company's Resp Org reserves the right not to honor that Customer's request for a Resp Org change and the Company reserves the right not to honor that Customer's request for a carrier change until such undisputed charges are paid in full.

3.5.6 The Company may require applicants or Customers to provide information pertaining to their financial ability to pay for service.

3.5.6.1 Applicants or Customers whose credit worthiness is not acceptable to the Company, or is not a matter of general knowledge, may be denied service or may be required to make, at any time, a deposit in an amount equaling up to three months, actual or estimated, charges for the services provided. The Company may increase the amount of any deposit previously required if, in the Company's sole discretion, it is reasonably necessary under the circumstances.

3.5.6.2 In the case of a cash deposit, interest will be paid for the period during which the deposit is held by the Company. If the Company, in its sole discretion, determines that the Customer is not capable of satisfying its payment obligations, services may be canceled by the Company upon written notice.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.5 **PAYMENT REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.5.6.3 At the Company's option, such deposit may be refunded or credited to the Customer at, or any time prior to, termination of service. The Customer may elect to apply the deposit to future invoices or receive a payment of the deposit amount. However, if any balance is outstanding on the Customer's account at the time of cancellation, the Company reserves the right to apply the Customer's deposit and accumulated interest against the Customer's unpaid balance.

3.5.7 In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses, including attorney's fees, court costs, costs of investigation and related expenses in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed to the Company, the Customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred.

3.5.8 In the event that a check or draft tendered by a Customer is returned, a fee will apply. The fee will be assessed when a check or instrument issued by a Customer is returned without payment for any reason whatsoever, unless the return is a bank error, in which case documentary evidence is required to waive the fee.

3.5.9 All stated charges in this tariff are computed by the Company exclusive of any federal, state, or local use, excise, gross receipts, sales, or privilege taxes, duties, fees, or similar liabilities (other than general income or property taxes) whether charged to or against the Company of its Customer. Such taxes, fees, etc. shall be paid by the Customer in addition to the charges stated in this tariff. All such taxes, duties and fees shall each be shown as a separate line item on the Customer's monthly invoice.

3.5.10 In cases involving toll fraud, the Company may backbill for two (2) years from the point when such fraud was detected and/or quantified.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.6 **CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

3.6.1 **Interruption of Service**

3.6.1.1 No credit will be allowed for relinquishing facilities in order to perform routine maintenance.

3.6.1.2 Credit for failure of service or equipment will be allowed only when such failure is caused by or occurs in facilities or equipment provided by the Company. As used in this tariff, all equipment, facilities and/or services for which the Company renders a bill for payment are considered provided by the Company whether or not the equipment, facilities and/or services are owned and operated by the Company unless otherwise provided by the terms of this tariff.

3.6.1.3 No credit will be allowed for failures of service or equipment due to Customer user-provided facilities or any act or omission of the Customer, its authorized user(s), officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, licensees or invitees or any person or entity who gains access to the service at the customer through the negligence of the customer..

3.6.1.4 Credit allowance time for failure of service or equipment starts when the Customer notifies the Company of the failure or when the Company has actual knowledge of the failure, and ceases when the service has been restored and an attempt has been made to notify the Customer.

3.6.1.5 The Customer shall notify the Company of failures of service or equipment and make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the failure is caused by Customer-provided equipment.

3.6.1.6 Only those portions of the service or equipment operation materially interfered with will be credited.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.7 **EQUIPMENT**

3.7.1 **Customer Obligations**

3.7.1.1 The Customer shall assume all responsibility for obtaining all necessary permits, authorization or consents for interconnecting Customer-provided equipment or facilities with the Company's services or facilities as well as ensuring that the Customer-provided equipment or facilities are properly interfaced with the Company's services or equipment.

3.7.1.2 Access to and release of Company provided facilities located on the Customer's premises for testing and repair will be required for failures of equipment or service and/or routine maintenance. The Company will notify the Customer in advance of such necessary access or release and will attempt to schedule the access or release at a mutually convenient time. For charges contemplated in the tariff, such testing and repair and/or routine maintenance will be performed during regular business hours. When, at the specific request of the Customer, such routine maintenance, testing and/or repair is performed outside of regular business hours, additional special service charges may apply.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.7 **EQUIPMENT** (Cont'd)

3.7.1 **Customer Obligations** (Cont'd)

3.7.1.3 The Customer shall operate its equipment and facilities in such a manner that its use of the Company's facilities shall not interfere with any other Customer's use of the Company's services or equipment.

3.7.1.4 The Customer shall provide adequate space, electrical power, wiring, HVAC and electrical outlets necessary for the proper operation of the Company's equipment on the Customer's and/or authorized user's premises.

3.7.1.5 The Customer shall be responsible for all loss regardless of cause (other than directly resulting from an act or omission of the Company) to the Company's equipment on the Customer's or its authorized user's premises.

3.7.1.6 The Customer is responsible for ensuring that, except for Customer authorized and qualified personnel, no one attempts to adjust, modify, move or otherwise interfere in any way with the continuous operation of the Company's equipment located at the Customer's or authorized user premises.

3.7.1.7 The Customer shall comply with the minimum protective criteria generally accepted in the telephone industry and other appropriate criteria as may be prescribed by the Company to protect the integrity of service or for safety reasons.

3.7.1.8 The Customer shall be responsible for the installation, operation or maintenance of any Customer-provided equipment. Where such equipment is connected to service furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of services under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such services in the proper manner. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for the following:

- (a) the through transmission of signals generated by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission;
- (b) the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
- (c) network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer-provided network control signaling equipment.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.7 **EQUIPMENT** (Cont'd)

3.7.2 **Terminal Equipment**

3.7.2.1 The Company's facilities and service may be used with or terminated in Customer-provided terminal equipment or Customer-provided communications systems. Such terminal equipment shall be furnished and maintained at the expense of the customer, except as otherwise provided in this tariff. The Customer is responsible for all costs at his premises, including Customer personnel, wiring, electrical power, and the like, incurred in the use of the Company's service.

3.8 **CANCELLATION OF SERVICE**

3.8.1 For any of the following reasons, the Company may discontinue service upon at least 10 days' notice or cancel an application for all services without incurring any liability. Separate accounts for the same Customer are also subject to this provision.

3.8.1.1 In the event that a Customer's bill remains unpaid after more than thirty days following rendition of the bill.

3.8.1.2 In the event of a violation of any regulation governing the service under this tariff, when necessitated by conditions beyond the Company's control, a violation of any law, rule, or regulation of any government authority having jurisdiction over the service.

3.8.1.3 Where the Company is prohibited from furnishing services by order of a court or other government authority having jurisdiction.

3.8.2 The Company, by written notice to the Customer, may, without incurring any liability, cancel or suspend the provision of service or equipment for non-payment of any sum due to the Company from the Customer, whether pursuant to service offered under this tariff or otherwise, or as a result of actions of a government agency which forces discontinuance of the provision of service or equipment, or for violation or threatened violation of any of the terms or conditions of this tariff by the Customer or authorized user, or if the Customer becomes insolvent or bankrupt, or makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors or as otherwise permitted by this tariff. Cancellation will be effective on the date specified on the notice.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.8 **CANCELLATION OF SERVICE** (Cont'd)

3.8.3 The discontinuance of service by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligations to pay the Company for charges due and owed for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.

3.8.4 The remedies set forth herein shall not be exclusive and the Company shall at all times be entitled to all rights available to it under either law or equity.

3.8.5 Except as otherwise provided in this tariff or as specified in writing by the party entitled to receive service, notices may be given orally or in writing to the person(s) whose name(s) and business address(es) appear on the executed service order.

3.8.6 Where the Company cancels a service and the final service period is less than the monthly billing period, a credit will be issued for any amounts billed in advance, prorated at 1/30th of the monthly recurring charge for each day after the service was discontinued. This credit will be issued to the Customer or applied against the balance remaining on the Customer's account.

3.8.7 For the purpose of billing, service will be deemed to be started on the day the service and its associated equipment, if any, is installed. Where billing is based upon Customer usage, Customers will be billed for all usage commencing on the date usage begins.

3.8.8 Subject to the Company's right to cancel or suspend services as otherwise provided in this tariff, the minimum service period is 30 days. Termination by Customer is effective 30 days after receipt by the company of a written notice of cancellation. Termination by the Company is effective 30 days after delivery of written notice or as otherwise set forth in this tariff or other agreement between the Customer and the Company.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

3. **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS** (Cont'd)

3.9 **DETERMINATION AND RENDERING OF CHARGES**

3.9.4 All monthly recurring charges are billed one month in advance. Initial and final month's billing, when the service period is less than a month, will be prorated at 1/30th of the month's recurring charge for each day the service was rendered or equipment was provided.

3.9.5 Usage charges are billed monthly for the preceding billing period. For periods less than the monthly billing period, minimum usage charges are prorated at 1/30th of the monthly minimum amount for each day the service was rendered.

3.9.6 The duration of a call is rated in intervals of the billing increments described for each service provided in this tariff. If the final interval of a call is less than the applicable billing increment, it will be rounded up to a full increment for purposes of billing.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

4. **SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS**

4.1 **MESSAGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE**

4.1.1 MTS - This service arrangement allows a Customer to originate intrastate calls in areas with Equal Access capabilities served by the Company by presubscribing to the Service.

Calls are billed in six (6) second increments after an initial minimum billable period of one minute.

4.2 **Inbound Services**

4.2.1 The Company's inbound service is a service accessed via 8xx NPA's originating on feature group facilities provided by the Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) and terminating on a regular line. This service enables the Customer to receive 8xx service calls at their residence or place of business.

4.2.2 The Company reserves the right to require an applicant for the Company 8xx Service to supply the following information when requesting service: an initial traffic forecast, identification of anticipated busy hour, identification of its geographical marketing target areas, and a schedule of marketing and promotional activities. The Company may also require that a new traffic forecast be submitted by the Customer quarterly after service is initiated.

4.2.3 The Company's 8xx Service is furnished upon condition that the Customer contracts for adequate facilities to permit the use of this service without injurious effect upon it or any service rendered by the Company. The Company may terminate or refuse to furnish 8xx Service to any applicant, without incurring any liability and without notice to the Customer, if the use of the service would interfere with or impair any service rendered by the Company.

4.2.4 The Customer must obtain an adequate number of access lines for the Company 8xx Services to handle the Customer's expected demand in order to prevent interference or impairment of this service or any other service provided by the Company considering: (1) total call volume; (2) average call duration; (3) time-of-day characteristics; and (4) peak calling period. The Company, without incurring any liability and without notice to the Customer, may disconnect or refuse to furnish the Company 8xx Service to any Customer that fails to comply with these conditions.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

4. **SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS** (Cont'd)

4.3 **OTHER SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS**

Description – The Unlimited Long Distance Plan offers customers unlimited anytime minutes of interstate and/or intrastate direct dialed voice calls for a flat-rated monthly fee. Usage is limited to the continental U.S, Alaska and Hawaii.

The Unlimited Long Distance Plan may not be used in conjunction with the following: auto dialers, long distance Internet access, call center applications including, but not limited to, auto dialers, PBX trunks, ground start line or trunks, ISDN services, foreign exchange services, public telephone services, public access smart-pay phones, analog to digital conversion digital PBX services, WATS services, PBX services, non-square electronic key telephone systems, hybrid key telephone systems, predictive calling/dialing systems, automatic outbound dialing systems, any type of automatic call distribution system, or the functional equivalent of any such system listed above. If the Company determines Customer is in violation of above listed restrictions, the Customer shall forfeit eligibility for rates under this plan, will be retroactively billed for applicable charges and moved to a usage sensitive plan of Customer's choice. The Company reserves the right to waive any of the above restrictions as the Company's discretion.

Usage Charges

Refer to Section 5, Service Charges (5.2).

4.4 **PROMOTIONAL OFFERINGS**

Certain promotional offerings may be provided from time to time via this tariff. These promotional offerings may only apply to certain services, and may be limited to certain dates, times, and locations.

INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

5. SERVICE CHARGES

5.1 MESSAGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

5.1.1 Basic MTS - Residential

5.1.1.1 Usage Charges – InterLATA/IntraLATA

a. Per Minute Rate \$0.08

5.1.2 Basic MTS - Business

5.1.2.1 Usage Charges – InterLATA/IntraLATA

a. Per Minute Rate \$0.05

5.2 OTHER SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

5.2.1 UNLIMITED LONG DISTANCE

5.2.1.1 Usage Charges

Residential

a. Unlimited Long Distance Monthly Plan Fee:
\$9.95 per month

Business

a. Unlimited Long Distance Monthly Plan Fee:
\$19.95 per month