

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE****A. General**

MegaLink Digital Service is a service which supports synchronous, full-duplex transmission at bit rates of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2, 56, and 64 kilobits per second (kbps). This service is offered between specified locations on an intraLATA basis, when suitable facilities are available.

**B. Regulations**

The regulations and rates specified herein are in addition to the applicable regulations found in other sections of this Guidebook.

**1. Availability of Service**

MegaLink Digital Service can only be provided where digital facilities exist. Serving offices where MegaLink Digital Service is available are determined by the Company.

**2. Provision of Service**

- a. The minimum period for which MegaLink Digital Service is provided and for which rates and charges are applicable is one month, unless a different minimum period is established with Special Construction as provided in Part 15, Section 1. When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the remaining portion of the minimum period, whether the service is used or not, and will be based on the rates in effect for the service at the time of discontinuance.
- b. MegaLink Digital Service is furnished on a full-time basis (24 hours a day, seven days per week).
- c. Customer requests for special routing of MegaLink Digital Service channels are provided in accordance with Part 15, Section 1.
- d. In the event suitable facilities are not available, or modifications to existing facilities are required, special construction charges will be applicable as provided in Part 15, Section 1. Service availability will be negotiated locally.
- e. The Company has the service responsibility up to the demarcation point. The demarcation point will be provided by the Company as set forth in Technical Reference - PUB 62310. Section 10 of this technical reference publication describes the four-wire physical interface specifications.
- f. The customer shall be responsible for ordering MegaLink Digital Service and specifying the transmission speed required for operation with terminal equipment or communications systems provided by the customer.

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****B. Regulations (cont'd)**

## 2. Provision of Service (cont'd)

- g. This service is guaranteed to provide a performance level of at least 99.875% error-free seconds up to the demarcation point of the channel for operation at all transmission speeds. When MegaLink Digital Service is operating at an error performance level that is unsatisfactory to the customer, and the Company determines that the error performance level is below that specified above, the period of substandard performance will be considered as an interruption, and a credit allowance will be made as provided in 3. following. The credit allowance shall begin from the time of notice by the customer to the Company that an unsatisfactory performance level has occurred, provided that the customer promptly releases the service as requested by the Company to perform testing and maintenance.
- h. Digital equipment provided by the customer is subject to the regulations set forth in paragraph F. in Part 15, Section 1.
- i. MegaLink Digital Service may be used as a derived channel of a MegaLink 1.5 Service through the use of the central office multiplexing additional service feature found in MegaLink 1.5 High Capacity Service described later in this Section. It is the customer's responsibility to determine channel assignments for the derived channels of the MegaLink 1.5 Service. Additional interoffice channel mileage may be required in order to route MegaLink service to a central office multiplexing hub location for termination in the central office multiplexing arrangement.
- j. MegaLink Digital Service may be terminated in a channel port of a Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup> described later in this Section. Additional interoffice channel mileage may be required to route the MegaLink service to an NRS hub location. (C)

## 3. Availability and Allowance for Interruptions

Availability is a measure of the relative amount of time that a service is usable to the customer. MegaLink Digital Service is considered unavailable when 10 consecutive severely errored seconds (SESSs) are received. The service becomes available again when no SESSs are received for 10 consecutive seconds. The objective for MegaLink service is 99.96% availability when averaged over 12 months. The Company, in order to ensure the highest performance standards and service availability to the customer, offers the following service guarantee.

*Service Guarantee*

If a MegaLink service fails due to Company-provided equipment or facilities and the service is not restored to the customer within 24 hours of the outage report, and the service is made available to the Company by the customer during those 24 hours, the customer will be credited for 1/39th of the monthly rate for the service on the following month's bill.

This guarantee is subject to the following conditions:

- The credit will be applied on a per circuit, per occurrence basis and will only be applied once during a 24-hour period. Credits are not accumulative.

/2/

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15. (N)

/2/ Material now appears on Sheet 3. (N)

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****B. Regulations (cont'd)**

## 3. Availability and Allowance for Interruptions (cont'd)

*Service Guarantee (cont'd)*

This guarantee is subject to the following conditions: (cont'd)

- The trouble cause must be isolated to Company-provided equipment. Trouble determined to be caused by customer-provided equipment or trouble that clears without a positive determination as to cause, will not qualify for the service credit. /1/
- The outage must be reported by the customer. Company-initiated reports will not qualify for the service credit.
- There may be occasions when the service does not meet the required operating parameters, but due to business conditions, the customer is unable to release the circuit for immediate testing. The 24 hour clock does not begin until the service is made available to the Company for repair.
- The service guarantee applies to recurring rates and charges for MegaLink local distribution channels and interoffice channel mileage.
- On MegaLink service used with NRS, the service credit applies only to the MegaLink portion of the service, and will not apply to NRS.

MegaLink Digital Service channels provide the transmission paths for digital data signals between two or more customer premises within a LATA.

**C. Rate Element Description**

## 1. Access Channels to a Digital Serving Office

Local Distribution Channel

A two-point transmission path between a customer's premises and the Company serving office, digital hub or NRS hub. Local distribution channels suitable for synchronous data rates of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2, 56 and 64 kbps, respectively, are provided.

Interoffice Channel

A two-point transmission path between serving office, between a serving office and digital hub or NRS hub, between digital hubs, or between a digital hub and an NRS hub. Charges are based on the vertical and horizontal (V-H) distance between the digital serving office or NRS hub and the serving office of the customer. A fixed charge and rate per mile for the requested transmission speed will apply for each interoffice channel. V-H coordinates for digital serving offices, serving offices, and NRS hubs may be found in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) Wire Center Information Tariff.

## 2. Nonrecurring Charge

A service charge applies per point of termination installed or moved as provided in 'Rates and Charges' following.

/1/ Material formerly appeared on Sheet 2.

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)**

**C. Rate Element Description (cont'd)**

3. Multi-Station Arrangement

A multi-station arrangement is required to provide for MegaLink Digital Service between three or more digital stations on the same and/or difference premises located within a LATA.

This offering may consist of standard digital service for intraLATA service between three or more stations at speeds of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2 and 56 kbps. Multi-station arrangements will be provided at a digital hub.

The number of two-point channels that may be specified for a given service may be limited by operating and transmission factors.

The rate for multi-station arrangement is set forth in 'Rates and Charges' following.

4. Secondary Channel Capability

This arrangement provides for a secondary channel which operates at a speed equivalent to one-third of the primary channel speed. This secondary channel operates independently from, but over the same physical facility as the primary channel, and is normally used by the customer for performing network management operations such as on-line diagnostics, data monitoring, traffic measurements and network configuration management.

Secondary channel capability is available on point-to-point or multi-point services which use non-repeated local distribution channels. Secondary channel capability can only be provided at digital serving offices for MegaLink services. Secondary channel capability is not available with 64 kbps service.

The rate for secondary channel capability is set forth in 'Rates and Charges' following.

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges**

## 1. Access Channels to a Digital Serving Office

Local Distribution Channel<sup>/1/</sup>

- Per local distribution channel

For Transmission <u>Speed of:</u>	<u>USOC</u>	Monthly <u>Rate</u>	Nonrecurring <u>Charge</u>
2.4 kbps .....	SYN24	\$1,237.00 (I)	\$500.00
4.8 kbps .....	SYN48	1,237.00	500.00
9.6 kbps .....	SYN96	1,237.00	500.00
19.2 kbps .....	SYN19	1,780.00	500.00
56 kbps .....	SYN56	1,780.00	500.00
64 kbps .....	SYN64	1,780.00 (I)	500.00

Interoffice Channel

- Per V-H mile between the digital serving office or Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/2/</sup> hub and the serving office for the mileage portion plus the fixed charge

For Transmission <u>Speed of:</u>	<u>USOC</u>	Monthly <u>Fixed Charge</u>	<u>Rate Per Mile</u>	
2.4 kbps .....	1LNQQ	\$612.00	\$15.00	(I)
4.8 kbps .....	1LNRQ	612.00	15.00	
9.6 kbps .....	1LNSQ	612.00	15.00	
19.2 kbps .....	1LNJQ	612.00	15.00	
56 kbps .....	1LNTQ	612.00	15.00	
64 kbps .....	1LN8Q	612.00	15.00	(I)

## 2. Multi-Station Arrangement

When a MegaLink circuit is arranged for multi-station operation for transmission speeds of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2 and 56 kbps, the following charge applies per channel connected at a digital serving office in addition to other charges in this guidebook.

<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>
..... 6BN	\$18.00

Multi-Station Arrangement is described in 'Rate Element Description' preceding.

/1/ When service connects to a channel of an Access Advantage Plus, a Local Distribution Channel charge will not apply for that location. All other appropriate circuit charges specified in this guidebook will apply to the remainder of the circuit.

/2/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15.

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)****3. Secondary Channel Capability**

When a MegaLink circuit is arranged for secondary channel capability, the following charge applies per local distribution channel connected on the circuit. This charge is in addition to other charges in this guidebook.

For Transmission <u>Speed of:</u>	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>
All speeds .....	SCA	\$9.89	\$112.00

Secondary channel capability is described in 'Rate Element Description' preceding.

**4. Term Pricing Plan<sup>/1/</sup>**

- a. The Term Pricing Plan (TPP) provides the customer with rate stabilization and discounted rates. The TPP provides for two, three or five year rate stabilization. Decreases in monthly recurring rates will be passed on to customers who participate in a TPP. The Company will notify customers participating in a TPP when monthly rates are decreased.

The monthly rates in the TPP will not be subject to rate increases for the duration of the TPP period.

- b. The customer may choose to terminate an existing TPP before the end of the two, three or five year period and negotiate a new two, three or five year TPP provided the new TPP meets the following requirements:
1. The new TPP must be based upon the rates that are currently in effect and available to all customers.
  2. If moving down in bandwidth (e.g., 56 kbps to 9.6 kbps), the new TPP contract period must exceed the remaining time period on the customer's existing contract. Termination charges do not apply.
  3. If moving up in bandwidth (e.g., 4.8 kbps to 56 kbps), the new TPP contract period must meet or exceed the remaining time period on the customer's existing contract. Termination charges do not apply.
  4. If moving to another Company service of equal or higher bandwidth (e.g., 56 kbps to 1.544 mbps) at the same location, the new TPP contract period must meet or exceed the remaining time period on the customer's existing contract. Termination charges do not apply.

/1/ Effective December 1, 2006, Term Pricing Plans for MegaLink Digital Service are grandfathered. Existing customers may remain on their current plan until the existing two-, three-, or five-year term expires. Upon expiration, customers will be charged the monthly rates found in the guidebook.

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**4. Term Pricing Plan<sup>/1/</sup> (cont'd)

- c. A TPP may be renewed one time at the same rate when the renewal period is at least as long as the original term.

The customer must provide the Company with a written notice of intent to renew a TPP no later than 90 days prior to its expiration. If the customer elects not to renew the TPP, or does not notify the Company of the customer's intent to renew the TPP, the customer's service will automatically be billed under the monthly rates in effect at the time the TPP expires.

- d. Any special construction charges incurred for services billed under a TPP will be applicable as provided for in Part 15, Section 1.
- e. If the customer terminates the Term Pricing Plan agreement prior to the expiration of the two, three, or five year TPP, the customer shall pay a termination charge. Payment of the termination charge does not release the customer from other previous amounts owed to the Company.

The termination charge for all service terms will be calculated as follows:

For service terms that become effective on or after October 1, 2004:

- All unpaid Special Construction or Nonrecurring Charges (excluding any waived charges); plus
- Fifty percent (50%) of all recurring charges for the remaining months of the customer's term.

For service terms in effect prior to October 1, 2004:

- Customers requesting the termination of a TPP prior to the expiration date, excluding TPPs terminated as a result of a re-negotiation, will be charged a termination charge based on a percentage of the term as indicated below:

<u>Term Pricing Plan</u>	<u>Termination Percentage</u>
2 years	50% for first year, 25% for each subsequent year
3 years	50% for first year, 25% for each subsequent year
5 years	50% for first year, 25% for each subsequent year

The termination charge is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{Billed} & & \text{Months} & & \text{Termination} \\ \text{Monthly Rate} & \times & \text{Remaining in TPP} & \times & \text{Percentage} \\ & & & & = \text{Termination Charge} \end{array}$$

- Customers requesting the termination of a renewed TPP prior to the expiration date will pay the subsequent year termination percentage for the applicable plan.

/1/ Effective December 1, 2006, Term Pricing Plans for MegaLink Digital Service are grandfathered. Existing customers may remain on their current plan until the existing two-, three-, or five-year term expires. Upon expiration, customers will be charged the monthly rates found in the guidebook.

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**4. Term Pricing Plan<sup>/1/</sup> (cont'd)

- f. Customers currently subscribing to MegaLink service on a month-to-month basis may convert their existing service to a two-, three-, or five-year TPP. Nonrecurring charges will be waived at the time of conversion.

- g. Local Distribution Channel  
- Per local distribution channel

For Transmission Speed of:	<u>2 Years</u>	Monthly Rate <u>3 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>	Nonrecurring Charge
2.4 kbps .....	\$106.00	\$82.25	\$74.75	\$350.00
4.8 kbps .....	106.00	82.25	74.75	350.00
9.6 kbps .....	106.00	82.25	74.75	350.00
19.2 kbps .....	106.00	82.25	74.75	350.00
56 kbps .....	106.00	82.25	74.75	350.00
64 kbps .....	106.00	82.25	74.75	350.00

- h. Interoffice Channel  
- Per V-H mile between the digital serving office or Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/2/</sup> (C) hub and the serving office for the mileage portion plus the fixed charge

For transmission speeds of 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2, 56 and 64 kbps:

	Monthly Rates	
	<u>Fixed Charge</u>	<u>Rate Per Mile</u>
2 Years .....	\$35.00	\$1.57
3 Years .....	23.00	1.20
5 Years .....	20.00	0.98

- i. Multi-Station Arrangement

Multi-Station service is described in 'Rate Element Description' preceding.

	<u>2 Years</u>	Monthly Rate <u>3 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>
.....	\$14.00	\$12.00	\$10.00

/1/ Effective December 1, 2006, Term Pricing Plans for MegaLink Digital Service are grandfathered. Existing customers may remain on their current plan until the existing two-, three-, or five-year term expires. Upon expiration, customers will be charged the monthly rates found in the guidebook.

/2/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15.

(N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK® DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**4. Term Pricing Plan<sup>/1/</sup> (cont'd)

## j. Secondary Channel Capability

Secondary Channel Capability is described in 'Rate Element Description' preceding.

	Monthly Rates		
	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>3 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>
.....	\$7.50	\$7.00	\$6.00

## k. Volume Pricing Plan

- When a customer subscribes to twenty or more MegaLink Local Distribution Channels from a single Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/2/</sup> hub location, NRS channel port monthly rates will not apply. (C)
- When a customer subscribes to thirty (30) or more MegaLink Local Distribution Channels from a single location under a three-year or a five-year TPP, an additional discount will be applied to the monthly rate for the Interoffice Channel Mileage - Fixed rate element. The discount will be 25% for a three-year TPP and 30% for a five-year TPP.

The discounted rates are shown following:

Interoffice Channel <u>Mileage</u>	Monthly Rates <u>Fixed</u>
3 Years	\$17.25
5 Years	14.00

/1/ Effective December 1, 2006, Term Pricing Plans for MegaLink Digital Service are grandfathered. Existing customers may remain on their current plan until the existing two-, three-, or five-year term expires. Upon expiration, customers will be charged the monthly rates found in the guidebook.

/2/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15.

(N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE****A. General**

MegaLink 1.5 High Capacity Digital Service, hereinafter referred to as MegaLink 1.5 service, is an intraLATA dedicated high capacity channel used for simultaneous two-way transmission of serial, bipolar, return-to-zero isochronous digital signals at a transmission speed of 1.544 megabits per second (mbps). The channel design, performance and maintenance objectives are specified in the Company's Technical Publication TP-76625.

**B. Regulations**

1. The regulations and rates specified herein are in addition to the applicable regulations found in other sections of this guidebook.

The services provided for MegaLink 1.5 are primarily designed to meet the private line communications requirements of business customers, i.e., non-interexchange carriers, and the regulations herein reflect reasonable support on the part of the Company in assisting the customer in the ordering and provisioning of private line services. This assistance includes, but is not limited to, advice as to which private line service best meets the customer's requirements, taking into consideration the customer's present and future communications needs. In addition, the Company will continue to assist and advise the customer and cooperatively respond to the requirements of the customer until such time as the private line service is discontinued. The aforementioned level of assistance is considered to be part of the private line service offering and will be provided at no additional charge.

2. Provision of Service

MegaLink 1.5 service is available only on a point-to-point intraLATA basis.

MegaLink 1.5 service is furnished on a full-time basis (24 hours a day, seven days a week).

MegaLink 1.5 service can only be provided within the same LATA where existing digital facilities and equipment permit. Services between serving wire centers must have digital service components (digital connectivity) between all intermediate offices to have the ability to provide the service. Additional service features may be available only at selected central offices as determined by the Company.

Customer requests for MegaLink 1.5 service may require construction of suitable service components. The regulations, rates and charges applicable to special construction are found in Part 15, Section 1. Service availability will be negotiated locally.

Customer requests for special routing of MegaLink 1.5 service channels are provided in accordance with Part 15, Section 1.

The Company has the service responsibility up to the demarcation point. The demarcation point will be provided by the Company as set forth in Bellcore Technical Advisory TA-TSY-000342. This publication provides transmission parameter limits and interface combinations for high capacity special access services (e.g., DS1), and may be obtained from:

Bell Communications Research  
Information Operation Center  
60 New England Avenue  
Piscataway, N.J. 08854-4196

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****B. Regulations (cont'd)**

## 2. Provision of Service (cont'd)

The placement of the demarcation point shall be located in a manner consistent with federal and state regulatory requirements. This location will be at each customer's premises, unless specified otherwise by the customer or building/landowner and agreed to by the Company.

Digital equipment provided by the customer is subject to the regulations set forth in paragraph F. in Part 15, Section 1.

MegaLink 1.5 may be terminated in a DS1 port of a Company-provided Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup> arrangement at a designated hub location. Additional interoffice channel mileage (C) may be incurred to route the MegaLink 1.5 service to the hub location. The DS1 port on the NRS arrangement will be considered as a service point on the circuit. Refer to Network Reconfiguration Service described later in this Section for additional regulations concerning NRS.

## 3. Allowance for Interruptions

## a. MegaLink 1.5 Not Equipped with SecureNet®

1. Credit allowances are determined in accordance with the regulations set forth in paragraph D.8. in Part 15, Section 1.
2. MegaLink 1.5 service is considered interrupted when the customer reports that service continuity has been lost or that the service is operating at a performance level of 300 or more seconds of transmission containing errors in a consecutive 15-minute period.

## b. MegaLink 1.5 Equipped with SecureNet®

1. MegaLink 1.5 service equipped with SecureNet shall be allowed a credit for a single service interruption greater than 2.0 seconds. In no case shall the total amount of credit in a one month bill period exceed 100 percent of the monthly charge for that particular rate element.
2. To receive a credit for a service interruption after 2.0 seconds, the interruption must occur in that part of the MegaLink 1.5 service equipped with SecureNet (e.g., a loop failure on a MegaLink 1.5 service would receive credit after a 2.0 second interruption; an interoffice facility failure on the same service would be credited after four hours).
3. For a MegaLink 1.5 service equipped with SecureNet, the credit for a single service interruption greater than 2.0 seconds will be 50% of the recurring monthly rate for the applicable rate elements (e.g., Local Distribution Channel; Interoffice Channel Mileage, both fixed and per mile; and Multiplexing).

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15.

(N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****C. Rate Element Description**

## 1. General

There are four basic rate elements which may apply to MegaLink 1.5 service:

- Local distribution channel
- Interoffice channel mileage
- Additional service features
- Nonrecurring charge

## 2. Local Distribution Channel

The local distribution channel is the channel between a customer's premises and the Company-serving wire center that normally provides service to that customer's premises.

## 3. Interoffice Channel Mileage

Interoffice channel mileage is defined as the component of the service between two Company serving wire centers, between a serving wire center and a Company-designated digital hub, or between digital Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup> hubs. The serving wire centers may be located in the same exchange area, as in a multi-office metropolitan exchange, or may be located in different exchange areas. (C)

Interoffice channel mileage charges include a fixed charge, and a per mile charge which is based on the vertical and horizontal (V-H) distance between serving wire centers, a serving wire center and a digital hub, between digital NRS hubs, or between exchanges, measured in whole miles. Fractional miles are rounded to the next whole mile. V-H coordinates for serving wire centers and designated digital and NRS hubs can be found in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) Wire Center Information Tariff.

## 4. Additional Service Features

## a. Central Office Multiplexing

Central office multiplexing is an arrangement which converts a 1.544 Mbps channel to multiple channels suitable for use with voice grade or subrate digital services. Central office multiplexing is available only in certain Company-designated multiplexing hub locations. Refer to the NECA Wire Center Information Tariff for locations. Special routing may be required in order to provide this service. There are three levels of central office multiplexing available:

1.544 Mbps (DS1) to Voice

This arrangement provides for 24 channels for use with voice or voice grade data services. Derived channels of the 1.544 Mbps channel to the hub may also be used for MegaLink Digital Service. Voice grade services may not include services which terminate directly into the public switched network.

1.544 Mbps (DS1) to 64 Kbps (DS0)

An arrangement that converts a 1.544 Mbps channel to twenty-three (23) 64 Kbps channels using digital time division multiplexing.

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15. (N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****C. Rate Element Description (cont'd)**

## 4. Additional Service Features (cont'd)

## a. Central Office Multiplexing (cont'd)

64.0 kbps (DSO) to Subrate

An arrangement that converts a 64 kbps channel to subspeeds of up to twenty 2.4 kbps, ten 4.8 kbps or five 9.6 kbps channels using digital time division multiplexing. This feature is available only in conjunction with 1.544 mbps (DS1) to 64 kbps (DSO) multiplexing as part of a cascading multiplex arrangement in the same multiplexing hub location.

## b. Clear Channel Capability (CCC)

Clear channel capability (CCC) is a feature that provides the customer with an increase in usable bandwidth from 1.344 mbps to 1.536 mbps of an unconstrained data stream across the network. CCC is provided on 1.544 mbps service and provisioning of CCC in our network requires the customer signal at the channel interface to conform to bipolar with eight zero substitution (B8ZS) line code format as described in Bellcore Technical Advisory TA-TSY-000342. Customer equipment must be compatible with this method of providing the unconstrained signal. Provision of this feature may require special routing of the interoffice channel mileage.

## c. Extended Superframe Format (ESF)

Extended superframe format (ESF) is a non-chargeable option that passes a customer-provided framing format for 1.544 mbps service. EST extends the customer's 1.544 mbps framing structure from 12 to 24 frames and divides the 8 kbps 193rd bit position pattern into three distinct functions: 2 kbps for frame synchronization, 2 kbps for cyclic redundancy checking, and 4 kbps for performance monitoring.

## d. SecureNet®

As an inherent feature of MegaLink 1.5 service, SecureNet provides automatic restoration capabilities which prevent service interruption in the event of a single facility break or a single loop electronics failure. This feature is called SecureNet. SecureNet is available with point-to-point MegaLink 1.5 service only where fiber optic facilities are used to provide the MegaLink 1.5 service.

The automatic restoration capabilities are provided through the use of intelligent components which are capable of sensing transmission failure in the fiber facilities. The primary and secondary transmission paths are separately routed in geographically and physically separate fiber optic cables up to the point nearest the customer's premises that route redundancy can be achieved. In the event of a transmission failure caused by a single facility break or a single loop electronics failure, the intelligent components will automatically switch the MegaLink 1.5 service to the secondary transmission path within 2.0 seconds.

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****C. Rate Element Description (cont'd)**

## 4. Additional Service Features (cont'd)

## d. SecureNet® (cont'd)

The secondary transmission path for MegaLink 1.5 service equipped with SecureNet will be routed in a geographically separate fiber optic cable up to the nearest point to the customer's premises that route redundancy can be achieved. In the event a facility break occurs in that portion of the MegaLink 1.5 service for which route redundancy could not be achieved (e.g., interoffice channel mileage), the Company cannot guarantee automatic restoration of the customer's service within 2.0 seconds, and a credit as set forth in B.3.b. preceding will not apply. In this case, the normal allowance for service interruptions applies as outlined in B.3.a. preceding.

SecureNet is available at those serving wire centers where equipment and facilities are available. Special construction charges may apply when fiber optic facilities are not available or unusual expenditures are involved in making them available to provide this feature.

The SecureNet feature provided is loop protection. This feature provides automatic restoration of the MegaLink 1.5 service local distribution channel and physical route redundancy from the customer's premises to the customer's serving wire center in the event of a single loop failure.

## e. Rollover

A Rollover is a customer-initiated move that involves a change of a point of termination from an existing service to another existing service within the same customer premises. The Rollover must occur within the same Company location.

Rollovers may be performed at the following service levels:

- Analog Private Line and MegaLink Digital services to MegaLink 1.5 service
- MegaLink 1.5 service to MegaLink 1.5 service

## 5. Nonrecurring Charge

A nonrecurring charge applies per point of termination installed or moved as provided in 'Rates and Charges' following.

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges**

## 1. Local Distribution Channel

- Per local distribution channel

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>
- Per local distribution channel .....	1LDPJ	\$786.00 (I)	\$900.00

## 2. Interoffice Channel

- Per V-H mile or fraction thereof, between serving wire centers, or between a serving wire center and digital hub

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Fixed Charge</u>	<u>Rate Per Mile</u>	
.....	3LBND	\$480.00	\$78.00	(I)

## 3. Additional Service Features

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>
Clear Channel Capability			
- Per local distribution channel .....	CLR	\$0.00	\$185.00 <sup>/1/</sup>
Extended Superframe Format			
- Per local distribution channel .....	SF1	0.00	0.00
SecureNet®			
- Per local distribution channel .....	P7T	0.00	0.00
Central Office Multiplexing			
1.544 Mbps (DS1) to Voice			
- Per arrangement .....	MQ1	440.00	0.00
1.544 Mbps (DS1) to 64 kbps (DS0)			
- Per arrangement .....	QMU	1,320.00 (I)	0.00
64 kbps (DS0) to Subrate <sup>/2/</sup>			
- Per arrangement .....			
Up to twenty 2.4 kbps services .....	QSU24	190.00	0.00
Up to ten 4.8 kbps services .....	QSU48	190.00	0.00
Up to five 9.6 kbps services .....	QSU96	440.00	0.00

/1/ Nonrecurring charge applies only to subsequent installation of this feature. No charge applies if installed at the time the local distribution channel is originally installed.

/2/ This additional service feature also requires the purchase of DS1 to DSO multiplexing as described above.

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 4. Rollover

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>	
		<u>First Circuit</u>	<u>Additional Circuit</u>
- Analog Private Line and MegaLink Digital service to MegaLink 1.5, per service, per order.....	NR9QA	\$250.00	\$175.00
- MegaLink 1.5 to MegaLink 1.5 service, per service, per order .....	NR9QB	300.00	225.00

## 5. Term Pricing Plan

- a. The Term Pricing Plan (TPP) provides the customer with rate stabilization and discounted rates. The TPP provides for one, two<sup>/2/</sup>, three<sup>/2/</sup> or five<sup>/1/</sup> year rate stabilization. Decreases in monthly recurring rates will be passed on to customers who participate in a TPP. The Company will notify customers participating in a TPP when monthly rates are decreased. (C)

Should the Company increase its rates during the Term Pricing Plan period, the customer would continue to pay the rates in effect at the time the customer elected to establish service under the TPP.

For customers choosing a two year or greater commitment, the nonrecurring charge will be waived. However, customers terminating service prior to the completion of their term commitment will become liable for the full payment of nonrecurring charges.

- b. The customer may choose to terminate an existing TPP before the end of the one, two<sup>/2/</sup>, three<sup>/2/</sup> or five<sup>/1/</sup> year period and negotiate a new TPP. The new TPP must be based upon the rates that are currently in effect and available to all customers. (C)  
(C)

If during the duration of the TPP, the customer wishes to rearrange or move a Local Distribution Channel location, no termination charge will apply. However, the nonrecurring charge that is currently in effect for month-to-month service will apply.

- c. The customer must provide the Company with a written notice of intent to renew a TPP no later than 90 days prior to its expiration. A TPP may not be renewed beyond the one, two<sup>/2/</sup>, three<sup>/2/</sup> or five<sup>/1/</sup> year commitment at the same rate. If the customer elects not to renew the TPP, or does not notify the Company of the customer's intent to renew the TPP, the service will automatically be billed under the monthly rates in effect at the time the TPP expires. (C)  
(C)
- d. Any special construction charges incurred for services billed under a TPP will be applicable as provided for in Part 15, Section 1.

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers. (N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 5. Term Pricing Plan (cont'd)

- e. If the customer terminates the Term Pricing Plan agreement prior to the expiration of the one, two<sup>/2/</sup>, three<sup>/2/</sup> or five<sup>/1/</sup> year TPP, the customer shall pay a termination charge. Payment of the termination charge does not release the customer from other previous amounts owed to the Company. (C)

The termination charge for all service terms will be calculated as follows:

For service terms that become effective on or after October 1, 2004:

- All unpaid Special Construction or Nonrecurring Charges (excluding any waived charges); plus
- Fifty percent (50%) of all recurring charges for the remaining months of the customer's term.

For service terms in effect prior to October 1, 2004:

- Customers requesting the termination of a TPP prior to the expiration date, excluding TPPs terminated as a result of a re-negotiation, will be charged a termination charge based on a percentage of the remainder of the term as indicated below:

<u>Term Pricing Plan</u>	<u>Termination Percentage</u>	
1 year	50% for first year	
2 years <sup>/2/</sup>	50% for first year, 25% for each subsequent year, plus Nonrecurring Charges	(C)
3 years <sup>/2/</sup>	50% for first year, 25% for each subsequent year, plus Nonrecurring Charges	(C)
5 years <sup>/1/</sup>	50% for first year, 25% for each subsequent year, plus Nonrecurring Charges	

The termination charge is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Billed Monthly Rate} \times \text{Months Remaining in TPP} \times \text{Termination Percentage} = \text{Termination Charge}$$

Customers requesting the termination of a renewed TPP prior to the expiration date will pay the subsequent year termination percentage for the applicable TPP.

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers. (N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 5. Term Pricing Plan (cont'd)

- f. Customers currently subscribing to MegaLink 1.5 Service on a month-to-month basis may convert their existing service to a one-year or greater TPP. Nonrecurring charges will be waived at the time of conversion.

Customers may upgrade their service to a greater bandwidth (e.g., MegaLink 1.5 to MegaLink 45) without incurring a termination charge provided that the new TPP is of equal or greater duration. The nonrecurring charge associated with new service will apply.

## g. TPP Rates

## 1. Local Distribution Channel

- Per local distribution channel

<u>TPP</u>	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rates</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u> <sup>/1/</sup>	
1 Year	1LDPJ	\$235.00	\$900.00	
2 Years <sup>/3/</sup>	1LDPJ	188.00	668.00	(C)
3 Years <sup>/3/</sup>	1LDPJ	150.00	204.00	
5 Years <sup>/2/</sup>	1LDPJ	110.00	204.00	(C)

## 2. Interoffice Channel Mileage

- Rate per V-H mile or fraction thereof, between serving wire centers, or between a serving wire center and digital hub

<u>TPP</u>	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Mileage Band</u>	<u>Monthly Rates</u>		
			<u>Fixed</u>	<u>Per Mile</u>	
1 Year	3LBNA	0	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
	3LBNA	Over 0	145.00	26.00	
2 Years <sup>/3/</sup>	3LBNA	0	0.00	0.00	(C)
	3LBNA	Over 0	110.00	24.00	
3 Years <sup>/3/</sup>	3LBNA	0	0.00	0.00	(C)
	3LBNA	Over 0	88.00	19.00	
5 Years <sup>/2/</sup>	3LBNA	0	0.00	0.00	(C)
	3LBNA	Over 0	55.00	15.00	

/4/

/1/ For customers choosing a two year or greater commitment, the Nonrecurring Charge will be waived. However, customers terminating service prior to the completion of their term commitment will become liable for the full payment of Nonrecurring Charges.

/2/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers. (C)

/3/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers. (N)  
(N)

/4/ Material now appears on Sheet 18.1.

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)**

**D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

5. Term Pricing Plan (cont'd)

g. TPP Rates (cont'd)

3. Clear Channel Capability  
- Per local distribution channel

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u> <sup>/1/</sup>	
..... CLR		\$0.00	\$185.00	/2/ (C)

/1/ Nonrecurring Charge applies only to subsequent installations of this feature. No charge applies if installed at the same time as the Local Distribution Channel.

/2/ Material formerly appeared on Sheet 18.

/2/ (C)  
/2/

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 5. Term Pricing Plan (cont'd)

## g. TPP Rates (cont'd)

## 4. Central Office Multiplexing

## - Per local distribution channel

	Monthly Rates				(C)
	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>2 Years</u> <sup>/2/</sup>	<u>3 Years</u> <sup>/2/</sup>	<u>5 Years</u> <sup>/1/</sup>	
1.544 Mbps (DS1) to Voice					
- Per arrangement	\$410.00	\$390.00	\$380.00	\$370.00	
1.544 Mbps (DS1) to 64 kbps (DS0)					
- Per arrangement	410.00	390.00	380.00	370.00	
64 kbps (DS0) to Subrate					
- Per arrangement					
Up to twenty 2.4 kbps services	190.00	190.00	190.00	190.00	
Up to ten 4.8 kbps services	190.00	190.00	190.00	190.00	
Up to five 9.6 kbps services	190.00	190.00	190.00	190.00	

/3/

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/3/ Material now appears on Sheet 19.1

/3/  
(N)  
(N)

**MEGALINK 1.5 HIGH CAPACITY DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 5. Term Pricing Plan (cont'd)

## g. TPP Rates (cont'd)

## 5. Volume Pricing Plan

- When a customer subscribes to five or more MegaLink 1.5 Local Distribution Channels at a single location under a three-year TPP, the customer may receive SecureNet® upon request.
- When a customer subscribes to ten or more MegaLink 1.5 Local Distribution Channels at a single location under any TPP, the customer may receive SecureNet upon request.
- When a customer subscribes to twenty or more MegaLink 1.5 Local Distribution Channels within a single LATA under any TPP, and the customer elects to purchase Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup>, DS1 port monthly rates will not apply for Local Distribution Channels exceeding nineteen.
- When a customer subscribes to twenty-five to forty-nine (25-49) MegaLink 1.5 Local Distribution Channels within the state under a three-year TPP, an additional discount of 5% will be applied to the monthly rates for the Local Distribution Channel and Interoffice Channel Mileage rate elements.
- When a customer subscribes to fifty or more (50+) MegaLink 1.5 Local Distribution Channels within the state under a three-year TPP, an additional discount of 10% will be applied to the monthly rates for the Local Distribution Channel and Interoffice Channel Mileage rate elements.

The discounted rates are shown following:

		<u>USOC</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	
Local Distribution Channel	(25-49)	1LDPJ	\$114.00	
	(50+)		108.00	
		<u>USOC</u>	<u>Fixed</u>	<u>Per Mile</u>
Interoffice Channel Mileage	(25-49)	3LBND	\$76.00	\$16.15
	(50+)		72.00	15.30

/2/

(C)

/2/

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15.

/2/ Material formerly appeared on Sheet 19.

/2/ (C)  
/2/

**DS3 SERVICE****A. General**

DS3 Service, hereinafter referred to as DS3 service, is an intraLATA dedicated high capacity channel that provides for the simultaneous two-way transmission of serial, bipolar, return-to-zero isochronous digital signals at a transmission speed of 44.736 Mbps. The interface to the customer will be an electrical signal. The channel design, performance and maintenance objectives are specified in Technical Reference Publications TR-INS-000342 and TP-76625.

DS3 service is available within those Local Access and Transport Areas (LATAs) served by and within the service territories of the Company.

The service is available in a point-to-point configuration between:

- Two customer-designated premises
- A customer-designated premises and a Company central office where multiplexing, hubbing or cross-connection functions are performed
- A customer-designated premises and a Company Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup> (C)  
system location

**B. Regulations**

1. The regulations and rates specified herein are in addition to the applicable regulations found in other sections of this guidebook.
2. DS3 service is only available under a Term Pricing Plan (TPP) with a 12-month minimum service period for which rates and charges are applicable. When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, termination charges are applicable for the remaining portion of the minimum period, whether the service is used or not, and will be based on the rates in effect for the service at the time of discontinuance. (See D. 4. following.)
3. Provision of Service
  - a. DS3 service is available only on an intraLATA basis.
  - b. DS3 service is furnished on a full-time basis (24 hours a day, seven days per week).
  - c. DS3 service can only be provided within the same LATA where existing digital facilities and equipment permit. Services between serving wire centers must have digital connectivity between all intermediate offices to have the ability to provide the service. Additional service features may be available only at selected central offices as determined by the Company.
  - d. Customer requests for DS3 service where suitable service components are not available and the Company instructs the requested service components, when certain conditions exist, is considered special construction. The regulations, rates and charges applicable to special construction are found in Part 15, Section 1. Service availability will be negotiated locally.
  - e. When the customer requests a service arrangement which requires the installation of special equipment or modification of standard equipment, and for which provision is not otherwise made in this guidebook, it can be furnished by the Company subject to additional regulations, rates and charges as specified for Specialized Service Arrangements.
  - f. The Company has the service responsibility up to and including the network interface. The Demarcation Point will be provided by the Company as set forth in Bellcore Technical Advisory TA-TSY-000342.

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15. (N)  
(N)

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****B. Regulations (cont'd)**

## 3. Provision of Service (cont'd)

- g. Connection of terminal equipment or a communications system to a DS3 service is subject to the regulations set forth in paragraph F.5. in Part 15, Section 1.
- h. DS3 service may be terminated in a DS3 port of a Company-provided Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup> arrangement at a designated hub location. Additional interoffice channel mileage may be incurred to route the DS3 service to the hub location. The DS3 port on the NRS arrangement will be considered as a service point on the circuit. Refer to Network Reconfiguration Service for additional regulations concerning NRS. (C)

## 4. Availability and Allowance for Interruptions

## a. DS3 Service Not Available with SecureNet®

Availability is a measure of the relative amount of time that a service is "usable" to the customer. For the purposes of DS3 service, service is considered unavailable when 8 consecutive severely errored seconds (SESS) are received. The service becomes available again when no SESS are received for 8 consecutive seconds. The availability objective for DS3 service is 99.999% availability when averaged over 12 months.

If DS3 service fails due to Company-provided equipment or facilities and the service is not restored to the customer with two hours of the outage report and the service is made available to the Company for repair by the customer during those two hours, the customer will be credited the full month of service on the following month's bill. This guarantee is subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The credit will be applied on a per circuit, per occurrence basis and will only be applied once during a 24-hour period. Credits are not accumulative.
- 2. The credit allowance for an interruption or series of interruptions shall not exceed the applicable monthly rate.
- 3. The trouble must be isolated to Company-provided equipment. Trouble determined to be caused by customer-provided equipment or trouble that clears without a positive determination as to cause, will not qualify for the service credit.
- 4. The two-hour clock does not begin until the outage is reported by the customer and the service is made available to the Company for repair.
- 5. When DS3 service is used with Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS), the service credit applies only to the DS3 service portion of the service and will not apply to NRS.
- 6. The outage must be reported by the customer.

## b. DS3 Service Available with SecureNet®

- 1. DS3 service equipped with SecureNet shall be allowed a credit for a single service interruption greater than 2.0 seconds. In no case shall the total amount of credit in a one-month bill period exceed 100 percent of the monthly charge for that particular rate element.

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15. (N)  
(N)

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****B. Regulations (cont'd)**

4. Availability and Allowance for Interruptions (cont'd)
  - b. DS3 Service Available with SecureNet® (cont'd)
    2. In order to receive a credit for a service interruption after 2.0 seconds, the interruption must occur in that part of the DS3 service equipped with SecureNet (e.g., a loop failure on a DS3 service would receive credit after a 2.0 second interruption; and interoffice facility failure on the same service would be credited after two hours).
    3. For a DS3 service equipped with SecureNet, the credit for a single service interruption greater than 2.0 seconds will be 50% of the recurring monthly rate for the applicable rate elements (e.g., Local Distribution Channel, Interoffice Channel Mileage, both fixed and per mile, and Multiplexing).

**C. Rate Element Description**

## 1. General

There are four basic rate elements which may apply to DS3 service:

- Local Distribution Channel
- Interoffice Channel Mileage
- Additional Service Features
- Nonrecurring Charges

Rates and charges will be applied based upon pricing zones as contained in this section. The Pricing Zone for each serving wire center is as specified in paragraph D.5. If the Channel Mileage crosses Pricing Zones (e.g., serving wire center 1 is in Pricing Zone 1 and serving wire center 2 is in Pricing Zone 2), the higher priced mileage rate will be applied to the entire channel mileage.

## 2. Local Distribution Channel

The Local Distribution Channel is the channel between a customer's premises and the Company-serving wire center that normally serves that customer's premises.

## 3. Interoffice Channel Mileage

Interoffice Channel Mileage is defined as the component of the service between two Company-serving wire centers, between a serving wire center and a Company-designated digital hub, or between digital Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS)<sup>/1/</sup> hubs. The serving wire centers may be located in the same exchange area, as in a multi-office metropolitan exchange, or may be located in different exchange areas. (C)

Interoffice Channel Mileage charges include a fixed charge and a per-mile charge which is based on the vertical and horizontal (V-H) distance between a serving wire center and a digital hub, between digital NRS hubs, or between exchanges, measured in whole miles. Fractional miles are rounded to the next whole mile. V-H coordinates can be found in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) Wire Center Information Tariff.

/1/ Effective October 30, 2018, Network Reconfiguration Service (NRS) will no longer be available for purchase by new or existing customers. See Part 20, Section 15. (N)  
(N)

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****C. Rate Element Description (cont'd)**

## 4. Additional Service Features

## a. Central Office Multiplexing

*44.736 Mbps (DS3) to 1.544 Mbps (DS1)*

An arrangement which converts a 44.736 Mbps channel to twenty-eight (28) 1.544 Mbps channels using time division multiplexing. Central Office Multiplexing is available only in certain Company-designated multiplexing hub locations. Special routing may be required in order to provide this service. This is the only level of central office multiplexing available with DS3 service.

## b. SecureNet®

As an inherent feature of DS3 service, SecureNet provides automatic restoration capabilities which prevent service interruption in the event of a single facility break or a single loop electronics failure. SecureNet is available with point-to-point DS3 service only where fiber optic facilities are used to provide the DS3 service.

The automatic restoration capabilities are provided through the use of intelligent components which are capable of sensing transmission failure in the fiber facilities. The primary and secondary transmission paths are separately routed in geographically and physically separate fiber optic cables up to the point nearest the customer's premises that route redundancy can be achieved. In the event of a transmission failure caused by a single facility break or a single loop electronics failure, the intelligent components will automatically switch the DS3 service to the secondary transmission path within 2.0 seconds.

The secondary transmission path for DS3 service equipped with SecureNet will be routed in a geographically separate fiber optic cable up to the nearest point to the customer's premises that route redundancy can be achieved. In the event a facility break occurs in that portion of the DS3 service for which route redundancy could not be achieved (e.g., interoffice channel mileage), the Company cannot guarantee automatic restoration of the customer's service within 2.0 seconds, and a credit as set forth in B.4.b. preceding will not apply. In this case, the normal allowance for service interruptions applies as outlined in B.4.a. preceding.

SecureNet is available at those serving wire centers where equipment and facilities are available. Special construction charges may apply when fiber optic facilities are not available or unusual expenditures are involved in making them available to provide this feature.

The SecureNet feature provided is loop protection. This feature provides automatic restoration of the DS3 service Local Distribution Channel and physical route redundancy from the customer's premises to the customer's serving wire center in the event of a single loop failure.

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****C. Rate Element Description (cont'd)**

## 4. Additional Service Features (cont'd)

## c. Rollover

A Rollover is a customer-initiated move that involves a change of a point of termination from an existing service to another existing service within the same customer premises. The Rollover must occur within the same Company location.

A Rollover may be performed at the following service level:

- MegaLink 1.5 service to DS3 service

## 5. Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring charges are one-time charges that apply for specific work activities (ie., installation of new service, moves and rearrangements of installed services). There are three different nonrecurring charges: Administrative Charge, Design and Central Office Connection Charge and the Customer Connection Charge. They are applied as follows:

- The Administrative Charge applies any time a customer initiates an order for service. This charge applies once a per customer order.
- The Design and Central Office Connection Charge applies to each service installed. This charge is applied once per circuit.
- The Customer Connection Charge applies to each serviced installed. This is charged once per Local Distribution Channel.

## a. Service Rearrangements

Service rearrangements are changes to existing (installed) services which do not result in either a change in the minimum period requirements as set forth in paragraph B. preceding or a change in the physical location of the point of termination at a customer premises. Changes in physical location of the point of termination are treated as moves and the following nonrecurring charges apply: Administrative, Design and Central Office and Customer Connection.

Service rearrangements will be charged as follows:

- If changing the customer of record, the Administrative Charge will apply. For the change of customer of record to be treated as a service rearrangement, the new customer must assume liability for both current and prior charges of the service.
- For all other changes not requiring physical work at the central office, or customer premises, including a change in the customer assigned circuit identification or billing account number (when initiated by the customer), the Administrative Charge will apply.
- For all other service rearrangements requiring physical work to be performed, the Administrative Charge will apply. Additionally, one Design and Central Office Connection Charge and one Customer Connection Charge per Local Distribution Channel (LDC) will apply.

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****C. Rate Element Description (cont'd)**

## 5. Nonrecurring Charges (cont'd)

## b. Cancellation of Application for Service

When an applicant cancels an order for service, other than those provided by special construction,

1. Prior to the issuance of an order, no charges apply.
2. After the issuance of an order, nonrecurring charges apply as follows:
  - Canceled before the Record Issue Date (RID), the Administrative Charge applies.
  - Canceled on or after the RID, but before the Plant Test Date (PTD), the Administrative Charge and the Design and Central Office Connection Charge apply.
  - Canceled on or after the PTD, the Administrative Charge, Design and Central Office Connection Charge and Customer Connection Charge apply.

When an applicant cancels an order for service involving special construction,

1. Prior to the issuance of an order, no charges apply.
2. After the issuance of an order, but prior to the start of construction, all nonrecurring charges associated with the design of the special construction and the Administrative Charge will apply.
3. After construction has begun:
  - If there is another requirement for the specially constructed facilities, the Administrative Charge, Design and Central Office Connection Charge, and the Customer Connection Charge will apply.
  - If there is no other use for the specially constructed facilities, a charge equal to all the costs incurred in the special construction (including overheads), less net salvage, applies in addition to the Administrative Charge, Design and Central Office Connection Charge, and the Customer Connection Charge.

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges**

		Monthly Rate					Monthly
	<u>USOC</u>	<u>1-Year</u>	<u>2-Year</u> <sup>/2/</sup>	<u>3-Year</u> <sup>/2/</sup>	<u>5-Year</u> <sup>/1/</sup>		<u>Extension</u>
1.	Local Distribution Channel						
-	per local distribution channel						
	Zone 1	TZUP1	\$1,950.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,200.00	\$975.00	\$7,200.00 (I)
	Zone 2	TZUP2	2,100.00	1,620.00	1,300.00	1,050.00	7,800.00
	Zone 3	TZUP3	2,250.00	1,740.00	1,400.00	1,125.00	8,400.00 (I)
2.	Interoffice Channel Mileage						
-	Rate per V-H mile or fraction thereof, per channel						
	Fixed						
	Zone 1	CZ4X1	725.00	620.00	550.00	500.00	3,000.00 (I)
	Zone 2	CZ4X2	750.00	645.00	575.00	525.00	3,300.00
	Zone 3	CZ4X3	775.00	670.00	600.00	550.00	3,600.00 (I)
	Variable						
	Zone 1	1YZX1	100.00	82.00	70.00	45.00	450.00 (I)
	Zone 2	1YZX2	105.00	87.00	75.00	50.00	525.00
	Zone 3	1YZX3	110.00	92.00	80.00	55.00	600.00 (I)

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

		Monthly Rate					/4/
	<u>USOC</u>	<u>1-Year</u>	<u>2-Year</u> <sup>/3/</sup>	<u>3-Year</u> <sup>/3/</sup>	<u>5-Year</u> <sup>/1/</sup>	<u>Monthly Extension</u>	(C)
3. Additional Service Features							
Central Office Multiplexing <sup>/2/</sup>							
44.736 Mbps (DS3) to 1.544 Mbps (DS1)							
- per arrangement							
Zone 1	QM3X1	725.00	605.00	525.00	475.00	1,000.00	
Zone 2	QM3X2	750.00	630.00	550.00	500.00	1,100.00	
Zone 3	QM3X3	775.00	655.00	575.00	525.00	1,200.00	
		<u>USOC</u>		<u>Monthly Rate</u>		<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>	
SecureNet®							
- per Local Distribution Channel		P7T		\$0.00		\$0.00	
		<u>USOC</u>		<u>First Circuit</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge Additional Circuit</u>		
Rollover							
MegaLink 1.5 to DS3 service							
- per service, per order		NR9QB		\$0.00		\$0.00	/4/

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ For rates and charges for MegaLink 1.5 High Capacity Digital Service used in conjunction with this multiplexing arrangement, refer to MegaLink 1.5 High Capacity Digital Service.

/3/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/4/ Material formerly appeared on Sheet 26.

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 4. Nonrecurring Charges

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>
Administrative Charge <sup>/1/</sup> - per order		
Zone 1	NRBA1	\$125.00
Zone 2	NRBA2	125.00
Zone 3	NRBA3	125.00
Design and Central Office Connection Charge <sup>/1/</sup> - per circuit		
Zone 1	NRBD1	500.00
Zone 2	NRBD2	500.00
Zone 3	NRBD3	500.00
Customer Connection Charge <sup>/1/</sup> - per termination		
Zone 1	NRBB1	750.00
Zone 2	NRBB2	750.00
Zone 3	NRBB3	750.00

## 5. Rate Zones

All wire centers in the state of Kansas have been assigned a rate zone. The following table lists all wire centers classified as either Zone 1 or Zone 2. All wire centers not listed are classified as Zone 3.

Zone 1	----- Zone 2-----	
KSCYKSCB	DDCYKS01	KSCYKSOL
KSCYKSLE	EMPRKS08	KSCYMO55
TPKAKSJA	HAYSKS11	LWRNKSVE
WCHTKSAM	HTSNKS02	MNHTKSFA
	KSCYKS10	PRSSKSWA
	KSCYKSJO	SALNKSTA
	KSCYKSNA	

/1/ For customers ordering new DS3 service who choose a Term Pricing Plan (TPP) period of 2 Years or greater in length, the Administrative Charge, Design and Central Office Connection Charge and Customer Connection Charge will not apply. However, customers requesting termination of service prior to the completion of a minimum of 2 Years of a 2 Year or greater TPP will become liable for payment of Nonrecurring Charges described above.

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)****6. Term Pricing Plan (TPP)**

- a. DS3 service TPP provides the customer with discounted rates. The TPP provides for one-, two-<sup>/2/</sup>, three-<sup>/2/</sup> or five-year<sup>/1/</sup> rates. During the length of the selected TPP, monthly prices for service ordered under the plan will automatically change (increase or decrease) as Company-initiated price changes become effective. However, under no circumstances will any price change cause the monthly price for the service to exceed the price that was in effect at the beginning of the selected TPP term. The Company will notify customers participating in a TPP when monthly rates are changed. (C)

- b. The customer may choose to terminate an existing TPP before the end of the one-, two-<sup>/2/</sup>, three-<sup>/2/</sup> or five-year<sup>/1/</sup> period and negotiate a new TPP. The new TPP must be based upon the rates that are currently in effect and available to all customers, and must be of equal or greater duration than the existing TPP. (C)

If during the duration of the TPP, the customer wishes to rearrange or move a Local Distribution Channel location, no termination charge will apply. However, the nonrecurring charges will apply.

- c. If the customer elects not to renew the TPP, or does not notify the Company of the customer's intent to renew the TPP, the service will automatically be billed under the monthly extension rates in effect at the time the TPP expires.
- d. Any special construction charges incurred for services billed under a TPP will be applicable as provided for in Part 15, Section 1.
- e. If a customer cancels a Service Order or terminates service before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a service interruption (as defined in B. 4. preceding) or as a result of a re-negotiation, the customer agrees to pay the Company termination liability charges, which are defined below. These charges shall become due and owing as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period set forth in 'Rules and Regulations Applying to All Customers' Contracts' in Part 2, Section 2, *Payment for Service*. Payment of the termination charge does not release the customer from other previous amounts owed to the Company.

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

(N)  
(N)

**DS3 SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Rates and Charges (cont'd)**

## 6. Term Pricing Plan (TPP)

## e. (cont'd)

If the customer terminates the Term Pricing Plan agreement prior to the expiration of the one, two<sup>/3/</sup>, three<sup>/3/</sup>, or five<sup>/1/</sup> year TPP, the customer shall pay a termination charge. Payment of the termination charge does not release the customer from other previous amounts owed to the Company. (C)

The termination charge for all service terms will be calculated as follows:

For service terms that become effective on or after October 1, 2004:

- All unpaid Special Construction or Nonrecurring Charges (excluding any waived charges); plus
- Fifty percent (50%) of all recurring charges for the remaining months of the customer's term.

For service terms in effect prior to October 1, 2004:

Customer termination liability for cancellation of a DS3 Service shall be equal to the lesser of:

- The difference between the total rates and charges of the completed months of the original service term at the time of termination and the total rates and charges for the next lower service term<sup>/2/</sup> actually completed, plus interest charges based on the current discount rate as specified in 'Rules and Regulations Applying to All Customers' Contracts' in Part 2, Section 2, or
- The monthly payments remaining on the service term.

Example: If the customer completes 37 months of a 60-month service term, the first calculation of a termination charge will equal the difference between 37 months of rates and charges at the 60-month service term and 37 months of rates and charges at the 36-month service term (which is the next lower service term actually completed), plus interest at the current discount rate in effect at the time of termination. The second calculation will be the sum of the twenty-three remaining monthly payments on the 60-month service term. The termination charge is the lesser of the two calculations.

/1/ As of October 1, 2013, Term Pricing Plan terms greater than 36 months are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

/2/ If the service is terminated within the first 12 months, the calculation is based on monthly extension rates and charges.

/3/ As of January 15, 2021, 24 and 36 Month Term Pricing Plans are no longer available for new or renewing subscribers.

(N)  
(N)

/1/ Material now appears in Part 20, Section 15, Sheets 69 and 70.

/1/ Material now appears in Part 20, Section 15, Sheet 70.

/1/ Material now appears in Part 20, Section 15, Sheet 71.

/1/ Material now appears in Part 20, Section 15, Sheet 72.

/1/ Material now appears in Part 20, Section 15, Sheet 73.

**MICROLINK I® - PUBLIC SWITCHED DIGITAL SERVICE****A. Descriptive Summary**

MicroLink I is a discretionary business network service which provides the capability of full duplex, synchronous, 56 kilobits per second (and all conventional substrate data transmission speeds), data only, switched digital end-to-end information transport.

This service is available to customers in those LATAs served by and within the service territories of the Company. The originating and terminating calling scope of MicroLink I is confined and limited to intraLATA local service area applications.

**B. Definitions**Automatic Line

An optional feature available with the Site Link which causes an automatic connection to a predetermined destination whenever the Site Link is taken off hook at the customer's Site Link location.

Kbps

Kilobits per second. Another way to express is one thousand bits per second.

Hunting

The multichannel MicroLink I Site Links (336 Kbps and 1.344 Mbps) are equipped with Hunting as a standard feature. The first channel is assigned a telephone number and when a call to this number is originated, the call hunts sequentially through all numbers in this group until an available channel is found. A Subgroup Arrangement option is available and includes an additional telephone number. With this arrangement, the customer can predefine the hunting activity within the groups. For example, channels 1 through 12 can be in the original hunt group associated with the telephone number assigned to channel 1 and channels 13 through 24 can be in the second group associated with a telephone number assigned to channel 13.

Link Extension

A physical connection required when the customer's serving central office is located outside the Primary Market Area (PMA). Includes the circuit between the customer's serving central office and the nearest central office within the PMA. The Link Extension charge is both distance and bandwidth dependent.

Mbps

Megabits per second. Another way to express is one million bits per second.

Network Call Usage

The rates applicable for chargeable time for calls that originate and terminate within the PMA and are limited to Local Exchange Carrier networks. Includes local switching, signaling and trunking between switches (if any).

**MICROLINK I® - PUBLIC SWITCHED DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****B. Definitions (cont'd)**Site Link

The physical connection to a customer's premises that supports single or multiple 56 Kbps switched circuits. It includes the facility between the customer premises and the serving central office, the circuit(s) between the MicroLink I switch node and the customer's serving central office, and the node termination. Each Site Link is assigned a unique telephone number. If two or more single channel Site Links (2-wire or 4-wire) are purchased for the same node, hunting capability is available at no additional charge.

Synchronous

Having a constant time interval between successive bits, characters or events. The term implies that all equipment in the system is in step.

**C. Rules and Regulations**

The following rules and regulations are in addition to other rules and regulations as stated in this and other guidebooks.

1. Provision of this service is subject to the availability and operational limitations of the equipment and associated facilities.
2. MicroLink I service requires the use of a customer-provided premises data unit which must be compatible with the Company's equipment and facilities, and is subject to the interface specification as specified in the Bell Communications Research, Inc., Technical Reference TR-EOP-000277, Section 3.
3. The rates and charges for MicroLink I service are in addition to the established monthly and nonrecurring charges applicable to services terminated in or used in conjunction with MicroLink I.
4. Temporary suspension of service at the request of the customer, either partial or complete, is not applicable for this offering.
5. Customer-initiated changes and rearrangements of the MicroLink I service will be based upon cost including engineering, labor, and material.
6. Where a variety of equipment and facilities may be used to provide MicroLink I service, the Company reserves the right to determine which shall be used and modify and change such equipment and facilities at its option.
7. The Minimum Billing Period for this service is one month. If service is discontinued, after the first month, during a fractional part of a month all appropriate charges will be based on the actual number of days the service is furnished. For the purpose of administering this regulation with respect to the determination of charges for a fractional part of a month, every month is considered to have 30 days.
8. MicroLink I service when furnished at the same premises in combination with other Local Exchange Service shall not be considered to be in conflict with the rules of Paralleling Service.

**MICROLINK I® - PUBLIC SWITCHED DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****D. Service Availability**

MicroLink I service is available within a Primary Market Area (PMA). A PMA is distinguishable as being an exchange area containing one or more suitably equipped serving office(s). A customer's premises need not be within the actual suitably equipped serving office area. When a customer's serving central office is located outside the PMA, the customer must also order a Link Extension and pay the applicable distance sensitive rates for connecting the serving central office to the nearest office within the PMA. The PMA does not include any exchange optional/special optional type local calling arrangements.

MicroLink I service does not have available the local calling scopes of optional Extended Area Service (or any other optional Extended Area Service-like calling plan).

**E. Responsibility of the Customer**

1. Where MicroLink I service is available for use in connection with terminal equipment or communications systems provided by a customer or user, the operating characteristics of such equipment or systems shall be such as not to interfere with any of the services offered by the Company. Such use is subject to the further provisions that the equipment provided by a customer or user does not endanger the safety of Company employees or the public; damage, require change in, or alteration of the equipment or other services of the Company; interfere with the proper functioning of such equipment or services; impair the operation of the Company's equipment; or otherwise injure the public in its use of Company services. Upon notice from the Company that the equipment provided by a customer or user is causing, or is likely to cause, such hazard or interference, the customer shall take such steps as shall be necessary to remove or prevent such hazard or interference.
2. The customer, upon request, shall furnish such information as may be required to permit the Company to design and maintain the MicroLink I service it offers and to assure that the service arrangement is in accordance with the regulations contained herein.
3. It shall be the responsibility of the customer to ensure the continuing compatibility of the customer-provided terminal and data unit equipment that is used in conjunction with the MicroLink I service.
4. MicroLink I service allows the customer to presubscribe to a selected interexchange carrier for carrying long distance traffic. It is the customer's responsibility to insure the interexchange carrier's network is capable of carrying the switched digital 56 Kbps format.

**MICROLINK I® - PUBLIC SWITCHED DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****F. Responsibility of the Company**

1. The Company shall not be responsible for installation, operation, or maintenance of any terminal equipment, data unit, or communications systems provided by a customer or user. The Company is not responsible for adapting MicroLink I service to the technological requirements of any specific customer equipment. The responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of network equipment suitable for MicroLink I service and to the maintenance and operation of such equipment in a manner proper for such service. Subject to this responsibility the Company shall not be responsible for the through transmission of signals generated by customer-provided equipment or system, or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission or the reception of signals by such equipment or systems.
2. The Company shall not be responsible to the customer or user, if changes in any of the equipment, operations, or procedures of the Company utilized in the provision of MicroLink I service render any facilities provided by a customer or user obsolete or require modification or alteration of such equipment or system or otherwise affect its use or performance, provided the Company has met any applicable information disclosure requirements.
3. The Company undertakes the responsibility to maintain and repair the service which it furnishes. The customer or user may not rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair, remote test or interfere with any network equipment installed by the Company without prior written consent of the Company.
4. The Company, by written notice to the customer, may immediately discontinue the furnishing of MicroLink I service without incurring liability upon nonpayment of any sum due to the Company or a violation of any condition governing the furnishing of service.

**MICROLINK I® - PUBLIC SWITCHED DIGITAL SERVICE (cont'd)****G. Rates and Charges**

## MicroLink I Service Components

		Monthly Rate	Nonrecurring <sup>/4/</sup> Initial Unit <sup>/2/</sup>	Additional Unit <sup>/3/</sup>	(C)
<u>Site Link</u> <sup>/1/</sup>	<u>USOC</u>				
56 Kbps - 4 Wire, each	C5URX	\$90.00	\$420.00	\$360.00	(D)
					(D)
					(D)
<u>Link Extension</u> <sup>/6/</sup>					(C)
56 Kbps, each	C5E5X	50.00	N/A	N/A	(D)
Charge per mile		0.75			(D)
					(D)
<u>Network Call Usage</u> <sup>/5,7/</sup>			<u>Charge</u>		(C)
Calling within the same local service area (local)					
- each connection of one minute or fraction thereof			\$0.04		
<u>Service Order Charge</u>					
Applies to all customer-initiated orders for any MicroLink I service components, independent of the number of components, per order			45.00		

/1/ An End User Common Line (EUCL) charge as set forth in the Company's Access Service Tariff, Tariff FCC No. 73 is applicable per Site Link channel.

/2/ The Initial Unit charge applies to the first unit of each MicroLink I service element ordered per customer premises, per installation date.

/3/ The Additional Unit charge applies to all other units of MicroLink I service elements ordered per customer premises, per installation date.

/4/ Apply appropriate 'Service Order Charge' on each MicroLink I order, as shown above.

/5/ Network Call Usage does not apply to calls which incur toll charges from any interexchange or local exchange carrier.

/6/ A Link Extension must be associated with a Site Link. The Link Extension is assessed both the monthly base rate and the monthly charge per mile which is calculated using the distance from the customer's serving office to the nearest office within the PMA.

/7/ The timing of the call begins when connection is established between a calling MicroLink I Site Link channel and a called MicroLink I Site Link channel and ends when the connection is terminated at any point.