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SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES

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Section 2 -- DEFINITIONS

Certain terms used generally throughout this tariff are described below.

Advance Payment

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

Access Services

The Company's intrastate telephone services offered pursuant to this tariff.

Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

The term "Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)" denotes the Customer specified maximum amount of Switched Access Service and/or Directory Assistance Service access minutes the Customer expects to be handled in an end office switch any hour in an 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. period for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered. This Customer specified BHMC quantity is the input data the Company uses to determine the number of transmission paths for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered.

Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier.

Common Channel Signaling

The term "Common Channel Signaling" (CCS) denotes a high speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. Its purpose is to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between Signaling Points in the CCS network.

Company

Penn Telecom, Inc., the issuer of this tariff, and its concurring subsidiaries.

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Section 2 -- DEFINITIONS (Cont'd.)

Customer

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

End Office

With respect to each NPA-NXX code prefix assigned to the Company, the location of the Company's "end office" for purposes of this tariff shall be the point of interconnection associated with that NPA-NXX code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide, issued by Bellcore.

End User

A person or entity that subscribes to any Penn Telecom, Inc. Exchange Access Service and that has been assigned one or more telephone number(s) within a central office code (NPA-NXX) directly assigned to the Company.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms "Interexchange Carrier" (IC) or "Interexchange Common Carrier" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in interstate, intrastate or foreign communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

LATA

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

Recurring Charges

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

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Section 2 -- DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Service Commencement Date

The first date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The Company and the Customer may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date. If the Company does not have an executed Service Order from a Customer, the Service Commencement Date will be the first date on which the service or facility was used by a Customer.

Service Order

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

Service Switching Point (SSP)

A Service Switching Point denotes an end office or tandem which, in addition to having SS7 and SP capabilities, is also equipped to query centralized data bases.

Service Wire Center

The term "Service Wire Center" denotes the wire center from which the Customer designated premises would normally obtain dial tone.

Shared

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

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Section 2 -- DEFINITIONS (Cont'd.)

Signaling Point (SP)

The term "Signaling Point (SP)" denotes an SS7 network interface element capable of originating and terminating SS7 trunk signaling messages.

Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI)

The term "Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI)" denotes the Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Telephone Company and the Customer.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

The term "Signaling System 7 (SS7)" denotes the layered protocol used for standardized common channel signaling in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Signal Transfer Point (STP)

The term "Signal Transfer Point (STP)" denotes a packet switch which provides access to the Telephone Company's SS7 network and performs SS7 message signal routing and screening.

Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port

The term "Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port" denotes the point of termination and interconnection to the STP.

User

A customer or any other person authorized by the Customer to use service provided under this tariff.

Wire Center

A building in which one or more central offices, used for the provision of Exchange Services, are located.