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#### Lance J.M. Steinhart, P.C.

Attorney At Law 1720 Windward Concourse Suite 250 Alpharetta, Georgia 30005

Also Admitted in New York and Maryland

Telephone: (770) 232-9200

Facsimile: (770) 232-9208

February 5, 2004

#### VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms. Pamela Bonrud Executive Director South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-5070 (605) 773-3201 AECEVED

FEB 0 9 2004

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Re: COMTECH 21, LLC

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

Enclosed please find one original and ten (10) copies of COMTECH 21, LLC's Application for Registration of a Telecommunications Company to Provide Local Exchange Service.

APPLICANT HAS ALSO ENCLOSED ONE COPY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN A SEPARATE ENVELOPE MARKED "CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY" AND RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF THE ENCLOSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION. APPLICANT EXPECTS THAT THIS INFORMATION WILL BE RESTRICTED TO COUNSEL, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES WHO ARE SPECIFICALLY ASSIGNED TO THIS APPLICATION BY THE COMMISSION.

A 1 9 1 0 4

Mr. William Bullard Executive Director South Dakota Public Utilities Commission February 5, 2004 Page 2

The information which is the subject of this request is Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2001, December 31, 2002 and September 30, 2003; Income Statement for the nine months ended September 30, 2003; Statements of Operations and Member Equity for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2002; and Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2002. As a privately-held corporation, the Applicant's financial statements are not made publicly available, and Applicant takes reasonable precautions to maintain and protect the confidentiality of such information. Public disclosure of Applicant's financial information for which this request is made could place Applicant at a competitive disadvantage. For these reasons, COMTECH 21, LLC hereby respectfully requests that its financial statements be treated as confidential information and not made a part of the public record in this Docket.

I have also enclosed a check in the amount of \$250.00 payable to the "South Dakota Public Utilities Commission" for the filing fee and an extra copy of this cover letter to be date stamped and returned to me in the enclosed self-addressed prepaid envelope.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance J.M. Steinhart
Attorney for COMTECH 21, LLC

Enclosures

cc: Sonja Johnson-Byers (w/enc)

### APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF COMTECH 21, LLC FILED WITH THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COMTECH 21, LLC	)	
FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE REGISTRATION OF APPLICANT AS A TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY TO PROVIDE	) ) Docket No. ) ) )	FEB 0 9 2004 SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE	)	

#### APPLICATION

Application is hereby made to the South Dakota Public
Utilities Commission for an Order authorizing COMTECH 21, LLC
("Comtech 21" or "Applicant") to register as a telecommunications
company to provide resold and facilities-based/UNE-P local
exchange service within the State of South Dakota. The following
information is furnished in support thereof:

#### 1. Name, Address, Telephone Number, and e-mail of Applicant

COMTECH 21, LLC
One Barnes Park South
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492
(877) 580-6564 (Phone)
(877) 312-5544 (Fax)
support@comtech21.com(e-mail)

Applicant has no local office in South Dakota at this time.

All inquiries regarding customer complaints and other regulatory matters should be addressed to:

Matt Sosnowski
One Barnes Park South
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492
(877) 580-6564 (Phone)
(877) 312-5544 (Fax)
support@comtech21.com(e-mail)

#### 2. Registered Agent

The name and address of the Applicant's registered agent is:

TCS Corporate Services, Inc. c/o Marilyn Pearson 819 West Third Pierre, South Dakota 57501

#### 3. Description of the Applicant

Applicant is incorporated in the State of Delaware and is in good standing under the laws of that state. The Company was incorporated on February 22, 2000 as COMTECH 21, LLC. A copy of the Company's Certificate of Formation is attached to this Application as Exhibit A. In addition, the Company is authorized to do business as a foreign corporation in the State of South Dakota. Attached as Exhibit B to this Application is a copy of the Company's certificate of qualification to transact business issued by the South Dakota Secretary of State.

Applicant is currently authorized to provide, and is providing, resold interexchange services throughout the United States. Applicant is in the process of applying for authorization to provide competitive local exchange services throughout the United States. Applicant is currently authorized to provide resold and facilities-based/UNE-P local exchange service in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania. Applicant has not been denied authority for any of the services for which it seeks authority in this Application.

The senior management of Comtech 21 has great depth in the telecommunications industry and offers extensive telecommunications business technical and managerial expertise to Comtech 21. Since Comtech 21 will be providing resold and facilities-based service, Comtech 21 will also rely upon the managerial and technical expertise of the incumbent local exchange carriers that have been certified and deemed technically and managerially able to provide exchange service by the Commission. The relevant operational experience of Applicant's key management employees is set forth in Exhibit C which is attached hereto.

The Applicant's customers will primarily be small and mediumsized businesses that need local exchange, access, private line, long distance, data, and other telecommunication services.

#### 4. Facilities

Applicant will provide services through facilities of incumbent local exchange carriers ("LECs"), as well as unbundled network elements. The Applicant has no plans to install facilities in the State of South Dakota. If Applicant decides to install facilities, it will probably use the following or a similar configuration of equipment: Applicant will provide voice and high speed data services through a combination of the latest technology switching and transport media comprised of the Lucent Technology 5 ESS Generic 13 switch module, ADSL/SDSL transport and Internet service equipment and the latest Optical multiplexer DAC's configurations. The switching system consists of a central

processing and control complex capable of interconnection as a peer to the incumbent as well as competitive local exchange companies. The hub portion of the switch will interconnect with the public switched network on Signaling System 7 ("SS7") or Feature Group D ("FGD") facilities. The system's remote module capability will allow properties to be served in a manner that provides the exchange of appropriate signaling, control and calling/caller information to the network in accordance with network standards and specifications. Additionally, these services will be delivered over a combination of delivery mechanisms through incumbent local carriers' unbundled loop network, both copper and fiber and transport networks, as well as via constructed facilities. All of Applicant's equipment will be capable of providing local number portability, and will be compliant and compatible with existing 911 systems.

#### 5. Stockholders

The names and address of the each stockholder of Applicant owning 20% or more of the interest in the business are as follows:

Name and Address

Percentage of Ownership

Prescient, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492 100%

#### 6. Officers and Directors

The names and addresses of the officers and directors of COMTECH 21, LLC are:

#### Officers:

Marie Marcarelli, Manager Richard Minervino, Sr., Manager

#### Directors:

None, Limited Liability

All of the above-named individuals can be reached at:

COMTECH 21, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

#### 7. Corporate Ownership

The name and address of any corporation, association or similar organization holding a five percent (5%) or greater ownership in the Applicant is as follows:

Prescient, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

#### 8. Subsidiaries owned or controlled by Applicant

None

#### 9. Description of Services

Applicant will provide services through facilities of incumbent local exchange carriers ("LECs"), as well as unbundled network elements. Comtech 21 will rely upon the incumbent local exchange companies (LEC) and other carriers for the provision and access to emergency services (911 or E911), operator services, directory assistance, and telecommunications relay services.

Comtech 21 seeks authority to resell and provide facilities-based/UNE-P local exchange services throughout the State of South Dakota in the areas served by any LECs in South Dakota that are not eligible for a small or rural carrier exemption pursuant to Section 251(f)(1) of the Federal Act. Comtech 21 does not seek to provide services to customer in those small or rural territories at this time. Comtech 21 intends to provide all

forms of intrastate local exchange telecommunications services including:

- A. Local Exchange Services for business and residence customers that will enable customers to originate and terminate local calls in the local calling area served by other LECs, including local dial tone and custom calling features.
- B. Switched local exchange services, including basic service, trunks, carrier access, and any other switched local services that currently exist or will exist in the future.
- C. Non-switched local services (e.g., private line) that currently exist or will exist in the future.
- D. Centrex and/or Centrex-like services that currently exist or will exist in the future.
- E. Digital subscriber line, ISDN, and other high capacity line services.

#### 10. Financial Qualifications

Applicant is financially qualified to provide intrastate local exchange telecommunications services within South Dakota. In particular, Applicant has adequate access to the capital necessary to fulfill any obligations it may undertake with respect to the provision of intrastate local exchange telecommunications services in the State of South Dakota. Applicant's Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2001, December 31, 2002 and September 30, 2003; Income Statement for the nine months ended September 30, 2003; Statements of Operations and Member Equity for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2002; and Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2002, Exhibit D, which are marked and filed as "Confidential" under separate cover. The Applicant hereby respectfully requests a waiver from filing current financial statements under ARSD 20:10:24:02(8) and ARSD 20:10:32:03(11). The company will not require prepayments, advance payments or deposits.

#### 11. Service Area Map

Comtech 21 will concur in the exchange area boundaries established by the incumbent LECs.

#### 12. Tariff

Attached as Exhibit E is a copy of Comtech 21's local exchange tariff which is being filed for informational purposes only since Applicant intends to serve less than 50,000 local

exchange subscribers in South Dakota. the company hereby requests a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03(13), which requires Applicant to provide a tariff or price list indicating the prices, terms and conditions of each contemplated local service offering. The company understands that prior to providing service in South Dakota, a final tariff with price information shall be filed as required by South Dakota law.

#### 13. Billing

Applicant will direct bill local exchange customers utilizing completed call detail information

#### 14. Solicitation of Customers

Comtech 21 will not submit a change order for local exchange or intrastate toll service until Comtech 21 has obtained the customer's written authorization to submit the order which includes the following information from the customer: (1) The customer billing name, billing telephone number and billing address and each telephone number to be covered by the change order; 2) The decision to change; and (3) The customer's understanding of the change fee, if any.

#### 15. Description of Marketing

Applicant intends to market its services to primarily small to mid-sized businesses and residential telecommuters. Applicant will market through direct sales by employees and agents.

Applicant does not intend to engage in multilevel marketing.

Applicant's marketing materials for South Dakota have not yet been developed and are not available at this time.

#### 16. Cost Support:

Applicant intends to provide services at a price above its cost. Applicant intends to serve less than 50,000 local exchange subscribers in South Dakota, therefore, is not required to file cost support information.

#### 17. Federal Tax Identification Number:

06-157405

18. The Number and Nature of Complaints filed against the Applicant with any state or federal regulatory commission regarding the unauthorized switching of a customer's telecommunications provider and the act of charging customers for services that have not been ordered:

None

#### 19. Customer Service

Applicant's customer service department may be contacted nationwide via a toll-free number, (877) 580-6564. The Company will maintain a Customer Service Department in Connecticut exclusively for Customers' questions, requests for service, complaints and trouble handling. The Company's Customer Service address and local or toll free number(s) will be printed on the Customer's bill. The Customer Service Department will be located at One Barnes Park South, Wallingford, Connecticut 06492. The Company also intends to have a locally staffed office at one or more hub site locations in each state and will provide its customers with a local Customer Service number that will be available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Office Hours- Excluding holidays, Customer Service Representatives will be available 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM standard time Monday through Friday. After hours, Sundays and on holidays, Customers will automatically be forwarded to an

answering service or operations center.

Complaint Procedures- The Customer shall pose any inquiries or disputes directly to the Company for resolution. Written communications should be directed to the Company's Customer Service department. All undisputed portions of any outstanding balance due are to be paid while resolution of the inquiry or dispute is pending. The Company will investigate a Customer inquiry or dispute and report the findings to the Customer. If the Company finds its actions to be consistent with its Tariff, the Company will inform the Customer of its no fault finding and require full payment of any outstanding balance due. If the Customer is not satisfied with the Company's resolution of an inquiry or dispute, the Customer may refer the matter to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for final determination.

When Applicant installs facilities in the State of South Dakota, facility and equipment maintenance will be performed by the company, either directly or through contract, in order to ensure compliance with any commission quality of service requirements.

#### 20. Interconnection

Applicant initially intends to interconnect with Qwest. Negotiations for interconnection will start at an determined time following certification. Interconnection service is likely to be initiated within 180 days of completion of interconnection negotiations. Applicant has not requested interconnection with any local exchange carrier in South Dakota at this time.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned Applicant requests that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission enter an order granting this application for a Certificate of Authority authorizing Applicant to provide resold and facilities-based/UNE-P local exchange services.

DATED this day of the , 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

COMTECH 21, LLC

By:

Lance J.M. Steinhart, Esq. Lance J.M Steinhart, PC 1720 Windward Concourse **Suite 250** Alpharetta, Georgia 30005

(770) 232-9200

Its Attorney

#### State of Connecticut

#### County of New Haven

Marie Marcarelli, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he/she is the Executive Vice-President of COMTECH 21, LLC, the Applicant in the proceeding entitled above, that he/she has read the foregoing application and knows the contents thereof; that the same are true of his/her knowledge, except as to matters which are therein stated on information or belief, and to those matters he/she believes them to be true.

Marie Marcarelli
Executive Vice-President

Subscribed and sworn to before this  $2^{"}$  day of

cornery, 2004

Notary Public

My Commission expires: 2/22/08

#### LIST OF EXHIBITS

- A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
- B CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION
- C BIOGRAPHIES OF THE MANAGEMENT TEAM
- D FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
- E PROPOSED TARIFF

#### EXHIBIT A - CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

## State of South Pakota



## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE Certificate of Authority Limited Liability Company

I, JOYCE HAZELTINE, Secretary of State of the State of South Dakota, hereby certify that duplicate of the Application for a Certificate of Authority of COMTECH 21, LLC (DE) to transact business in this state duly signed and verified pursuant to the provisions of the South Dakota Limited Liability Company Act, have been received in this office and are found to conform to law.

**ACCORDINGLY** and by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, I hereby issue this Certificate of Authority and attach hereto a duplicate of the application for certificate of authority.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, at Pierre, the Capital, this June 29, 2000.

**Joyce Hazeltine Secretary of State** 

Jage Haultine

#### EXHIBIT B - CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION

#### CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION

OF

#### Tech 2001, LLC

The undersigned, an authorized natural person, for the purpose of forming the limited liability company, under the provisions and subject to the requirements of the State of Delaware (particularly Chapter 18, Title 6 of the Delaware Code and the acts amendatory theroof and supplemental thereto, and known, identified, and referred to as the "Delaware Limited Liability Company Act"), hereby certifies that:

FIRST: the name of the limited liability company (hereinafter called the "limited liability company") is:

#### Tech 2001, LLC

SECOND: The address of the registered office and the name and the address of the registered agent of the limited liability company required to be maintained by Section 18-104 of the Dolaware Limited Liability Company Act are Corporation Service:

Company, 1013 Contre Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19805.

Executed on February 21, 2000

Waynes A. Martino, Authorized Person

STATE OF DELAWARE SECRETARY OF STATE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS FILED 09:00 AM 03/07/2000 001116129 - 3180359

#### Certificate of Amendment to Certificate of Formation

of

Tech 2001, LLC

#### It is hereby certified that:

- 1. The name of the limited liability company (herein: fier called the "limited liability company") is Tech 2001, LLC.
- 2. The certificate of formation of the Ilmited liability company is hereby amended by striking out Article First thereof and by substituting in lie 1.2f said Article First the following new Article First:

"First: The name of the limited liability company (hereinafter called the "limited liability company") is Comtech 21, LLC."

Executed on this 7th day of March, 2000.

Wayne A. Marino, Authorized Person

## OPERATING AGREEMENT OF COMTECH 21, LLC

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into as of this 7th day of March 2000, by and between:

Connecticut 06492 (the Company"); and

Prescient, LLC, with offices at One Barnes Park South, Wallingford, Connecticut 06492 ("Prescient").

Prescient may also be referred to as a "Member" or as the "Member".

#### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Member desires to form a limited liability company for the purposes set forth below; and

WHEREAS, the Member and the Company deem it desirable to define the terms of their association, and to commit their agreement to writing.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual promises herein made, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

#### 1. ORGANIZATION

- (a) Formation. The Member hereby forms a limited liability company (the "Company") pursuant to the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act (the "Act").
- (b) Name. The name of the Company shall be Comtech 21, LLC (the name as set forth in the Certificate of Formation was Tech 2001, LLC, but the name was changed by a subsequent amendment thereto).
- (c) <u>Location</u>. The principal office of the Company shall be at One Barnes Park South, Wallingford, Connecticut 06492, or at such other address as the Member shall designate.
- (d) <u>Purposes</u>. The purpose of the Company is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be formed under the Act.

#### 2. MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS

The Member's rights and obligations with respect to the Company may be referred to herein as its "Membership Interest".

#### 3. CAPITALIZATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS

(a) <u>Capital Contributions</u>. The Member may make capital contributions to the Company from time to time as he may deem appropriate.

(b) Additional Contributions. The Member shall not be required to make additional contributions to the capital of the Company.

#### 4. DISTRIBUTIONS OF CASH

The Member shall determine the amount and frequency of distributions of cash which the Company shall make. Any such distributions shall be distributed to the Member.

#### 5. ADMINISTRATION

- (a) Management. The business, property, and affairs of the Company shall be managed by the Member. The Member shall have the right to delegate all or any portion of his power and authority in connection with the management and conduct of the Company's business to one or more individuals to serve as manager of the Company. In the absence of such delegation, the Member shall be considered a manager within the meaning of the Act. The Member may remove and Manager with or without cause,
- (b) <u>Designation of Managers</u>. Prescient hereby designates Richard Minervino, Sr. and Marie Macarelli to serve as
- (c) <u>Designation of Officers</u>. The following individuals shall serve as officers of the Company in the capacities set forth opposite of their names:

Marie Macarelli	Chief Operating Officer
Richard Minervino, Sr.	Chief Executive Officer

#### 6. BOOKS AND RECORDS AND ACCOUNTING

- (a) <u>Books and Records</u>. The Company shall keep proper and complete books and records in accordance with good accounting practice. The Company may adopt the cash receipts and disbursements method or the accrual method as its method of accounting, as the Member shall determine. The fiscal year of the Company (for federal income tax purposes and financial statement purposes) shall be the calendar year, unless the Member determines otherwise.
- (b) <u>Tax Returns</u>. On or before March 31 of each year, the Company shall furnish the Member with sufficient information concerning the operations of the Company to enable the Member to prepare the Member's federal and state income tax returns.
- (c) Other Reports. The Company shall furnish such other reports as shall be appropriate to advise the Member as to the operations of the Company.

#### 7. TRANSFER OF INTERESTS

The Member may, at any time and from time to time, transfer all or any part of his Membership Interest.

#### 8. DISSOLUTION AND WINDING UP

- (a) Events of Dissolution. Upon the happening of any one of the following events (a "Liquidating Event"), the Company shall be dissolved and its affairs wound up:
  - (1) The sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the Company's property;
    - (2) The determination by the Member to dissolve the Company; or
  - (3) The entry of a decree of judicial dissolution under Section 34-207 of the General Statutes of Connecticut.
- (b) Winding Up. Upon the winding up of the Company, the assets of the Company shall be liquidated as promptly as possible in an orderly and businesslike manner so as not to involve undue sacrifice.
- (c) <u>Priority of Distributions</u>. Liquidation proceeds shall be distributed and applied in the following order of priority:
  - (1) To the payment of debts and liabilities (including those owed to the Member in his capacity as a creditor) of the Company and expenses of liquidation;
  - (2) To the setting up of any reserves which the Member may deem reasonably necessary for any contingent or unforeseen liability or obligation of the Company, which reserves shall be maintained for such period as the Member deems advisable; and
    - (3) To the Member.
- (d) <u>Distribution in Kind</u>. If the Member shall determine that an immediate sale of part or all of the Company's assets would be inadvisable, the Company may distribute to the Member, in lieu of cash, interests in any Company assets, liquidating only such assets as are necessary in order to pay the debts and liabilities of the Company.

#### 9. MISCELLANEOUS

- (a) <u>Notices</u>. Any notice, request, acknowledgment, consent, or other communication which any party hereto is required or permitted to give to another party shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally, sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or sent by a recognized overnight delivery service, in any such case to the recipient at his or its address first stated above, or at such other address of which he or it shall have given the other party or parties due notice hereunder. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been delivered, given, and received for all purposes as of the date so delivered.
- (b) Waiver. The failure of any party to insist in any one or more instances upon the performance of any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any right granted hereunder, or of the future performance of any such term or condition.

- (c) Entire Agreement. This Agreement sets forth the entire understanding of the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes any prior understandings or agreements among the parties, whether written or oral, to the extent related to the subject matter hereof.
- (d) <u>Further Acts</u>. Each of the parties hereto shall execute and deliver all such additional documents or legal instruments, and shall perform or cause to be performed all such further acts and things, as may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes and intent of this Agreement.
- (e) <u>Amendment</u>. This Agreement may not be amended, modified or altered in any manner, except pursuant to the terms of a written instrument signed by each of the parties hereto.
- (f) <u>Invalid Provision</u>. The invalidity or unenforceability of any particular provision of this Agreement shall not affect the other provisions hereof, and this Agreement shall thereafter be construed in all respects as if such invalid or unenforceable provisions were omitted.
- (g) Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the domestic laws of the State of Delaware without giving any effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the State of Delaware or of any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware.
- (h) Binding Nature. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Member and the Company and their successors, personal representatives, heirs, devisees, guardians and assigns.
- (i) Arbitration. Any controversy, claim, dispute, difference, or disagreement arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or any breach thereof, or otherwise in connection with the Company, including without limitation any dispute concerning the scope of this arbitration provision, shall be settled by arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its Commercial Arbitration Rules at its regional office nearest the town in which is located the principal office of the Company. There shall be no appeal from the award rendered by the arbitrator or arbitrators and judgment thereon may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof.
- (j) <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and all of such counterparts taken together shall for all purposes constitute one agreement binding upon all of the parties hereto.
- (k) <u>Headings</u>. The headings contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- (1) <u>Usage</u>. In construing this Agreement, feminine or neuter pronouns shall be substituted for those of the masculine form, and the plural for the singular, and vice versa, in any case in which the context may require. The capitalized terms used in this Agreement shall have the meanings first applied to their first usage in this Agreement unless otherwise indicated.

(m) References to Code or Regulations. Any reference in this Agreement to the Internal Revenue Code or to a Treasury Regulation shall be interpreted to include the specific provision referred to, as the same may be amended from time to time, as well as any substitute or successor provisions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have duly executed this Agreement as of the date first above written:

COMIECH 21, LLC				
Ву:				
Richard Minervino, Sr.				
A Manager, Duly Authorized				
PRESCIENT, LLC	:			
Ву:				
Richard Minervino, Sr.				
A Manager, Duly Authorized				

#### State of Delaware

#### Office of the Secretary of State PAGE 1

I, HARRIET SMITH WINDSOR, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE ATTACHED ARE TRUE AND CORRECT COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS ON FILE OF "COMTECH 21, LLC" AS RECEIVED AND FILED IN THIS OFFICE.

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN CERTIFIED:

CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION, FILED THE TWENTY-SECOND DAY OF FEBRUARY, A.D. 2000, AT 9 O'CLOCK A.M.

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT, CHANGING ITS NAME FROM "TECH 2001, LLC" TO "COMTECH 21, LLC", FILED THE SEVENTH DAY OF MARCH, A.D. '2000, AT 9 O'CLOCK-A.M.

AND I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE AFORESAID CERTIFICATES ARE THE ONLY CERTIFICATES ON RECORD OF THE AFORESAID LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY.



Harriet Smith Windson, Secretary of State

AUTHENTICATION: 0983613

DATE: 02-21-01

3180359 8100H

#### EXHIBIT C - BIOGRAPHIES OF THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

#### PRINCIPLE OFFICERS OF COMTECH21, LLC

The Company's management team is comprised of key individuals with a wide range of telecommunications, public reporting and business experience from large carriers and entrepreneurial reseller firms. The team is highly qualified with solid backgrounds and extensive experience with Local Telephone Service, Long Distance Telephone Service, Data Services, Enhanced Services and Wireless Communication Services.

Richard Minervino Sr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer One Barnes Park South, Wallingford, CT 06492

Minervino is a 50 year industry veteran and the Company's founder. An insightful strategist who understands his customers needs, Minervino started his career at Southern New England Telephone in 1952 where over twelve years he held a variety of technical positions and was promoted to marketing manager specializing in telecommunications needs for the insurance industry.

Sensing opportunity, Minervino left the Bell System in 1964, traveling the world as a telecommunications consultant, one of the first in the industry. His client list reads like a Who's Who in American business. Aetna Insurance Company, Amerada Hess, Commonwealth Oil, Cerro Corporation, Colt Industries, Harvey Aluminum, R.J. Reynolds, ITT-Virgin Islands Telephone, Kidder Peabody, BBDO, Grey Advertising, Ogilvy & Mather, Inter Public, Needham Harper & Steers, J. Walter Thompson, Yale University, Emery, Purolator, IBM and his old company, Southern New England Telephone, to name just a few. Minervino also established a telecommunications consulting practice for Booz-Allen & Hamilton where he served as senior officer in charge. Mr. Minervino is an avid inventor and innovator, holding numerous copyrights and patents. Throughout his many years of experience in a broad range of business telecommunications situations, one shortcoming stood out repeatedly: there existed no highly reliable and accurate system to provide management information of a company's entire telephone system, so in 1970 Minervino began to develop just such a system, and established the first hardware-software forerunner of what eventually resulted in the Awareness® Service.

The first such system went into operation on a test basis in 1972 in conjunction with Phoenix Mutual, and after twelve months, the results were clear and dramatic; telephone expense, which had been skyrocketing in previous years, was reduced by over 30 percent. Results in hand, Minervino installed similar systems at a number of his clients' facilities - - Aetna, Connecticut Mutual, New England Mutual Life, Paul Revere and others, and began to further refine the systems design and output. Proving that his new telecommunications management information systems were effective, and viable as a product, Minervino has continually developed new and useful services which continue to reduce client's telecommunications expenses substantially. Billing has always been fundamental to Minervino, touting his philosophy that reliable and accurate internal billing procedures will trim usage costs by prudently restraining overuse, misuse and abuse; he created the first customized Virtual Network Billing ("V-NET billing") package in 1984, to service the billing needs of Emery Worldwide, taking the departmental, divisional and location based cost allocation systems to the next level. This combined nucleus of unique capabilities provided the groundwork for Minervino Companies long distance reseller billing services and the cellular and beeper service billing environments, as well as University and Student billing. Harvard University is one of the many university billing clients throughout the country.

Today, the system has grown from a simple elemental billing system to an operation and support system ("OSS") covering more than 25 telecommunication services. Always focused on customer cost savings, Minervino recently developed the unique Prescient service which provides bill

simplification, verification, and improved productivity while reducing overhead for hospitals and other billing intensive businesses.

#### Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice President – Operations One Barnes Park South, Wallingford, CT 06492

Marcarelli began her career in telecommunications in 1973 at Southern New England Telephone Company (SNET) in New Haven, Connecticut where she held positions in engineering, regulatory matters, secretary and treasury, and SNET Systems. Working under the president of the SNET Diversified Group, which managed the unregulated entities of SNET such as SNET-Cellular, SNET Systems and Lightnet.

In 1989 Marcarelli was engaged by MIC, a Minervino company, as director of administration and shortly thereafter was promoted to vice president where in 1990, she was responsible for development of the operations organization supporting the call accounting Awareness® service and the network optimization services "Precision".

In recent years Marie has successfully created a back office company supporting customers of Profitec Billing Services, Inc. another Minervino Company.

Marcarelli is also responsible for creating and developing the back office operations of Prescient. The newest of the Minervino Companies. Prescient provides telecommunications billing verification and validation services to the government and major corporations.

Marcarelli has moved to the position of Executive Vice President of Operations overseeing ComTech21, a telecommunications provider.

# CONFIDENTIAL #/

#### EXHIBIT E - PROPOSED TARIFF

#### RULES, REGULATIONS, AND SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES APPLICABLE TO END USERS

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

FURNISHED BY COMTECH 21, LLC WITHIN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

Effective: February 29, 2004
Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President
COMTECH 21, LLC

One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

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## **CHECK SHEET**

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

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Number	Revision	Number	Revision	Number	Revision	<u>Number</u>	Revision	<u>Number</u>	Revision
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17	Original	47	Original	77	Original			•	
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19	Original	49	Original	79	Original				
20	Original	50	Original	80	Original				
21	Original	51	Original	81	Original				
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24	Original	54	Original	84	Original				
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## **EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS**

The following symbols shall be used in this tariff for the purpose indicated below:

- (C) To signify changed regulation.
- (D) To signify discontinued rate and regulation.
- (I) To signify increased rate.
- (M) To signify a move in the location of text.
- (N) To signify new rate or regulation.
- (R) To signify reduced rate.
- (S) To signify reissued matter.
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.

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# **APPLICATION OF TARIFF**

This tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the local exchange telecommunications services provided by COMTECH 21, LLC to customers within the state of South Dakota.

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President COMTECH 21, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

### **SECTION 1.0 - DEFINITIONS**

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

Access Line - An arrangement which connects the Customer's location to a switching center or point of presence.

Account Codes - Optional, Customer-defined digits that allow the Customer to identify the individual user, department or client associated with a call. Account Codes appear on the Customer bill.

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

**Authorized User** - A person, firm, corporation, or any other entity authorized by the Customer to communicate utilizing the Company's service.

Business - A class of service provided to individuals engaged in business, firms, partnerships, corporations, agencies, shops, works, tenants of office buildings, and individuals practicing a profession or operating a business who have no offices other than their residences and where the use of the service is primarily or substantially of a business, professional or occupational nature.

Commission - South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

Company or Carrier - COMTECH 21, LLC, unless otherwise clearly indicated by the context.

Customer - The person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders, cancels, amends or uses service and is responsible for payment of charges and compliance with the Company's tariff.

Deposit - Refers to a cash or equivalent of cash security held as a guarantee for payment of the charges.

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

Dial Pulse (or "DP") - The pulse type employed by rotary dial station sets.

Dual Tone Multi-Frequency (or "DTMF") - The pulse type employed by tone dial station sets.

End User - Any person, firm, corporation, partnership or other entity which uses the services of the Company under the provisions and regulations of this tariff. The End User is responsible for payment unless the charges for the services utilized are accepted and paid for by another Customer.

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 ("LERG"), issued by Bellcore.

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

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

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

IXC or Interexchange Carrier - A long distance telecommunications services provider.

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

LEC - Local Exchange Company

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

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

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

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

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

PBX - Private Branch Exchange

Premises - A building or buildings on contiguous property.

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

Residence or Residential - A class of service furnished to a Customer at a place of dwelling where the actual or obvious use is for domestic purposes.

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Service Commencement Date - The first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service 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 and this tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The Company and Customer may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

Service Order - The written request for services executed by the Customer and the Company in the format devised by the Company. The signing of an 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.

Telephone Company - Used throughout this tariff to mean COMTECH 21, LLC unless clearly indicated otherwise by the text.

TBD - To Be Determined.

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

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

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

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President
COMTECH 21, LLC

One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

### **SECTION 2.0 - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## 2.1 Undertaking of the Company

### 2.1.1 Scope

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

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

## 2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

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

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

### 2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

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

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COMTECH 21, LLC
One Barnes Park South

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

## 2.1.3 Terms and Conditions, (cont'd.)

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

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

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability

- (A) Except as otherwise stated in this section, the liability of Carrier for damage arising out of the furnishing of its services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, or errors, or other defects, representations, or use of these services shall be determined by South Dakota Statute Sections 49-13-1 and 49-13-1.1.
- (B) Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service in Section 2.7, Carrier shall not be liable to a Customer or third party for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, reliance, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages, including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, including but not limited to, any act or omission, failure to perform, delay, interruption, failure to provide any service of any failure in or breakdown of facilities associated with the service except as determined pursuant to SDCL 49-13-1 and 49-13-1.1.
- (C) The liability of Carrier for errors in billing that result in overpayment by the customer shall be limited to a credit equal to the dollar amount erroneously billed, or in the event that payment has been made and service has been discontinued, to a refund of the amount erroneously billed.

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

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

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

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

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

## 2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

- (E) The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided for use in an explosive atmosphere.
- (F) Failure by the Company to assert its rights pursuant to one provision of this tariff does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.

## 2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

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

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Executive Vice-President

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

## 2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

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

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

### 2.1.7 Non-Routine Installation

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

## 2.1.8 Special Construction

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

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

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

## 2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this tariff remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.

#### 2.2 Prohibited Uses

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

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## 2.3 Obligations of the Customer

### 2.3.1 General

The Customer shall be responsible for:

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

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## 2.3 Obligations of the Customer

## 2.3.1 General (cont'd.)

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

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# 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

## 2.3.2 Liability of the Customer

- (A) Carrier shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer or end user from and against any and all claims, loss, demands, suits, expense, or other action or any liability whatsoever, including attorney fees, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, including environmental contamination, whether owned by the Customer or by any other party, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, presence, condition, location, use or removal of any Carrier or Customer equipment or facilities or service provided by Carrier.
- (B) Carrier does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere. Carrier shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer from and against any and all claims, loss, demands, suits, or other action, or any liability whatsoever, including attorney fees, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, including environmental contamination, whether owned by the Customer or by any other party, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, presence, condition, location, use or removal of any equipment or facilities or the service.
- (C) Notwithstanding any other provision of this tariff and pursuant to S.D. Codified Laws SS 49-13-1 and 49-13-1.1, any person claiming to be damaged by Carrier may either make complaint to the Commission or may bring suit on his own behalf for the recovery of damages in any court of competent jurisdiction in South Dakota, but no person may pursue both remedies at the same time.

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President COMTECH 21, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

## 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

#### 2.4.1 General

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

## 2.4.2 Station Equipment

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

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

#### 2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities

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

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President

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

## 2.4.4 Inspections

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

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- 2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments
  - 2.5.1 Advance Payments

The Company does not collect advance payments from Customers.

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- 2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (Cont'd.)
  - 2.5.2 Deposits

The Company does not require deposits from Customers.

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## 2.6 Payment Arrangements

## 2.6.1 Payment for Services

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

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

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

## 2.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

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

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

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## 2.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

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

- (D) Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the day on which the Company notifies the Customer that the service or facility is available for use, except that the Service Commencement Date may be postponed by mutual agreement of the parties, or if the service or facility does not conform to standards set forth in this tariff or the Service Order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- (E) If any portion of the payment is not received by the Company within 30 days of receipt of this bill, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds which are not immediately available upon presentment, then a late payment charge of 1.5% per month shall be due to the Company. A late payment charge is not applicable to subsequent rebilling of any amount to which a late payment charge has already been applied. Late payment charges are to be applied without discrimination.
- (F) the Customer should notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within one hundred eighty (180) days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules and procedure. The address of the Company and the Commission is as follows:

COMTECH 21, LLC	South Dakota PUC
One Barnes Park South	State Capitol Building
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492	500 East Capitol Ave.
(877) 580-6564	Pierre, South Dakota 57501
	800-332-1782

(G) If service is disconnected by the Company (in accordance with Section 2.6.3 following) and later re-installed, re-installation of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President COMTECH 21, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

## 2.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

#### 2.6.3 Discontinuance of Service for Cause

The Company may discontinue service for the following reasons provided in this Section 2.6.3. Customers will be provided five (5) days written notice prior to discontinuance unless otherwise indicated.

Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under Section 2.6.3(A) or 2.6.3(B), the Company, in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such services would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable (discounted to present value at six percent).

- (A) Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability. No basic residential service shall be disconnected for nonpayment until at lease 29 days from the date of the bill and only following proper written notification. Non-payment of disputed charges by Customer does not constitute discontinuance or suspension of service. Disputed charges will be due after Customer and Company resolve dispute.
- (B) Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- (C) Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- (D) Upon the Customer's insolvency, assignment for the benefit of creditors, filing for bankruptcy or reorganization, or failing to discharge an involuntary petition within the time permitted by law, the Company may immediately discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- (E) Upon any governmental prohibition or governmental required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue service without incurring any liability.

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Effective: February 29, 2004 rie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President

## 2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Continued)

## 2.6.3 Discontinuance of Service for Cause

- (F) Without notice in the event of fraudulent use of the Company's network. The Customer will be liable for all related costs. The Customer will also be responsible for payment of any reconnection charges.
- (G) Without notice in the event of Customer use of equipment or services in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's service to others.
- (H) Without notice in the event of tampering with the equipment or services furnished by the Company.

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## 2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Continued)

## 2.6.4 Notice to Company for Cancellation of Service

Customers desiring to terminate service shall provide the Company thirty (30) days notice of desire to terminate service. If special construction is involved, the required notice shall be written.

## 2.6.5 Cancellation of Application for Service

- (A) Where the Company permits the Customer to cancel an application for service prior to the start of service or prior to any special construction, no charges will be imposed except for those specified below.
- (B) Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun.
- (C) Where the Company incurs any expense in connection with special construction, or where special arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun, before the Company receives a cancellation notice, a charge equal to the costs incurred, less net salvage, may apply. In such cases, the charge will be based on such elements as the cost of the equipment, facilities, and material, the cost of installation, engineering, labor, and supervision, general and administrative expense, other disbursements, depreciation, maintenance, taxes, provision for return on investment, and any other costs associated with the special construction or arrangements.
- (D) The special charges described in 2.6.5(A) through 2.6.5(C) will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

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## 2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Continued)

## 2.6.6 Changes in Services Requested

If the Customer makes or requests material changes in circuit engineering, equipment specifications, service parameters, premises locations, or otherwise materially modifies any provision of the application for service, the Customer's installation fee shall be adjusted accordingly.

### 2.6.7 Bad Check Charge

A service charge of \$20.00 will be assessed in accordance with South Dakota law for all checks returned by a bank or other financial institution for: Insufficient or uncollected funds, closed account, apparent tampering, missing signature or endorsement, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of the instrument at the discretion of the drawee bank or other financial institution.

## 2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

#### 2.7.1 General

- (A) A credit allowance will be given when service is interrupted, except as specified in Section 2.7.2 following. A service is interrupted when it becomes inoperative to the Customer, e.g., the Customer is unable to transmit or receive, because of a failure of a component furnished by the Company under this tariff.
- (B) An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative and, if necessary, releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility or circuit is operative.

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Effective: February 29, 2004 Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President

## 2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Continued)

### 2.7.1 General (Continued)

- (C) If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be interrupted but declines to release it for testing and repair, or refuses access to its premises for test and repair by the Company, the service, facility or circuit is considered to be impaired but not interrupted. No credit allowances will be made for a service, facility or circuit considered by the Company to be impaired.
- (D) The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the premises of the Customer when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

#### 2.7.2 Limitations of Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for any interruption in service:

- (A) Due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by any person or entity other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer;
- (B) Due to the failure of power, equipment, systems, connections or services not provided by the Company;
- (C) Due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company;
- (D) During any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purposes of investigating and correcting interruptions;

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President
COMTECH 21, LLC
One Barnes Park South
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

## 2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Continued)

#### 2.7.2 Limitations of Allowances

- (E) A service will not be deemed to be interrupted if a Customer continues voluntarily make use of the service. If the service is interrupted, the Customer can get a service credit, use another means of communications provided by the Company (pursuant to Section 2.7.3), or utilize another service provider:
- (F) During any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- (G) That occurs or continues due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction.

## 2.7.3 Use of Another Means of Communications

If the Customer elects to use another means of communications during the period of interruption, the Customer must pay the charges for the alternative service used.

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## 2.7 Allowances for Interruption in Service, (Continued)

## 2.7.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service

- (A) Credits for interruptions in service that is provided and billed on a flat rate basis for a minimum period of at least one month, beginning on the date that billing becomes effective, shall in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the Customer for the period of service during which the event that gave rise to the claim for a credit occurred. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rata basis against the rates specified hereunder and is dependent upon the length of the interruption. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of the circuit will receive a credit.
- (B) For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- (C) A credit allowance will be given for interruption of thirty (30) minutes or more. Two or more interruptions of fifteen (15) minutes or more during any one 24-hour period shall be combined into one cumulative interruption.

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## 2.7 Allowances for Interruption in Service, (Continued)

## 2.7.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service, (Continued)

## (D) Interruptions of 24 Hours or Less

Length of Interruption	Amount of Service to be Credited
Less than 30 minutes	None
30 minutes up to but not	1/10 Day
including 3 hours	
3 hours up to but not	1/5 Day
including 6 hours	
6 hours up to but not	2/5 Day
including 9 hours	
9 hours up to but not	3/5 Day
including 12 hours	
12 hours up to but not	4/5 Day
including 15 hours	
15 hours up to but not	One Day
including 24 hours	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

# (E) Interruptions Over 24 Hours and Less Than 72 Hours

Interruptions over 24 hours and less than 72 hours will be credited 1/5 day for each 3-hour period or fraction thereof. No more than one full day's credit will be allowed for any period of 24 hours.

## (F) Interruptions Over 72 Hours

Interruptions over 72 hours will be credited 2 days for each full 24-hour period. No more than thirty (30) days credit will be allowed for any one-month period.

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# 2.7 Allowances for Interruption in Service, (Continued)

#### 2.7.5 Limitations on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- (A) interruptions due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by the Customer, authorized user or joint user;
- (B) interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer;
- (C) interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- (D) interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- (E) interruptions of service during any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- (F) interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of Company; and
- (G) that occur or continue due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction.

#### 2.7.6 Cancellation For Service Interruption

Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous outage of eight (8) hours or more or cumulative service credits equaling sixteen(16) hours in a continuous twelve (12) month period. The right to cancel service under this provision applies only to the single circuit which has been subject to the outage or cumulative service credits.

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# 2.8 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability

If a Customer cancels a service order or terminates services before the completion of the term for any reason other than a service interruption (as defined in Section 2.7.1) or where the Company breaches the terms in the service contract, Customer may be requested by the Company to pay to 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 Section 2.6.2.

## 2.8.1 Termination Liability

Customer's termination liability for cancellation of service shall be equal to:

- (A) all unpaid non-recurring charges reasonably expended by Company to establish service to Customer, plus;
- (B) any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by Company on behalf of Customer, plus;
- (C) all recurring charges specified in the applicable Service Order for the balance of the then current term discounted at the prime rate announced in the *Wall Street Journal* on the third business day following the date of cancellation;
- (D) minus a reasonable allowance for costs avoided by the Company as a direct result of Customer's cancellation.

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#### 2.9 Reserved for Future Use

## 2.10 Use of Customer's Service by Others

## 2.10.1 Resale and Sharing

There are no prohibitions or limitations on the resale of services. Prices for services appear in the price sheet attached to this tariff. Any service provided under this tariff may be resold to or shared with other persons at the option of Customer, subject to compliance with any applicable laws of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission regulations governing such resale or sharing. The Customer remains solely responsible for all use of services ordered by it or billed to its telephone number(s) pursuant to this tariff, for determining who is authorized to use its services, and for notifying the Company of any unauthorized use.

#### 2.10.2 Reserved for Future Use

#### 2.11 Transfers and Assignments

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights an duties to a) any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the Company; b) pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or c) pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

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#### 2.12 Notices and Communications

- 2.12.2 The Customer shall designate on the service order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- 2.12.3 The Company shall designate on the service order an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Company may designate a separate address on each bill for service to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.12.4 Except as otherwise stated in this tariff, all notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff will be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following placement of the notice, communication or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- 2.12.5 The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

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#### SECTION 3.0 - SERVICE AREAS

## 3.1 Exchange Service Areas

Local exchange services are provided, subject to availability of facilities and equipment, in areas currently served by the following Incumbent LECs: 1) Qwest.

## 3.2 Rate Groups

Charges for local services provided by the Company may be based, in part, on the Rate Group associated with the Customers End Office. The Rate Group is determined by the total access lines and PBX trunks in the local calling area which can be reached from each End Office.

In the event that an Incumbent LEC or the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission reclassifies an exchange from one Rate Group to another, the reclassification will also apply to customers who purchase services under this tariff. Local calling areas and Rate Group assignments are equivalent to those areas and groups specified in Qwest's South Dakota General Subscriber Service Tariff (GSST).

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## SECTION 3.0 - SERVICE AREAS (CONT'D)

#### 3.3 Extended Area Service Additive

Certain exchanges within the Telecommunications Service Territory within South Dakota utilize an Extended Area Service additive to the rates provided in Sections 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5 of this tariff. The following chart identifies the additive rates that need to be added to the rates in those sections for the Extended Area Service rate.

# 3.3.1 Flat Rate Service Additive

To Be Determined

# 3.3.2 Message Rate Service Additive

To Be Determined

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## **SECTION 4.0 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES**

# 4.1 Service Order and Change Charges

Non-recurring charges apply to processing Service Orders for new service, for changes in service, and for changes in the Customer's primary interexchange carrier (PIC) code.

	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Business</u>
Line Connection Charge		
First Line	TBD	TBD
Each Additional Line	TBD	TBD
Line Change Charge		
First Line	TBD	TBD
Each Additional Line	TBD	TBD

#### 4.2 Maintenance Visit Charges

Maintenance Visit Charges apply when the Company dispatches personnel to a Customer's premises to perform work necessary for installing new service, effecting changes in service or resolving troubles reported by the Customer when the trouble is found to be caused by the Customer's facilities.

Maintenance Visit Charges will be credited to the Customer's account in the event trouble is not found in the Company facilities, but the trouble is later determined to be in those facilities.

The time period for which the Maintenance Visit Charges is applied will commence when Company personnel are dispatched at the Customer premises and end when work is completed. The rates for Maintenance of Service vary by time per Customer request.

Duration of time, per technician	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Business</u>
Initial 15 minute increment	TBD	TBD
Each Additional 15 minute increment	TBD	TBD

#### 4.3 Restoration of Service

A restoration charge applies to the restoration of suspended service and facilities because of nonpayment of bills and is payable at the time that the restoration of the suspended service and facilities is arranged. The restoration charge does not apply when, after disconnection of service, service is later re-installed.

• .			 <u>Residence</u>	<u>Business</u>
Per occasion			TBD	TBD

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#### **SECTION 5.0 - NETWORK SERVICES DESCRIPTIONS**

#### 5.1 General

#### 5.1.1 Services Offered

The following Network Services are available to residence/business Customers and for resale by other carriers certificated by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission:

Standard Residence Line Service Standard Business Line Service PBX Trunk Service Direct Inward Dial (DID) Service Optional Calling Features

The following services are available to residence/business Customers and are not offered on a resale basis as of the effective date of this page.

Listing Services (including Non Published and Non Listed Services)
Directory Assistance
Miscellaneous Services (including Vanity Numbers and Number Portability)

#### 5.1.2 Application of Rates and Charges

All services offered in this tariff are subject to service order and change charges where the Customer requests new services or changes in existing services, as well as indicated Non-Recurring and Monthly Recurring Charges. Charges for local calling services may be assessed on a measured rate basis and are additional to monthly recurring charges shown for Business or Residence lines, PBX Trunks, DID Trunks and Digital/DS1 service.

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## 5.1 General (Continued)

# 5.1.3 Emergency Services Calling Plan

Access (at no additional charge) to the local operator or emergency services bureau by dialing 0- or 9-1-1 is offered at no charge to the Customer.

Message toll telephone calls, to governmental emergency service agencies as set forth in (A) following, having primary or principal responsibility with respect to the provision of emergency services to persons and property in the area from which the call is made, meeting the definition and criteria of an emergency call as set forth in (B) following are offered at no charge to Customers:

Governmental fire fighting, South Dakota State Highway Patrol, police, and emergency squad service (as designated by the appropriate governmental agency) qualify as governmental emergency service agencies provided they answer emergency service calls on a personally attended (live) twenty-four (24) hour basis, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year, including holidays.

An emergency is an occurrence or set of circumstances in which conditions pose immediate threat to human life, property, or both and necessitate that prompt action be taken. An emergency call is an originated call of short duration to a governmental emergency services agency in order to seek assistance for such an emergency.

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## 5.2 Call Timing for Usage Sensitive Services

Where charges for a service are specified based on the duration of use, such as the duration of a telephone call, the following rules apply:

- 5.2.1 Calls are measured in durational increments identified for each service. All calls, which are fractions of a measurement increment, are rounded-up to the next whole unit.
- 5.2.2 Timing on completed calls begins when the call is answered by the called party. Answering is determined by hardware answer supervision in all cases where this signaling is provided by the terminating local carrier and any intermediate carrier(s).
- 5.2.3 Timing terminates on all calls when the calling party hangs up or the Company's network receives an off-hook signal from the terminating carrier.
- 5.2.4 Calls originating in one time period and terminating in another will be billed in proportion to the rates in effect during different segments of the call.
- 5.2.5 All times refer to local time.

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#### 5.3 Distance Calculations

Where charges for a service are specified based upon distance, the following rules apply:

- 5.3.1 Distance between two points is measured as airline distance between the rate centers of the originating and terminating telephone lines. The rate center is a set of geographic coordinates, as referenced in Local Exchange Routing Guide issued by Bellcore, associated with each NPA-NXX combination (where NPA is the area code and NXX is the first three digits of a seven-digit telephone number). Where there is not telephone number associated with an access line on the Company's network (such as a dedicated 800 or WATS access line), the Company will apply the rate center of the Customer's main billing telephone number.
- 5.3.2 The airline distance between any two rate centers is determined as follows:
  - Step 1: Obtain the "V" (vertical) and "H" (horizontal) coordinates for each Rate Center from the above-referenced Bellcore document.
  - Step 2: Computer the difference between he "V" coordinate of the two rate centers; and the difference between the two "H" coordinates.
  - Step 3: Square each difference obtained in step (b) above.
  - Step 4: Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in step C) above.
  - Step 5: Divide the sum of the squares by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained.
  - Step 6: Obtain the square root of the whole number result obtained above. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the airline mileage.
- **5.3.3** The formula for distance calculations is:

$$(V_1 - V_2)^2 + (H_1 - H_2)^2$$

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## 5.4 Rate Periods for Time of Day Sensitive Services

**5.4.1** For time of day, usage sensitive services, the following rate periods apply unless otherwise specified in this tariff.

MON TUES WED THUR FRI SAT SUN

8:00 AM TO

5:00 PM\* DAYTIME RATE PERIOD

5:00 PM

TO EVENING RATE PERIOD EVE

11:00 PM\*

11:00 PM TO

8:00 AM\* NIGHT/WEEKEND RATE PERIOD

\*Up to but not including.

5.4.2 Calls are billed based on the rate in effect for the actual time period(s) during which the call occurs. Calls that cross rate period boundaries are billed the rates in effect in that boundary for each portion of the call, based on the time of day at the Customer location.

5.4.3 For services subject to holiday discounts, the following are Company recognized national holidays, determined at the location of the calling station. The evening rate is used on national holidays, unless a lower rate normally would apply.

New Year's Day January 1

Memorial Day As Federally Observed

Independence Day July 4

Thanksgiving Day As Federally Observed

Christmas Day December 25

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#### 5.5 Standard Residence Line

A Standard Residence Line provides the Customer with a single, analog, voice-grade telephonic communications channel, which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Standard Residence Lines are provided for the connection of Customer-provided wiring and single station sets or facsimile machines. An optional per line Hunting feature is available for multi-line Customers which routes a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy.

#### 5.6 Standard Business Line

The Standard Business Line provides a Customer with a single, analog, voice-grade telephonic communications channel, which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Standard Business Lines are provided for the connection of Customer-provided wiring and single station sets or facsimile machines. An optional per line Hunting feature is available for multi-line Customers which routes a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy.

#### 5.7 PBX Trunk Service

Basic PBX Trunk Service provides a Customer with a single, voice-grade telephonic communications channel, which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Basic Trunks are provided for connection of Customer-provided private branch exchanges (PBX) to the public switched telecommunications network. Each Basic PBX Trunk is provided with touch-tone signaling and may be configured into a hunt group at no additional charge with other Company-provided Basic PBX Trunks. The signal is an analog signal at the DS0 level.

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- 5.8 Reserved for Future Use
- 5.9 Direct Inward Dialing (DID) Service

Direct Inward Dialing ("DID") permits calls incoming to a PBX system or other Customer Premises Equipment to be routed to a specific station without the assistance of an attendant. DID calls are routed directly to the station associated with the called number. DID service as offered by the Company provides the necessary trunks, telephone numbers, and out-pulsing of digits to enables DID service at a Customer's location. DID service requires special PBX software and hardware not provided by the Company. Such hardware and software is the responsibility of the Customer.

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#### 5.10 Reserved for Future Use

#### 5.11 Optional Calling Features

The features listed in Section 5.11.1 are offered by the Company to Residential and Business Customers. Refer to Price Lists in Sections 6 and 7 of this tariff for specific features offered with each type of local exchange service.

#### 5.11.1 Features Descriptions

(A) Flexible Call Forwarding: Provides end-user control for call forwarding capabilities via dial-accessed voice prompt menus. Customers may forward calls to a primary local or long distance. The end-user may specify a secondary location for routing of go unanswered at the forward-to location or reach a busy signal. This secondary location may be another telephone number, pager or voice messaging service. Other capabilities included with this feature include:

Speed Forwarding; Priority Screening; Ring Control; and Timed Forwarding.

It is the responsibility of the Customer to subscribe to the telephone number, pager or voice messaging service used as the secondary location.

- (B) Flexible Call Forwarding with Audio Calling Name: Provides all of the functionality of Enhanced Call Forwarding. Also permits the end-user to receive the Directory Name of the party's whose call was forwarded to primary number. In some situations, the end-user may hear the calling party's city and state or telephone number, depending on available call data.
- (C) Flexible Call Forwarding Plus: Provides all of the functionality of Enhanced Call Forwarding. Also includes an additional telephone number with directory listing and distinctive ringing for calls placed to the additional number. Enhanced Call Forwarding Plus allows parties to reach the end-user's location when FCF is active and all calls to the end-users main telephone number would normally forward. Calls to the additional number do not forward even when Enhanced Call Forwarding is active.

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# 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

## 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

- (D) Flexible Call Forwarding Plus with Audio Calling Name: Provides all of the functionality of Enhanced Call Forwarding Plus including the additional telephone number with listing and distinctive ringing. Also permits the end-user to receive the Directory Name of the party's whose call was forwarded to primary number. In some situations, the end-user may hear the calling party's city and state or telephone number, depending on available call data.
- (E) Call Forwarding Variable: Permits the end-user to automatically forward (transfer) all incoming calls to another telephone number, and to restore it to normal operation at their discretion. The end-user must dial an activation code from his/her exchange line along with the forward-to number in order to turn the feature on. A separate code is dialed by the end-user to deactivate the feature.
- (F) Call Forwarding Variable, Remote Access: Permits the end-user to automatically forward (transfer) all incoming calls to another telephone number, and to restore it to normal operation at their discretion. The end-user must dial an activation code along with the forward-to number in order to turn the feature on. A separate code is dialed by the end-user to deactivate the feature. Feature activation may be performed from the end-user's exchange line or remotely from some other line. Remote access requires the end-user to (1) dial a special access number 2) enter their seven-digit telephone number and 3) enter a personal identification number prior to forwarding their calls.
- (G) Call Forwarding Don't Answer, Basic: Permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line remains unanswered after a pre-designated ringing interval. The ringing interval before forwarding and the forward-to number are fixed by the service order.
- (H) Call Forwarding Don't Answer w/Ring Control: Permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line remains unanswered after a pre-designated ringing interval. The forward-to number is fixed by the service order. However, the end-user has the ability to change the time interval before forwarding occurs at his/her discretion.

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# 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

#### 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

- (I) Call Forwarding Don't Answer w/Customer Control: Permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line remains unanswered after a pre-designated ringing interval. The ringing interval before forwarding and the forward-to number are fixed by the service order. However, the end-user has the ability to turn the feature on or off at his/her discretion.
- (J) Call Forwarding Busy Line, Basic: Permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line is busy. The forwarded number is fixed by the end-user service order.
- (K) Call Forwarding Busy Line w/Customer Control: Permits the forwarding of incoming calls when the end-user's line is busy. The forwarded number is fixed by the end-user service order. However, the end-user has the ability to turn the feature on or off at his/her discretion.
- (L) Call Waiting ~ Basic: Call Waiting provides a tone signal to indicate to a Customer already engaged in a telephone call that a second caller is attempting to dial in. It permits the Customer to place the first call on hold, answer the second call and then alternate between both callers. Cancel Call Waiting is provided with the feature and allows a Call Waiting end-user to disable the Call Waiting feature for the duration of a single outgoing telephone call. Cancel Call Waiting is activate by dialing a special code prior to placing a call, and is automatically deactivated when the Customer disconnects from the call.

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## 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

## 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

(M) Call Waiting — Deluxe: Allows the end-user to control the treatment applied to incoming calls while the Customer is off-hook on an existing call. This feature includes the capabilities of Call Waiting Basic plus additional call treatment options. Treatment options offered with Call Waiting Deluxe include:

Answer the waiting call and placing the first party on hold; Answer the waiting call and disconnecting from the first party; Direct the waiting caller to hold via a recording Forward the waiting caller to another location (e.g., voice mailbox or telephone answering service)

Full utilization of Call Waiting Deluxe requires specialized CPE not provided by the Company. It is the responsibility of the Customer to provide the necessary CPE. The end-user must have Caller ID Basic or Deluxe for display of calling party identification information for waiting calls. The end-user must have a Call Forwarding don't Answer feature active in order to forward a waiting call to another location.

- (N) Call Waiting Deluxe with Conferencing: Provides all of the functionality of Call Waiting Deluxe. Also permits the end-user to conference a waiting call with an existing call (first party) and, if desired, subsequently drop either leg of the conferenced call.
- (O) Caller ID Basic: Permits the end-user to view a Directory Number of the calling party on incoming telephone calls. Information is displayed on a specialized CPE not provided by the Company. The feature also provides the date and time of each incoming call. It is the responsibility of the Customer to provide the necessary CPE.

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# 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

# 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

- (P) Caller ID Deluxe: Permits the end-user to view a Directory Name and Directory Number of the calling party on incoming telephone calls. Information is displayed on a specialized CPE not provided by the Company. The feature also provides the date and time of each incoming call. It is the responsibility of the Customer to provide the necessary CPE. In some situations, the calling party's city and state may be displayed rather than a Directory Name, depending on available call data.
- (Q) Anonymous Call Rejection: Permits the end-user to automatically reject incoming calls when the call originates from a telephone number which has blocked delivery of its calling number (see Calling Number Delivery Blocking). When active, calls from private numbers will be routed to a special announcement then terminated. The feature may be turned on or off by the end-user by dialing the appropriate feature control code. Anonymous Call Rejection is offered as a stand-alone feature or as an add-on to Caller ID Deluxe.
- (R) Call Block: Allows the end-user to automatically block incoming calls from up to six end-user pre-selected telephone numbers programmed into the feature's screening list. Callers whose numbers have been blocked will hear a recorded message stating that their call has been blocked. The end-user controls when the feature is active, and can add or remove calling numbers from the feature's screening list.
- (S) Call Return: Allows the Customer to return a call to the last incoming call whether answered or not. Upon activation, it will redial the number automatically and continue to check the number every 45 seconds for up to 30 minutes if the number is busy. The Customer is alerted with a distinctive ringing pattern when the busy number is free. When the Customer answers the ring, the call is then completed. The calling party's number will not be delivered or announced to the call recipient under any circumstances.

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# 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

## 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

- (T) Call Selector: Allows a Customer to assign a maximum of 15 telephone numbers to a special list. The Customer will hear a distinctive ring when calls are received from telephone numbers on that list.
- (U) Call Tracing: Allows the tracing of nuisance calls to a specified telephone number suspected of originating from a given local office. The tracing is activated upon entering the specified dial code. The originating telephone number, outgoing trunk number or terminating number, and the time and date are generated for every call to the specified telephone number can then be identified.
- (V) Calling Number Delivery Blocking: Prevents the delivery, display and announcement of the end-user's Directory Number and Directory Name on all calls dialed from an exchange service equipped with this option. When active, the end-user's telephone name and number will not appear on the called party's Caller ID CPE or be disclosed in another way. The feature is available on a per call or per line basis. With per call Calling Number Delivery Blocking, it is necessary for the end-user to dial an activation code prior to placing the call. With the per line version of the feature, all calls are placed with the end-user's number blocked. Per line end-users must dial an activation code prior to utilization.
- (W) Message Waiting Indication: Provides the end-user with an audible (stutter dial tone) or visual (lamp or other CPE display) indication that messages are waiting to be retrieved. Message Waiting Indication can only be activated/deactivated by a voice mailbox or other voice messaging service provided by the Company or third party. It is the responsibility of the Customer to subscribe to a compatible voice messaging service. Visual Message Waiting Indication requires specialized CPE not provided by the Company. It is the responsibility of the Customer to provide the necessary CPE.

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# 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

## 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

- (X) Multiple Directory Number Distinctive Ringing: This feature allows an end user to determine the source of an incoming call from a distinctive ring. The end user may have up to two additional numbers assigned to a single line (i.e. Distinctive Ringing First Number and Distinctive Ringing Second Number). The designated primary number will receive a normal ringing pattern; other numbers will receive distinctive ringing patterns. The pattern is based on the telephone number that the calling party dials.
- (Y) Preferred Call Forwarding: Permits the end-user to automatically forward to another number calls received from up to six end-user pre-selected telephone numbers programmed into the features screening list. The end-user controls when the feature is active, the forward-to-number and can add or remove calling numbers from the feature's screening list.
- (Z) Repeat Dialing: Permits the end-user to have calls automatically redialed when the first attempt reaches a busy number. The line is checked every 45 seconds for up to 30 minutes and alerts the Customer with a distinctive ringing pattern when the busy number and the Customer's line are free. The Customer can continue to make and receive calls while the feature is activated. The following types of calls cannot be reached using Repeat Dialing:

Calls to 800 Service numbers
Calls to 900 Service numbers
Calls preceded by an interexchange carrier access code
International Direct Distance Dialed calls
Calls to Directory Assistance
Calls to 911

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## 5.11 Optional Calling Features, (continued)

#### 5.11.1 Feature Descriptions, (continued)

- (AA) Speed Calling: Permits the Customer to place calls to other telephone numbers by dialing a one or two digit code rather than the complete telephone number. The feature is available as either an eight (8) code list or a thirty (30) code list. Code lists may include local and/or toll telephone numbers. The Customer has the ability to add or remove telephone numbers and codes to/from the speed calling list without assistance from the Company.
- (AB) Three Way Calling: Permits the end-user to add a third party to an established connection. When the third party answers, a two-way conversation can be held before adding the original party for a three-way conference. The end-user initiating the conference controls the call and may disconnect the third party to reestablish the original connection or establish a connection to a different third party. The feature may be used on both outgoing and incoming.

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#### 5.12 Listing Services

For each Customer of Company-provided Exchange Service(s), the Company shall arrange for the listing of the Customer's main billing telephone number in the directory(ies) published by the dominant Local Exchange Carrier in the area at no additional charge. At a Customer's option, the Company will arrange for additional listings for an additional charge.

#### 5.12.1 Non-Published Service

This optional service provides for suppression of printed and recorded directory listings. A Customer's name and number do not appear in printed directories or Directory Assistance Bureau records.

#### 5.12.2 Non-Listed Service

This optional service provides for suppression of printed directory listings only. Parties may still obtain the Customer's number by calling the Directory Assistance Bureau.

# 5.13 Directory Assistance

Provides for identification of telephone directory numbers, via an operator or automated platform. Customers are provided with a maximum of 2 listings per each call to Directory Assistance.

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President
COMTECH 21, LLC

One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

- 5.14 Reserved for Future Use
- 5.15 Reserved for Future Use
- 5.16 Miscellaneous Services

#### 5.16.1 Main Number Retention

Main Number Retention is an optional feature by which a Customer, who was formally a customer of another certified local exchange carrier at the same premises location, may retain its main telephone numbers and main fax numbers for use with the Company-provided Exchange Services. Main Number Retention service is only available in areas where the Company maintains some form of number retention arrangement with the Customer's former local exchange carrier.

# 5.16.2 Pay Per Call Blocking/Unblocking

This service provides the option of blocking, or subsequent unblocking, all 900 and 976 calls on a per line basis. The Company will provide for per-line blocking where the Company's switching facilities permit.

## 5.16.3 Vanity Number Service

This service provides for the reservation of special or unique telephone number and fax number for use with the Company-provided exchange services.

#### 5.16.4 Presubscription Services

This service provides for the Presubscription of local exchange lines provided by the Company to the intraLATA and interLATA long distance carrier(s) selected by the Customer.

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# **SECTION 6.0 - RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE**

6.1 Reserved for Future Use

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# SECTION 7.0 - LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES PRICE LIST

#### 7.1 General

Services provided in this tariff section are available on a Resale Service basis. Local Resale Services are provided through the use of resold switching and transport facilities obtained from Other Telephone Companies.

The rates, terms and conditions set forth in the section are applicable where the Company provides specified local exchange services to Customers through resale of local exchange services.

All rates set forth in this Section are subject to change and may be changed by the Company pursuant to notice requirements established by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

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# 7.2 Standard Residence Local Exchange Service

Standard Residence Local Exchange Service provides the Customer with a single, analog, voice-grade telephonic communications channel, which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Standard Residence Local Exchange Service lines are provided for the connection of Customer-provided wiring, telephones, facsimile machines or other station equipment. An optional per line Hunting feature is available for multi-line Customers, which routes a call to the next idle line in a prearranged group when the called line is busy.

Local exchange service lines and trunks are provided on a single party (individual) basis only. No multi-party lines are provided. Service is available on a flat rate, measured rate or message rate basis depending on the service plan selected by the Customer. Not all service plans will be available in all areas.

Usage charges if applicable are billed in arrears. Usage charges may apply for calls placed from the Customer's line. No usage charges will apply to calls received by the Customer. Non-recurring charges for installation or rearrangement of service are billed on the next month's bill immediately following work performed by the Company.

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## 7.2 Standard Residence Local Exchange Service (Continued)

## 7.2.1 Monthly Recurring Charges

The following charges apply to Standard Residence Local Exchange Service lines per month. Rates and charges include Touch-tone Service for each line. The rates and charges below apply to service provided on a month-to-month basis.

TO BE DETERMINED

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# 7.2 Standard Residence Local Exchange Service (Continued)

## 7.2.2 Other Monthly Recurring Charges

# (A) Hunting (a.k.a. Rotary or Grouping)

The following charges apply to Standard Residence Local Exchange lines equipped with Hunting. Rates vary based on Rate Group.

To Be Determined

# 7.2.3 Usage Sensitive Charges and Allowances

## (A) Flat Rate Service

No measured or message charges apply to calls placed or received from Flat Rate service lines. Customers receive unlimited calling within their local calling area.

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- 7.2 Standard Residence Local Exchange Service, (Continued)
  - 7.2.3 Usage Sensitive Charges and Allowances, (Continued)
    - (B) Message Service

Customers subscribing to Message Service will receive a monthly usage allowance of 30 outgoing calls. This allowance is applied to local calls placed from the Customer's line. Local usage in excess of the allowance will be billed in arrears. Local usage is billed on a per call basis.

Per Local Call

**TBD** 

(1) Calls to Expanded Service Areas

The following per minute rates apply to calls to points in the Expanded Service Areas as defined in the General Subscriber Service Tariff, Section A3, presently on file with the SD. PUC.

TO BE DETERMINED

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## 7.2 Standard Residence Local Exchange Service, (Continued)

## 7.2.4 Non-Recurring Charges

Non-recurring charges apply to each line installed for the Customer. Non-recurring charges are in addition to applicable service order charges contained in Section 4 of this tariff. All such charges will appear on the next bill following installation of the service.

Non-recurring charges for installation of Residential lines are:

First Line TBD Each Additional Line(1) TBD

#### NOTES:

(1) Additional Line installation charges apply only when 2 or more lines are installed at the same time and at the same Customer Premises.

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## 7.3 Standard Business Local Exchange Service

Standard Business Local Exchange Service provides the Customer with a single, analog, voice-grade telephonic communications channel, which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Standard Business Local Exchange Service lines are provided for the connection of Customer-provided wiring, telephones, facsimile machines or other station equipment. An optional per line Hunting feature is available for multi-line Customers which routes a call to the next idle line in a prearranged group when the called line is busy.

Local exchange service lines and trunks are provided on a single party (individual) basis only. No multi-party lines are provided. Service is available on a flat rate, measured rate or message rate basis depending on the service plan selected by the Customer. Not all service plans will be available in all areas.

Usage charges, if applicable are billed in arrears. Usage charges may apply for calls placed from the Customer's line. No usage charges will apply to calls received by the Customer. Non-recurring charges for installation or rearrangement of service are billed on the next month's bill immediately following work performed by the Company.

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## 7.3 Standard Business Local Exchange Service, (Continued)

# 7.3.1 Monthly Recurring Charges

The following charges apply to Standard Business Local Exchange Service lines per month. Rates and charges include Touchtone Service for each line. The rates and charges below apply to service provided on a month-to-month basis.

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- 7.3 Standard Business Local Exchange Service, (Continued)
  - 7.3.2 Other Monthly Recurring Charges
    - (A) Hunting (a/k/a Rotary or Grouping)

The following charges apply to Standard Business Local Exchange lines equipped with Hunting. Rates vary based on Rate Group.

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COMTECH 21, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

# 7.3 Standard Business Local Exchange Service, (Continued)

## 7.3.3 Usage Sensitive Charges and Allowances

#### (A) Flat Rate Service

No measured or message charges apply to calls placed or received from Flat Rate service lines. Customers receive unlimited calling within their local calling area.

## (B) Message Service

Customers subscribing to Message Service will receive a monthly usage allowance of 75 outgoing calls. This allowance is applied to local calls placed from the Customer's line. Local usage in excess of the allowance will be billed in arrears. Local usage is billed on a per call basis.

Per Local Call

**TBD** 

# (1) Calls to Expanded Service Areas

The following per minute rates apply to calls to points in the Expanded Service Areas as defined in the Qwest's General Subscriber Service Tariff presently on file with the SD PUC.

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Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President
COMTECH 21, LLC
One Barnes Park South

One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

# 7.3 Standard Business Local Exchange Service, (Continued)

## 7.3.4 Non-Recurring Charges

Non-recurring charges apply to each line installed for the Customer. Non-recurring charges are in addition to applicable service order charges contained in Section 4 of this tariff. All such charges will appear on the next bill following installation of the service.

Non-recurring charges for installation of Residential lines are:

First Line TBD Each Additional Line(1) TBD

#### NOTES:

(1) Additional Line installation charges apply only when 2 or more lines are installed at the same time and at the same Customer Premises.

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### 7.5 Residence and Business PBX Trunk Service

PBX Trunk service provides a Customer with a single, voice-grade telephonic communications channel which can be used to place one call at a time. Trunks are provided for connection of Customer-provided private branch exchanges (PBX) or other station equipment to the public switched telecommunications network.

PBX Trunks are available to Business and Residence Customers as Inward, Outward or Two-Way combination trunks where services and facilities permit.

Each PBX Trunk is provided with Touchtone signaling at no additional charge. An optional per trunk Hunting feature is available for Customers which routes a call to the next idle trunk in a prearranged group (see Sections 7.2 and 7.3).

PBX Trunks may also be equipped with Direct Inward Dialing (DID) capability and DID number blocks for additional charges (see Section 7.6).

7.5.1 Flat Rate Service

To Be Determined

7.5.2 Message Rate Service

To Be Determined

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### 7.6 Direct Inward Dialing (DID) Service

Direct Inward Dialing ("DID") permits calls incoming to a PBX system or other Customer Premises Equipment to be routed to a specific station without the assistance of an attendant. DID calls are route directly to the station associated with the called number. DID service as offered by the Company provides the necessary trunks, telephone numbers, and out-pulsing of digits to enable DID service at a Customer's location. DID service requires special PBX software and hardware not provided by the Company. Such hardware and software is the responsibility of the Customer.

The following charges apply to Customers subscribing to DID service provided by the Company. These charges are in addition to recurring and non-recurring charges for PBX Trunks as shown in Section 7.5 of this tariff. The Customer will be charged for the number of DID numbers utilized out of the available 20 numbers.

	Installation <u>Charge</u>	Monthly <u>Recurring</u>
Establish Trunk Group and Provide 1st Block of 20 DID Numbers	TBD	TBD
Each Additional Block of 20 DID Numbers	TBD	TBD
DID Trunk Termination: Per Inward Only Trunk Per Combination Trunk with Call Transfer	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Dual Tone Multifrequency Pulsing Option, Per Trunk	N/A	TBD
Automatic Intercept Service, Per Number Referred	TBD	N/A

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### 7.7 Reserved For Future Use

### 7.8 Optional Calling Features

The features in this section are made available on an individual basis or as part of multiple feature packages. All features are provided subject to availability. Certain features may not be available with all classes of service. Transmission levels for calls forwarded or calls placed or received using optional calling features may not be acceptable for all some uses in some cases.

### 7.8.1 Features Offered on a Usage Sensitive Basis

The following features are available to all local exchange Business and Residence line Customers where facilities and services permit. Customers may utilize each feature by dialing the appropriate access code. The Customer will be billed the Per Feature Activation Charge shown in the following table each time a feature is used by the Customer. Customers may subscribe to these features on a monthly basis at their option to obtain unlimited use of these features for a fixed monthly charge.

Optional Calling Features	Residence	<b>Business</b>
Three-Way Calling	TBD	TBD
Call Return	TBD	TBD
Repeat Dialing	TBD	TBD
Calling Number Delivery Blocking, Per Call	TBD	TBD

Denial of per call activation for Three-Way Calling, Call Return and Repeat Dialing from any line or trunk is available to Customers upon request at no additional charge.

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### 7.8 Optional Calling Features, (Continued)

### 7.8.2 Features Offered on a Monthly Basis

The following optional calling features are offered to Customers on a monthly basis. Customers are allowed unlimited use of each feature. No usage sensitive charges apply. Multiline Customers must order the appropriate number of features based on the number of lines which will have access to the feature.

Optional Calling Feature	Residence	Business
Flexible Call Forwarding Flexible Call Forwarding		
with Audio Calling Name Flexible Call Forwarding Plus Flexible Call Forwarding Plus		
with Audio Calling Name		
Call Forwarding Variable Call Forwarding Variable with Remote Access		
Call Forwarding Don't Answer – Basic Call Forwarding Don't Answer		
w/Ring Control Call Forwarding Don't Answer w/Customer Control		
Call Forwarding Busy Line – Basic Call Forwarding Busy Line		
w/Customer Control  Call Waiting – Basic  Call Waiting – Deluxe		

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Call Waiting - Deluxe with Conferencing

### 7.8 Optional Calling Features, (Continued)

### 7.8.2 Features Offered on a Monthly Basis

Optional Calling Feature (cont'd)	Residence	Business
Caller ID – Basic		
Caller ID – Deluxe		
Caller ID – Deluxe		
W/Anonymous Call Rejection		
Anonymous Call Rejection		
Call Block		
Call Return		
Call Selector		
Call Tracing		
Calling Number Delivery Blocking		
(per line equipped)		
Message Waiting Indication - Audible		
Message Waiting Indication - Audible		
and Visual		
Multiple Directory Number Distinctive		
Ringing – First DN		
Multiple Directory Number Distinctive		
Ringing – Second DN		
Preferred Call Forwarding		
Repeat Dialing		
Speed Calling (30 codes)		
Speed Calling (8 codes)		
Three Way Calling		

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### 8.1 Directory Listings

### 8.1.1 General

The following rules apply to standard listings in light face type in the white pages (alphabetical section) of the telephone directory and to the Directory Assistance records of the Company.

Only information necessary to identify the Customer is included in these listings. The Company use abbreviations in listings. The Company may reject a residence listing, which is judged to be advertising. It may also reject a listing it judges to be objectionable. A name made up by adding a term such as Company, Shop, Agency, Works, etc. to the name of a commodity or service willing to be accepted as a listing unless the subscriber is legally doing business under that name.

A name may be repeated in the white pages only when a different address or telephone number is used.

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### 8.1 Directory Listings, (Continued)

### 8.1.2 Composition of Listings

### (A) Names

The following names may be included in business service listings:

- (1) The name of subscriber or joint user.
- (2) The name of each business enterprise which the subscriber or joint user conducts.
- (3) The name by which the business of a subscriber or joint user is known to the public. Only one such name representing the same general line of business will be accepted.
- (4) The name of any person associated with the subscriber or joint user in the same business.
- (5) The name of any person, firm or organization which subscriber or joint user is authorized to represent, or the name of an authorized representative of the subscriber or joint user.
- (6) Alternative spelling of an individual name or alternative arrangement of a business name, provided the listing in the judgment of the Company, is not for advertising purposes. The name of a publication issued periodically by the subscriber or joint user.
- (7) The name of an inactive business organization in a cross-reference listing when authorized by such business or organization.
- (8) The name of a member of subscriber's domestic establishment when business service is furnished in the subscriber's residence.
- (9) The name of a corporation which is the parent or a subsidiary of the subscriber.
- (10) The name of a resident of a hotel, apartment house, boarding house or club which is furnished PBX service, may be included in a residence type listing with the telephone number of the PBX service.
- (11) The name of the subscriber to a sharing arrangement.

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### 8.1 Directory Listings, (Continued)

### 8.1.2 Composition of Listings, (Continued)

### (B) <u>Designation</u>

The purpose of a business designation is to identify the listed party and not to advertise the business. No designation of the nature of the business is included if this is sufficiently indicated by the name. Where a listed party is engaged in more than one general line of business, one additional business designation may be included in the listing when necessary to identify the listed party. When a listed party has two or more listed telephone number or two or more business addresses, designations indicating the branches of the organization may be included where necessary to assist the public in calling.

A designation may include a title to indicate a listed party's official position, but not the name of the firm or corporation with which the individual is connected. Individual names or titles are not shown following the name of a firm or corporation. A term such as "renting agent" may be included in a listing indented under the name of a building, provided the agent maintains a renting office in such a building.

A designation is not ordinarily provided in a residence type listing except for residential service as permitted under the terms of this tariff. A professional designation is permitted on residence service in the case of a physician, surgeon, dentist, osteopath, chiropodist, podiatrist, optometrist, chiropractor, physiotherapist, Christian Science practitioner, veterinary surgeon, registered nurse or licensed practical nurse, provided that the same name and designation is also listed on business service of that subscriber or another subscriber in the same or different directory.

The listing of service in the residence of a clergyman may include the designation "parsonage," "rectory," "parish house," or "manse," and any such listing may be indented under a listing in the name of the church. Where residence service is furnished in a church study, the listing may include the designation "study."

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### 8.1 Directory Listings, (Continued)

### 8.1.2 Composition of Listings, (Continued)

### (C) Address

Each residence or non-profit listing may, but does not have to, include the house number and street name of the residence where the telephone service is provided. Other information, such as a building name or a locality designation, may be included to help identify the Customer.

### (D) Telephone Number

Each listing may include only one telephone number, except in an alternate telephone number listing where each number listed is considered a line for rate purposes.

A listing may include only the telephone number of the first line of a PBX system or incoming service group, except that a trunk not included in the incoming service group of a PBX system, or the first trunk of a separate incoming service group of a PBX system may be listed to meet special conditions where a corporation and its subsidiaries use the same PBX system.

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### 8.1 Directory Listings, (Continued)

### 8.1.3 Types of Listings

### (A) Standard Listing

A standard listing includes a name, designation, address and telephone number of the Customer. It appears in the White Pages of the telephone directory and in the Company's Directory Assistance records. The designation in the listing will be provided according to the rules in paragraph 5.13.2.2 above.

### (B) Indented Listing

An indented listing appears under a standard listing and may include only a designation, address and telephone number. An indented listing is allowed only when a Customer is entitled to two or more listings of the same name with different addresses or different telephone numbers. For example:

Smith, John MD
Office 125 Portland 555-4180
Residence 9 Glenway 555-8345

Such listing may be furnished as an indented listing or as a sub-caption. The telephone number in such a listing may be that of another service furnished the same subscriber or one of the subscriber's PBX trunks not included in the incoming service group, or the service furnished a different subscriber.

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President
COMTECH 21, LLC

One Barnes Park South
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

### 8.1 Directory Listings, (Continued)

### 8.1.3 Types of Listings, (Continued)

### (C) Alternate Telephone Number Listing and Night Listing

Any listed party who has made the necessary arrangements for receiving telephone calls during his or her absence may have an alternate telephone number listing or a night listing, such as the following.

If no answer call (telephone number)
Night calls (telephone number)
Night calls after \_\_\_\_PM (telephone number)
Nights, Sundays and holidays (telephone number)
5PM to 9AM weekdays, Saturday until 9AM, Monday and holidays (telephone number)

Such listing may be furnished as an indented listing or as a sub-caption. The telephone number in such a listing may be that of another service furnished the same subscriber or one of the subscriber's PBX trunks not included in the incoming service group, or the service furnished a different subscriber.

### (D) Duplicate Listing

Any listing may be duplicated in a different directory or under a separate geographical heading in the same directory. Such listing may be duplicated in indented form.

### (E) Reference Listing

A subscriber having exchange services listed under different geographical headings may have an indented listing in reference form in lieu of a duplicate listing.

### (F) Cross Reference Listing

A cross reference listing may be furnished in the same alphabetical group with the related listing when required for identification of the listed party and not designated for advertising purposes.

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### 8.1 Directory Listings, (Cont'd.)

### 8.1.4 Free Listings

The following listings are provided at no additional charge to the Customer: one listing for each individual line service, auxiliary line or PBX system.

### 8.1.5 Rates for Additional Listings - Business Customers

The following rates and charges apply to additional listings requested by the Customer over and above those free listings provided for in Section 8.1.4.

Type of Listing	Residential Charge	Business Charge
Reference/Cross Reference:		
- Each Listing	TBD	TBD
Alternate Telephone Number/Night Listing:		
- Night, Sundays & Holidays	TBD	TBD
- First Line	TBD	TBD
Additional Listing	TBD	TBD
Foreign Listing	TBD	TBD
Dual Name Liking - Non Recurring	TBD	TBD

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### 8.2 Non-Published Service

### 8.2.1 General

Non-published service means that the Customer's telephone number is not listed in the directory, not does it appear in the Company's Directory Assistance Records.

### 8.2.2 Regulations

This service is subject to the rules and regulations for E911 service, where applicable.

The Company will complete calls to a non-published number only when the caller dials direct or gives the operator number. No exceptions will be made, even if the caller says it is an emergency.

When the Company agrees to keep a number unlisted, it does so without any obligation. Except for cases of negligence or willful misconduct, the Company is not liable for any damages that might arise from publishing a non-published number in the directory or disclosing it to some.

### 8.2.3 Rates and Charges

There is a monthly charge for each non-published service. This charge does not apply is the Customer has other listed service at the same location; if the Customer lives in a hotel, boarding house or club with listed service; or if the service is installed for a temporary period.

Non-published service charge, per month

TBD

Effective: February 29, 2004

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### 8.3 Non-Listed Service

### 8.3.1 General

Non-listed service means that the Customer's telephone number is not listed in the directory, but does it appear in the Company's Directory Assistance Records.

### 8.3.2 Regulations

This service is subject to the rules and regulations for E911 service, where applicable.

The Company will complete calls to a non-listed number.

When the Company agrees to keep a number unlisted, it does so without any obligation. Except for cases of negligence or willful misconduct, the Company is not liable for any damages that might arise from publishing a non-listed number in the directory or disclosing it to some.

### 8.3.3 Rates and Charges

There is a monthly charge for each non-listed service. This charge applies if the Customer has other listed service at the same location; if the Customer lives in a hotel, boarding house or club with listed service; or in the service is installed for a temporary period.

Non-listed service charge, per month:

TBD

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### 8.4 Directory Assistance Services

### 8.4.1 Directory Assistance

A Directory Assistance charge applies per local directory assistance call. The Customer may make two (2) requests for a telephone number per call. The Directory Assistance Charge applies regardless of whether the Directory Assistance operator is able to supply the requested number. No charge applies for the first call per month per residence line.

Each Local Directory Assistance Call

**TBD** 

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

Marie Marcarelli, Executive Vice-President COMTECH 21, LLC One Barnes Park South Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

### **SECTION 9.0 - RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE**

9.1 Reserved For Future Use

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### **SECTION 10.0 - RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE**

10.1 Reserved For Future Use

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### **SECTION 11.0 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**

### 11.1 Carrier Presubscription

### 11.1.1 General

Carrier Presubscription is a procedure whereby a Customer designates to the Company the carrier which the Customer wishes to be the carrier of choice for intraLATA and interLATA toll calls, Such calls are automatically directed to the designated carrier, without the need to use carrier access codes or additional dialing to direct the call to the designated carrier. Presubscription does not prevent a Customer who has presubscribed to an IntraLATA or InterLATA toll carrier from using carrier access codes or additional dialing to direct calls to an alternative long distance carrier on a per call basis.

11.1.2 Presubscription Options - Customers may select the same carrier or separate carriers for intraLATA and interLATA long distance. The following options for long distance Presubscription are available:

Option A: Customer select the Company as the presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA and InterLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option B: Customer may select the Company as the presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA calls subject to presubscription and some other carrier as the presubscribed carrier for interLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option C: Customer may select a carrier other than the Company for intraLATA toll calls subject to presubscription and the Company for interLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option D: Customer may select the carrier other than the Company for both intraLATA and interLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.

Option E: Customer may select two different carriers, neither being the Company for intraLATA and interLATA toll calls. One carrier to be the Customers' primary intraLATA interexchange carrier. The other carrier to be the Customer's primary interLATA interexchange carrier.

Option F: Customer may select a carrier other than the Company for no presubscribed carrier for intraLATA toll calls subject to presubscription which will require the Customer to dial a carrier access code to route all intraLATA toll calls to the carrier of choice for each call.

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### SECTION 11.0 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (CONTINUED)

### 11.1 Carrier Presubscription, (Continued)

### 11.1.3 Rules and Regulations

Customers of record will retain their primary interexchange carrier(s) until they request that their dialing arrangements be changed.

Customers of record or new Customers may select either Options A, B, C, D, E or F for intraLATA Presubscription.

Customers may change their selected Option and/or presubscribed toll carrier at any time subject to charges specified in 11.4.5 below:

### 11.1.4 Presubscription Procedures

A new Customer will be asked to select intraLATA and interLATA toll carriers at the time the Customer places an order to establish local exchange service with the Company. The Company will process the Customer's order for service. All new Customers initial requests for intraLATA toll service presubscription shall be provided free of charge.

If a new Customer is unable to make selection at the time the new Customer places an order to establish local exchange service, the Company will read a random listing of all available intraLATA and interLATA carriers to aid the Customer in selection. If selection is still not possible, the Company will inform the Customer that he/she will be given 90 calendar days in which to inform the Company of his/her choice for primary toll carrier(s) free of charge. Until the Customer informs the Company of his/her choice of primary toll carrier, the Customer will not have access to long distance services on a presubscribed basis, but rather will be required to dial a carrier access code to route all toll calls to the carrier(s) of choice. Customers who inform the Company of a choice for toll carrier presubscription within the 90-day period will not be assessed a service charge for the initial Customer request.

Customers of record may initiate an intraLATA or interLATA presubscription change at any time, subject to the charges specified in 11.4.5 below. If a Customer of record inquires of the Company of the carriers available for toll presubscription, the Company will read a random listing of all available intraLATA carriers to aid the Customer in selection.

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### SECTION 11.0 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (CONTINUED)

### 11.1 Carrier Presubscription, (Continued)

### 11.1.5 Presubscription Charges

### (A) Application of Charges

After a Customer's initial selection for a presubscribed toll carrier and as detailed in Paragraph 11.1.4 above, for any change thereafter, a Presubscription Change Charge, as set forth below will apply. Customers who request a change in intraLATA and interLATA carriers with the same order will be assessed a single charge per line.

### (B) Nonrecurring Charges

Per business or residence line, trunk, or port

Initial Line, or Trunk or Port TBD
Additional Line, Trunk or Port TBD

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

### SECTION 12.0 - PROMOTIONAL OFFERINGS

### 12.1 Special Promotions

The Company may from time to time engage in special promotional trial service offerings of limited duration (not to exceed ninety days on a per Customer basis for non-optional, recurring charges) designed to attract new subscribers or to increase subscriber awareness of a particular tariff offering. Requests for promotional offerings will be presented to the Commission for its review in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Commission, and will be included in the Carrier's tariff as an addendum to the Carrier's price lists.

### 12.2 Discounts

The Company may, from time to time as reflected in the price list, offer discounts based on monthly volume (or, when appropriate, "monthly revenue commitment" and/or "time of day" may also be included).

Issued: February 9, 2004

Issued by:

# South Dakota Public Utilities Commission WEEKLY FILINGS

For the Period of February 5, 2004 through February 11, 2004

If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you, please contact

Delaine Kolbo within five business days of this report. Phone: 605-773-3201

### **ELECTRIC**

EL04-003 In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Territory Boundary Change between the City of Vermillion and Clay-Union Electric Corporation.

On February 9, 2004, Clay-Union Electric Corporation (Clay-Union) filed a request for approval to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for an amendment to an existing territory agreement between Clay-Union and the City of Vermillion (City). The City has inadvertently been servicing approximately 14 mobile homes which are located in Clay-Union's assigned service territory. In order to create a fair and equitable allocation of service territory the parties have entered into an amended agreement to reallocate portions of their respective service territories. Clay-Union shall transfer the territory the City is currently serving to the City. This territory is described as: The East 320.5 feet of Lot Y of Replat of Lot B-2 in the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 92 North, Range 52 West of the 5th P.M., City of Vermillion, Clay County, South Dakota. In return, the City shall transfer to Clay-Union the following territory: Lot 3, Block 1, Deyonge Addition to the City of Vermillion, Clay County, South Dakota.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Filed: 02/09/04

Intervention Deadline: 02/27/04

EL04-004 In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Application by Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval to revise its tariffed Summary List of Contracts with Deviations. The existing contract with the City of Sisseton will expire on March 11, 2004. Otter Tail states the new agreement does not contain any deviations from Otter Tail's currently filed tariff and therefore requests that reference to a contract with the City of Sisseton be removed from the Summary List of Contracts with Deviations.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Filed: 02/10/04

Intervention Deadline: 02/26/04

### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

TC04-017 In the Matter of the Application of Airespring, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

On February 6, 2004, Airespring, Inc. filed an application for a Certificate of Authority to provide resold interexchange telecommunication services in South Dakota. Airesping, Inc. intends to provide resold interexchange long distance services, including MTS, 800/888 toll free service, travel card services, and directory assistance to residential and business customers throughout South Dakota.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Filed: 02/06/04

Intervention Deadline: 02/27/04

TC04-018

In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between WWC License, LLC and Jefferson Telephone Company d/b/a Long Lines Ltd.

On February 6, 2004, the Commission received a filing for approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between Jefferson Telephone Company d/b/a Long Lines Ltd. and WWC License, LLC for approval. According to the parties, the Agreement is a negotiated agreement which sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which (a) the Parties agree to directly interconnect to their respective networks for the purpose of exchanging telecommunications traffic or (b) the Parties will transport and terminate each others telecommunications traffic originated by the other Party and delivered via the network of a Third Party Provider. Any party wishing to comment on the Agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than February 26, 2004. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier Date Docketed: 02/06/04

Initial Comments Due: 02/26/04

TC04-019

In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between WWC License, LLC and Fort Randall Telephone Company and Mount Rushmore Telephone Company.

On February 6, 2004, the Commission received a filing for approval of a Reciprocal

Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between Fort Randall Telephone Company and WWC License, LLC for approval. According to the parties, the Agreement is a negotiated agreement which sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which (a) the Parties agree to directly interconnect to their respective networks for the purpose of exchanging telecommunications traffic or (b) the Parties will transport and terminate each others telecommunications traffic originated by the other Party and delivered via the network of a Third Party Provider. Any party wishing to comment on the Agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than February 26, 2004. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier Date Docketed: 02/06/04

Initial Comments Due: 02/26/04

TC04-020 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between WWC License, LLC and Midstate Communications, Inc.

On February 6, 2004, the Commission received a filing for approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between Midstate Communications, Inc. and WWC License, LLC for approval. According to the parties, the Agreement is a negotiated agreement which sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which (a) the Parties agree to directly interconnect to their respective networks for the purpose of exchanging telecommunications traffic or (b) the Parties will transport and terminate each others telecommunications traffic originated by the other Party and delivered via the network of a Third Party Provider. Any party wishing to comment on the Agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than February 26, 2004. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier Date Docketed: 02/06/04

Initial Comments Due: 02/26/04

TC04-021 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between WWC License, LLC and Kennebec Telephone Company.

On February 6, 2004, the Commission received a filing for approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between Kennebec Telephone Company and WWC License, LLC for approval. According to the parties, the Agreement is a negotiated agreement which sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which (a) the Parties agree to directly interconnect to their respective networks

for the purpose of exchanging telecommunications traffic or (b) the Parties will transport and terminate each others telecommunications traffic originated by the other Party and delivered via the network of a Third Party Provider. Any party wishing to comment on the Agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than February 26, 2004. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier Date Docketed: 02/06/04

Initial Comments Due: 02/26/04

TC04-022 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between WWC License, LLC and Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc.

On February 6, 2004, the Commission received a filing for approval of a Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement between Alliance Communications Inc. and WWC License, LLC for approval. According to the parties, the Agreement is a negotiated agreement which sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which (a) the Parties agree to directly interconnect to their respective networks for the purpose of exchanging telecommunications traffic or (b) the Parties will transport and terminate each others telecommunications traffic originated by the other Party and delivered via the network of a Third Party Provider. Any party wishing to comment on the Agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than February 26, 2004. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier Date Docketed: 02/06/04

Initial Comments Due: 02/26/04

TC04-023 In the Matter of the Application of Comtech 21, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

On February 9, 2004, Comtech 21, LLC filed an application seeking a Certificate of Authority to provide local exchange telecommunications services in South Dakota. Comtech 21 is requesting authority to operate as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier "throughout the State of South Dakota in the areas served by any LECs in South Dakota that are not eligible for a small or rural exemption pursuant to Section 251(f)(1) of the Federal Act. Comtech 21 does not seek to provide services to customers in those small or rural territories at this time. Comtech 21 intends to provide all forms of intrastate local exchange telecommunications services."

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best

Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer

Date Docketed: 02/09/04

Intervention Deadline: 02/27/04

TC04-024 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and NPCR, Inc. d/b/a Nextel Partners.

On February 11, 2004, the Commission received a Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and NPCR, Inc. d/b/a Nextel Partners. According to the filing, the agreement amends Section (B)2.3.4 "Facilities Credit" provisions and Section (B)2.5 "Billing for Qwest -Originated Traffic provisions of the original agreement. The original Agreement was approved by the Commission on September 14, 2001, in Docket No. TC01-072. Any party wishing to comment on the Agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than March 2, 2004. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier
Date Docketed: 02/11/04
Initial Comments Due: 03/02/04

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# OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	ORDER GRANTING
COMTECH 21, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF	)	<b>CERTIFICATE OF</b>
<b>AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE</b>	)	AUTHORITY
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA	)	
	-	TC04-023

On February 9, 2004, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from COMTECH 21, LLC (COMTECH 21).

COMTECH 21 proposes to offer competitive local exchange services throughout South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by COMTECH 21.

On February 12, 2004, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 27, 2004, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled March 2, 2004, meeting, the Commission considered COMTECH 21's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards, and subject to the condition that COMTECH 21 not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. Staff also recommended that COMTECH 21 file a tariff with the Commission that includes rate information when it enters into an interconnection agreement. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03(13).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that COMTECH 21 has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. COMTECH 21 has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraph (13) of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

The Commission approves COMTECH 21's application for a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards, subject to the condition that COMTECH 21 not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to the condition that COMTECH 21 file a tariff with the Commission that includes rate information when it enters into an interconnection agreement. The certificate of authority for COMTECH 21 shall authorize it to offer local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. In the future, should COMTECH 21 choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, COMTECH 21 will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C.

§ 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). It is therefore

ORDERED, that COMTECH 21's application for a certificate of authority to provide local exchange services is granted, effective April 9, 2004, subject to the condition that COMTECH 21 not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to the condition that COMTECH 21 file a tariff with the Commission that includes rate information when it enters into an interconnection agreement; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that COMTECH 21 shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission shall authorize COMTECH 21 to offer its local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission waives subparagraph (13) of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this \_\_gth\_ day of March, 2004.

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon. By: OFFICIAL SEAL

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman M.

Say Chauson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

## SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

### CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

To Conduct Business As A Telecommunications Company Within The State Of South Dakota

> Authority was Granted effective April 9, 2004 Docket No. TC04-023

> > This is to certify that

**COMTECH 21, LLC** 

is authorized to provide local exchange services in nonrural areas in South Dakota, subject to the condition that it not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

This certificate is issued in accordance with SDCL 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03, and is subject to all of the conditions and limitations contained in the rules and statutes governing its conduct of offering telecommunications services.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this \_\_gth day of March, 2004.

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC **UTILITIES COMMISSION:** 

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman Ak

ÉS A. BURG, Commission