TC05-082

# NOWALSKY, BRONSTON & GOTHARD

A Professional Limited Liability Company

Attorneys at Law

Leon L. Nowalsky Benjamin W. Bronston Edward P. Gothard 3500 North Causeway Boulevard Suite 1442

Metairie, Louisiana 70002 Telephone: (504) 832-1984 Facsimile: (504) 831-0892 Monica Borne Haab EllenAnn G. Sands Philip R. Adams, Jr.

Of Counsel Bruce C. Betzer

June 17, 2005

Via Express Delivery

Executive Secretary South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 E. Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE:

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing please find an original and ten (10) copies of the Application of Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI for authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services in South Dakota. The requisite \$250.00 filing fee is enclosed.

Please date stamp and return the attached copy of this letter as acknowledgment of your receipt of these documents. A self-addressed, stamped envelope has been provided for this purpose.

If you should have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Monica Borne Haab

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Enclosure

cc: David Singer, ATI

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	
ADVANCED TEL, INC. D/B/A ATI FOR A	)	
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE	)	Docket No
INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS	)	
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA	)	

# APPLICATION

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI ("Applicant") hereby submits this application for certificate of authority to provide interexchange intrastate telecommunications service within the State of South Dakota on a resale basis. In support of its application, Applicant provides the following information:

# §20:10:24:02. Certificate of authority for interexchange service.

 The Applicant is a corporation whose legal name, principal address, telephone number, facsimile number, website and E-Mail address are as follows:

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI 30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd. Suite 200 Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

Phone: (949) 265-2000

Fax: (949) 774-9508 Toll Free: 877-757-0000 Website: www.ATI1.com E-Mail: Sales@ATI1.com

- 2. The Applicant will provide interexchange services under its assumed name ATI.
- (a) The Applicant is a California corporation established on August 17, 1995. The
  Certificate of Authority from the South Dakota Secretary of State and Certificate of
  Fictitious Name are attached as Exhibit A.
  - (b) The Company will not have any offices in South Dakota. The Company's registered agent in South Dakota is:

National Registered Agents, Inc. 300 South Phillips Avenue, Suite 300 Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6322

(c) The name and address of each individual owning a 20% or greater ownership interest in the Applicant is as follows:

David Singer (50%) 30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd. Suite 200 Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

Marie Singer (50%) 30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd. Suite 200 Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

- 4. The Applicant is not a partnership.
- 5. The Applicant intends to provide resold interexchange long distance services to residential and business customers.
- 6. The Company will provide its interexchange services on a resale basis utilizing the underlying facilities of Qwest and/or Global Crossing.

7. The Applicant will offer interexchange services on a statewide basis in South

Dakota.

8. Current financial statements for the Applicant, including balance sheet and

income statements, are attached as Exhibit B. As a privately held company, the

Applicant dos not have annual reports or reports to stockholders.

A copy of the Applicant's tariff containing the terms and conditions of service is

attached as Exhibit C.

9. The name, address, telephone number, fax number, e-mail address, and toll free

number of the Applicant's representative to whom all inquiries must be made

regarding complaints and regulatory matters:

Regulatory Matters:

David Singer

Vice President

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd.

Suite 200

Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

Phone: (877) 757-0000

Fax: (949) 265-2001

E-Mail: David@ATI1.com

The Applicant's customer billing will be handled by the Company.

The Applicant's customer service matters are handle in-house by its Customer

Service representatives. Each customer service representative is trained and

authorized to resolve customer service issues.

3

- The Applicant is currently authorized to provide interexchange service in California, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. Applicant is currently pending certification in Arizona and Washington. The Applicant has not been denied authority to operate in any state. The company is in good standing with the regulatory agencies of all states where it is registered/certified.
- 11. The Applicant will market its services to residential and business customers by using print advertising. The Applicant does not engage in multilevel marketing. The Applicant currently has no sample brochures available for use in the sale of services, however, its website is located at <a href="https://www.ATI1.com">www.ATI1.com</a>.
- 12. The Applicant's emerging competitive long distance services will be offered at rates which are above the Applicant's costs to the underlying carrier. No more specific cost support is available for the Company's tariffed rates.
- 13. The Applicant's federal tax identification number is 33-0673925.
- 14. No complaints have been made against the Applicant with any state or federal commission regarding the unauthorized switching of a customer's telecommunications provider or for charging of customers for services that have not been ordered.

15. The Applicant asserts that it will not collect any advance payments or deposits from customers, and no such payments are provided for in its tariff. Therefore, no performance bond as required under Section 20:10:24:04.05 has been provided. Should the Applicant offer any prepaid type services in the future, it agrees to submit a performance bond to the Commission for this purpose.

#### 16. Other information:

The Applicant's representative to whom all correspondence regarding this application should be addressed is:

Monica Borne Haab, Attorney Nowalsky, Bronston & Gothard, APLLC 3500 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 1442 Metairie, Louisiana 70002

Phone: (504) 832-1984 Fax: (504) 831-0892

E-Mail: mhaab@nbalaw.com

Additional information will be provided to Staff, upon request.

WHEREFORE, Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI respectfully requests that the Commission Grant Applicant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, giving Applicant authority to provide resold interexchange public telecommunications service, effective upon approval of this Application.

Respectfully submitted this 15 day of June, 2005.

Monica Borne Haab, Attorney

Nowalsky, Bronston & Gothard, APLLC 3500 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 1442

Metairie, Louisiana 70002

Phone: (504) 832-1984

E-Mail: mhaab@nbalaw.com

# **Verification of Application**

I, David Singer, President of Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI. Applicant in the foregoing application, do hereby attest that I have reviewed the information contained in the application and Exhibits and all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

By:

David Singer, President Telecom Management, Inc.

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200

Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of June 2005.

Notary Public

MONICA BORNE HAAB Notary Public, State of Louisiana My Commission is issued for life. Notary Number: 25407

# **EXHIBIT A**

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY AND FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION

# A Trade, Assumed, or Fictitious Business Name

The described business hereby certifies that they will engage in, conduct, or operate a business for profit in the State of South Dakota under the trade, assumed, or ficitious name of:

ATI(3985)

Conducting business in MINNEHAHA County.

Name

**Residence Address** 

**Post Office Address** 

Advanced Tel, Inc.

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200 Trabuco Canyon California 92679 USA

That the address where the main office of such business is to be maintained is: 30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200 Trabuco Canyon California 92679

Registration Number: 4531 Registration Date: 6/17/2005 Registered By: Monica Borne Haab, Attorney

Print This Page

Continue



# OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

# **Certificate of Authority**

**ORGANIZATIONAL ID #: FB029696** 

I, Chris Nelson, Secretary of State of the State of South Dakota, hereby certify that the Application for a Certificate of Authority of ADVANCED TEL, INC. (CA) to transact business in this state duly signed and verified pursuant to the provisions of the South Dakota Corporation Acts, 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 to transact business in this state.



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 14, 2005.

Chris Nelson Secretary of State



Secretary of State State Capitol 500 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre SD 57501 Phone 605-773-4845 Fax 605-773-4550 RECEIVED

14 15

# Application for Certificate of Authority

S.D. SEC. OF STATE

(1) The name of the corporation	is Advanced let, life	3.				:	
with seed of	(exact co	orporate name	)				
11/41 \ 22 4 40		·					
(2) The number of the corporation an abbreviation of one of such w	n does not contain the word	"cornotatio	m <sup>ti li</sup> common	w" "incorno	rated" or "li	imited" or does n	ot contai
an abbrevation of one of such w	ords, then the name of the co	orporation v	with the wor	d or abbrevia	tion which	it elects to add	O. COMMIN
thereddeornise in this state is			•	•			
(A) TOP STATE							<del></del>
(3) State where incorporated Ca	lifornia		Ea	domi Tormor	тъ# 33-	-0673925	
			Fe	derai raxpay	er 110# <u></u>		
(4) The date of its incorporation	is August 17, 1995			and the	e period of	its duration, which	ch may be
perpetual, is perpetual							
(F) 11 Al							
(5) The address of its principal of				_		00.55	10
30575 Trabuco Canyon	ka., Suite 200, Tra	ibuco Ca	nyon, CA			_Zip Code	. A
mailing address if different from	above is:						
						Zip Code	
(6) The street address, or a state 300 South Phillips Av and the name of its proposed reg	e., Suite 300, Siou	South Dake	ota at that ad	Idress is Nat	ional R	_Zip CodeA	04-6322 gents,
300 South Phillips Av	e., Suite 300, Siou gistered agent in the State of ses to pursue in the transacti	South Dake	ota at that ad	Idress is Nat	ional R	_Zip CodeA	04-6322 gents,
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Number of shares	Class	Series	Par value per share or statement that shares are without par value
1,000	Common	n/a	No par value
11) The amount of its stated capit Shares issued times par value equa ssued shares.	tal is \$ 1,000.00 als stated capital. In the ca	se of no par value	stock, stated capital is the consideration received for the
(12) This application is accompanacknowledged by the Secretary of is incorporated.	ied by a CERTIFICATE C State or other officer havi	OF FACT or a CER	TIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING duly prate records in the state or country under whose laws it
domestic, through their stockhold	ers or the trustees or assign er to fix the prices, limit th	ns of such stockhold te production or reg	contract with any incorporated company, foreign or ders, or with any copartnership or association of gulate the transportation of any product or commodity so blish excessive prices therefor.
(14) That such corporation, as a c Dakota, will comply with all the le			r continue doing business within the State of South orporations.
The application must be signed, in another officer.	a the presence of a notary p	oublic, by the chair	man of the board of directors, or by the president or by
I DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER	R THE PENALTY OF PERJ	JRY THAT THIS A	PPLICATION IS IN ALL THINGS, TRUE AND CORRECT
Dated 6112005	<del></del>		od sus
1 (	·	(Signa	•
		-	dent
STATE OF Lowisia	. 6	(Title)	,
COUNTY OF TO THE IS	<u> </u>		
I. Monica B. Haa	b a notary mul	olic do herebu certifi	that on this 1st day of June 20 05
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			_
personally appeared before me	pavid Singpr	_	who, being by me first duly sworn, declared that he she
personally appeared before me	of Advance	Tel, Tuc	who, being by me first duly sworn, declared that he she
personally appeared before me I is the Residont	of Advance	Tel, The	who, being by me first duly sworn, declared that he she
personally appeared before me I is the Residont	of Advance	Tel, The	who, being by me first duly sworn, declared that he she that he she signed the foregoing document as ary PUNICA BORNE HAAB
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# SOUTH DAKOTA SECRETARY OF STATE

OFFICIAL RECEIPT

NUMBER 1448242

FORM OF PAYMENT CHECK CHECK NBR 7207

DATE 06/14/2005 AMOUNT \$ 570.00 BY STBRATK

ADVANCED TEL, INC. 30575 TRABUCO CANYON RD STE 200 TRABUCO CANYON CA 92679-3034

THIS RECEIPT IS IN REFERENCE TO: ADVANCED TEL, INC.

TRANSACTION	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
	OF AUTHORITY\$	550.00 20.00

# **EXHIBIT B**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

05/31/05 Accrual Basis

# ATI Balance Sheet As of May 31, 2005

	May 31, 05
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings Bank of the West Checking	E/ 10
Bank of the West Money Market	54.18 1,677.75
CCB Checking	99,066.30
CCB Money Market	477,748.98
Total Checking/Savings	578,547.21
Accounts Receivable  A/R Receivables	1,480.38
Total Accounts Receivable	1,480.38
Other Current Assets	2 800 00
Reimbursable	2,800.00
Total Other Current Assets	2,800.00
Total Current Assets	582,827.59
Other Assets Accumulated Amortization	.1 850.00
Accumulated Amortization Accumulated Depreciation	-1,850.00 -89,199.00
Comp. Programs	6,132.31
Equipment	128,092.91
Furniture	1,487.53
Leasehold Improvements	10,776.47
Organization Costs	1,850.00
State Fund Deposit	-618.33
Total Other Assets	56,671.89
TOTAL ASSETS	639,499.48
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable Payables	166,329.19
•	
Total Accounts Payable	166,329.19
Credit Cards Citi - MasterCard	72.05
Citi MasterCard	-73.05 91,464.32
	<del></del>
Total Credit Cards Other Current Liabilities	91,391.27
*Payroll Liabilities	26,310.60
Customer Deposit	132,750.00
Payroll Liabilities	2,393.42
Sales Tax Payable	3.29
Tax	-13,469.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	147,988.31
Total Current Liabilities	405,708.77
Total Liabilities	405,708.77
Equity	
Common Stock	1,000.00
Retained Earnings	69,447.74
Net Income	163,342.97
Total Equity	233,790.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	639,499.48

05/31/05 Accrual Basis

# ATI Profit & Loss January through May 2005

	Jan - May 05
Income ATI Direct Long Distance Gross Sales Interest Income Long Distance - Agency Temp Voice Mail AMandA Income	3,444,411.12 755.40 4,139.72 5,468.67 9,964.24 4,623.75
Total Income	3,469,362.90
Gross Profit	3,469,362.90
Expense Advertising AMandA Voice Mail Expense Auto Bank Charges Commissions - Agency Donation Dues & Subscriptions Insurance Legal and Professional Long Distance Marketing Meals & Enter. Meals at 100% Office Pager and Voice Mail Payroll Expenses Payroll Taxes Postage Promotion Rent Trade Shows Travel Uncategorized Expenses Utilities Total Expense	3,100.00 1,556.00 3,821.45 438.97 2,258.63 1,605.00 40.00 22,490.15 14,546.70 2,498,074.88 12,166.26 1,630.70 618.82 1,323.02 537.03 207,018.86 18,317.49 1,216.45 23,643.59 17,605.05 9,036.72 1,462.12 552.37 9,292.30 2,852,352.56
Net Income	617,010.34
	<del></del>

# **EXHIBIT C**

TARIFF

# TITLE SHEET

# ADVANCED TEL, INC. D/B/A ATI

#### TARIFF NO. 1

This tariff contains the description, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service and facilities for telecommunications services provided by Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI with principal offices at 30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679. This tariff is on file with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, and copies may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company's principal place of business.

ISSUED:

**EFFECTIVE:** 

**ISSUED BY:** David Singer, President

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200

# **CHECK SHEET**

All sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective pages. Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this page.

Sheet	Revision	Sheet	Revision
1	Original	21	Original
2	Original	22	Original
3	Original	23	Original
4	Original	24	Original
5	Original		
6	Original		
7	Original		
8	Original		
9	Original		
10	Original		
11	Original		
12	Original		
13	Original		
14	Original		
15	Original		
16	Original		
17	Original		
18	Original		
19	Original		
20	Original		

**ISSUED:** 

**EFFECTIVE:** 

ISSUED BY: David Singer, President

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200

# Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TARIFF

TABLE OF CONTEN	<u>TS</u>
Title Sheet	01
Check Sheet	
Table of Contents	03
Symbols	
Tariff Format	05
Section 1: Definitions and Abbreviations	06
Section 2: Rules and Regulations	09
Section 3: Description of Service	18
Section 4: Rates and Charges	22

**ISSUED:** 

**EFFECTIVE:** 

ISSUED BY: David Singer, President

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200

# **SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- D Deleted or Discontinued Material
- I Change Resulting in a Rate Increase
- N New Regulation, Term, Condition or Rate
- R Change Resulting in a Rate Reduction
- T Change In Text or Regulation, but no Change in Rates

ISSUED:

**EFFECTIVE:** 

ISSUED BY: David Singer, President

Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI

30575 Trabuco Canyon Rd., Suite 200

#### TARIFF FORMAT

- A. <u>Sheet Numbering</u> Sheet numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 14 and 15 would be Sheet 14.1.
- B. <u>Sheet Revision Numbers</u> Revision numbers also appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Sheet 14 cancels 3rd Revised Sheet 14.
- C. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u> There are various levels of alphanumeric paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level of coding.

2.

2.1.

2.1.1.

2.1.1.A.

2.1.1.A.1.

2.1.1.A.1.(a)

D. <u>Check Sheets</u> - When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The check sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc., remains the same, just revised revision levels on some sheets). The tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on file with the Commission.

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# **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

## 1.1 Definitions:

<u>Application for Service</u> - A standard order form which includes all pertinent billing, technical, and other descriptive information which will enable the carrier to provide the communication service as required.

<u>Authorized User</u> - A person, firm, corporation, or other entity authorized by the customer to receive or send communications.

<u>Carrier</u> - Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI, unless stated otherwise.

<u>Class of Service</u> - Various categories of telephone service generally available to customers, such as business or residential.

Commission - South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

Company - Advanced Tel, Inc. d/b/a ATI.

Completed Calls - Completed calls are calls answered on the distance end.

<u>Customer or Subscriber</u> - The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders or uses service and is responsible by law for payment for communication service from the telephone utility.

<u>Customer Provided Equipment</u> - Terminal equipment provided by a customer.

<u>Delinquent Account</u> - An account for which a bill or payment agreement for regulated services or equipment has not been paid in full on or before the last day for timely payment.

<u>Direct Distance Dialing (DDD)</u> - Customer dialing over the nationwide intertoll telephone network of calls to which toll charges are applicable. No operator assistance is required for DDD calls.

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# 1.1 <u>Definitions</u> (continued)

<u>Due Date</u> - The last day for payment without unpaid amounts being subject to a late payment charge or additional collection efforts.

<u>Holidays</u> - Carrier's recognized holidays are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

<u>Measured Use Service</u> - The provision of long distance measured time communications telephone service to customers who access the carrier's services at its switching and call processing equipment by means of access facilities obtained from another carrier by the customer or otherwise provided at its own expense (the customer is responsible for arranging for the access line).

Message - A completed telephone call by a customer or user.

<u>Premises</u> - The space occupied by an individual customer in a building, in adjoining buildings occupied entirely by that customer, or on contiguous property occupied by the customer separated only by a public thoroughfare, a railroad right of way or a natural barrier.

Rates - Recurring amounts billed to customers for regulated services and/or equipment.

<u>Terminal Equipment</u> - All telephone instruments, including pay telephone equipment, the common equipment of large and small key and PBX systems and other devices and apparatus, and associated wiring, which are intended to be connected electrically, acoustically or inductively to the telecommunication system of the telephone utility.

<u>Underlying Carrier</u> - The telecommunications carrier whose network facilities provides the technical capability and capacity necessary for the transmission and reception of customer telecommunications traffic.

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# 1.2 <u>Abbreviations</u>:

**LATA** - Local Access Transport Area

LEC - Local Exchange Carrier

MTS - Message Toll Service

PBX - Private Branch Exchange

SAL - Special Access Line

V&H - Vertical and Horizontal

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# **SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

# 2.1 <u>Undertaking of Company</u>

The Company undertakes to provide only those services as are furnished under the terms and subject to the conditions and customer payment of the applicable rates of this tariff for communications originating and terminating within the State. The Company's services are provided on a statewide basis and are not intended to be limited geographically.

Communications originate when the customer accesses network directly or through the facilities of the local service carrier via one or more access lines, equal access or on a dial-up basis. The company may act as the customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities when authorized by the customer, to allow connection of a customer's location to the Carrier network. The customer shall be responsible for all charges stated in this tariff.

The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise stated in this tariff, and are available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.

# 2.2 Limitations on Service

- 2.2.1 Service is offered subject to the provisions of this tariff.
- 2.2.2 Carrier reserves the right to provide services only to and from locations where the necessary facilities or equipment are available.
- 2.2.4 Title to any equipment provided by Carrier under these regulations remains with Carrier. Prior written permission from the company is required before any assignment or transfer. In the event an assignment or transfer is allowed, all regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to the assignee or transferee.

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# 2.3 Use of Service

Service may not be used for any unlawful purposes.

The minimum period for service is one month (30 days) unless otherwise noted in the service description.

# 2.4 <u>Liability of Carrier</u>

The provisions of this section are not intended to restrict or limit a customer's rights under SDCL 49-13-1 and 49-13-1.1. If any provisions of this section conflict with SDCL 49-13-1 or 49-13-1.1, then the applicable South Dakota law shall prevail.

- 2.4.1 Carrier, at its own expense, will indemnify the customer and hold it harmless in respect to any and all loss, damage, liability or expense asserted against the customer by a third party on account of any property damage or personal injury caused by any negligence or willful misconduct of Carrier or its agents or representatives arising out of performance by Carrier of any testing or other activities on the customer's premises pursuant to this tariff. Carrier's obligations under the immediately preceding sentence shall be subject to the customer's full performance of this tariff and subject further to the customer's duty to take reasonable precautions in the location, construction, maintenance and operation of all activities, facilities and equipment for the protection against hazard or injury and so as to not interfere with the services provided by Carrier.
- 2.4.2 Carrier shall be indemnified and held harmless by the customer against:
  - A. Claims for libel, slander, infringement of copyright or unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name, or service mark arising out of the material, data information, or other content transmitted over the carrier's facilities; and

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# 2.4 <u>Liability of Carrier</u>

# 2.4.2 (continued)

- B. Claims for patent infringement of copyright or unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name, or service mark arising out of the material, data information, or other content transmitted over the carriers facilities; and
- C. All other claims arising out of any act or omission by the customer in connection with any service provided by Carrier.

# 2.5 Interruption of Service

- 2.5.1. Carrier shall make all reasonable efforts to prevent interruptions of service. When interruptions are reported or found by Carrier to occur, Carrier shall reestablish service as quickly as possible.
- 2.5.2 When a customer's service access line is reported to be out of order and remains out of order in excess of two (2) consecutive hours, the company shall, upon request, make appropriate adjustments to the subscriber's account. This rule does not apply if the outage occurs as a result of:
  - (1) A negligent or willful act on the part of the subscriber;
  - (2) A malfunction of subscriber-owned telephone equipment;
  - (3) Disasters or acts of God; or
  - (4) The inability of the company to gain access to the subscriber's premises after Carrier has requested that customer provide access to the premises.
  - (5) Carrier's provision of routine maintenance, testing or adjustments.
- 2.5.3 The customer shall be credited for an interruption of two (2) hours or more at the rate of 1/720th of the monthly charge for the service affected for each hour or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. Credit for an interruption shall commence with the hour of the report or discovery of the interruption and will cease upon restoration of service. Any adjustments not in dispute shall be rendered within two billing periods after the billing period during which the interruption occurred.
- 2.5.4. Customers shall notify Carrier of interruptions in service. Before giving notice of interruption, the customer should ascertain whether the trouble is being caused by any action or omission by or within his control or in any wiring or equipment connected to the Carrier's terminal.

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# 2.6 Responsibility of the Customer

- 2.6.1 All customers assume general responsibilities in connection with the provisions and use of services stated in this tariff. All customers are responsible for the following:
  - A. The customer is responsible for placing orders for service, paying all charges for service rendered by Carrier and complying with all regulations governing the service. The customer is also responsible for assuring that its users comply with regulations.
  - B. When placing an order for service, the customer must provide:
    - 1. The name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the payment of service charges.
    - 2. The name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of the customer contact person(s).

# 2.6.2 Maintenance, Testing, and Adjustment

If a customer's service must be interrupted due to maintenance, Carrier shall notify the affected customer, in advance, if possible and will perform the work in such a manner as to minimize inconvenience.

Equipment provided by Carrier shall be made available to Carrier for such tests and adjustments as may be necessary to maintain them in satisfactory condition.

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# 2.6.3 Deposits and Advance Payments

The Company will not require a deposit or advance payment for service.

# 2.6.4 Cancellation by Customer

If a customer orders services requiring special equipment and/or facilities dedicated to the customer's use and then cancels his order before the service begins, before a completion of the minimum period mutually agreed upon by the customer and Carrier, a charge will be made to the customer for the non-recoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred expressly on behalf of the customer by Carrier and not fully reimbursed by installation and monthly charges. If, based on such an order, any construction has either begun or been completed, but not such services provided, the non-recoverable cost of such construction shall be borne by the customer.

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# 2.6.5 Payment of Charges

- A. Service is provided and billed on a monthly (30 day) basis. Charges based on actual usage during a month will be billed monthly in arrears.
- B. Bills are payable upon receipt of invoice. Customers will be charged a late payment penalty in the amount of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month on delinquent amounts and will be responsible for any charges associated with disconnection and reconnection of service. A bill will be considered delinquent after thirty (30) days from rendition of the invoice.
- C. In the event of a dispute concerning a bill, Customer must pay a sum equal to the amount of the undisputed portion of the bill and proceed with complaint procedures set forth in this tariff. If notice of a dispute as to charges is not received in writing within 180 days after a bill has been rendered, the billing will be considered correct and binding.
- D. Customer is responsible for payment of all state and local taxes (i.e. gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax) which shall be listed as separate line items and which are not included in Carrier's quoted rates.
- E. Customers will be charged a fee on all checks issued to Carrier which are returned due to non-sufficient funds.

# 2.6.6 Application of Charges

The charges for service are those in effect for the period that service is furnished.

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# 2.6.7 <u>Customer Complaint Procedure</u>

Carrier will resolve any disputes brought to its attention as promptly and effectively as possible.

Customer inquiries, complaints or notices may be made in writing to the Company at the address stated in this tariff or via the Customer Services toll free number: 1-877-757-0000.

Any unresolved disputes may be directed to the attention of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission at:

500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070 (605) 773-3201 or 1-800-332-1782 1-800-877-1113 (TTY through Relay South Dakota)

In the event of a dispute concerning an invoice, the customer must pay a sum equal to the amount of the undisputed portion of the bill. Service shall not be disconnected for nonpayment of the disputed portion of the bill.

# 2.7.1 Cessation of Service

Service shall cease at the end of the customer's service period, or when the customer transfers service to another long distance carrier, whichever occurs first. No credit shall be given for prepaid services discontinued prior to the end of the service term for which payment was made.

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# 2.7.2 <u>Disconnection of Service by Carrier</u>

- A. Five (5) days prior notice of pending disconnection shall be rendered to customers setting forth the reason(s) for the notice and the final date by which the account is to be settled or specific action taken. Such notice shall be forwarded to the customer via U.S. mail and will be considered rendered when delivered to the last known address of the responsible party.
- B. Transmission service will be refused or disconnected, after notice as set forth below, for any of the following reasons:
  - 1. Without notice in the event of a condition on the customer's premises determined by the Carrier to be hazardous.
  - 2. Without notice in the event of customer's use in a manner which may adversely affect the Carrier's equipment or service to others.
  - 3. Without notice in the event of tampering with equipment furnished and owned by the Carrier.
  - 4. Without notice in the event of unauthorized use.
  - 5. After five (5) days written notice, for violation of or noncompliance with the Carrier's rules on file with the Commission, the requirements of municipal ordinances or law pertaining to the services.
  - 6. After five (5) days written notice for failure of the customer to permit Carrier reasonable access to its equipment.
  - 7. Upon five (5) days prior written notice for nonpayment of any regulated sum due to Carrier.

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# 2.7.2 <u>Disconnection of Service by Carrier</u> (contd.)

8. After five (5) days written notice, for failure of the customer or prospective customer to furnish any service equipment, permits, certificates or rights of way specified by Carrier to be furnished as a condition for obtaining service, or for the withdrawal of that same equipment or the termination of those permissions or rights, or for the failure of the customer or prospective customer to fulfill the contractual obligations imposed upon the customer as conditions of obtaining service.

#### 2.7.3 Fractional Credits for Monthly Billed Services

Credits for a fractional part of a month are calculated by counting the number of days remaining in the billing period after service was discontinued. The number of days remaining in the billing period is divided by thirty and the resultant fraction is then multiplied by the monthly charge to arrive at the credit amount.

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# **SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE AND RATES**

# 3.1 <u>Timing of Calls</u>

The customer's monthly usage charges for Carrier service are based upon the total number of minutes the customer uses and service options subscribed to. Chargeable time begins when the connection is established between the calling station and the called station or PBX. Chargeable time ends when either party "hangs up."

# 3.2 Service Period

For billing purposes, the start of service is the first day on which service is available for use by the customer. The end of service date is the last day or any portion of the last day for which service was provided by Carrier.

# 3.3 Interconnection

Service furnished by Carrier may be interconnected with services or facilities of other authorized communications common carriers and with private systems, subject to the technical limitations established by Carrier. Service furnished by Carrier is not part of a joint undertaking with such other carriers. Any special interface equipment shall be provided at the customer's expense.

Interconnection with the facilities or services of other carriers shall be under the applicable terms and conditions of this tariff. The customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting his customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems with Carrier's. The customer shall secure all licenses, permits, right-of-ways, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection.

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# 3.4 <u>Terminal Equipment</u>

- 3.4.1 Carrier's service may be used with or terminated in customer provided terminal equipment or customer provided communication systems, such as teleprinters, handsets, or data sets. Such terminal equipment shall be furnished and maintained at the expense of the customer. The customer is responsible for all costs at his premises, including customer personnel, wiring, electrical power, and the like incurred in his use of Carrier's service.
- 3.4.2 When terminal equipment is used, the equipment shall not interfere with service furnished to other customers. Additional protective equipment, if needed, shall be employed at the customer's expense.

# 3.5 Calculation of Distance

Usage charges for any mileage sensitive products are based on the airline distance between rate centers associated with the originating and terminating points of the call.

The airline mileage between rate centers is determined by applying the formula below to the vertical and horizontal coordinates associated with the rate centers involved. The company uses the rate centers and associated vertical and horizontal coordinates generally used within the industry.

Formula: 
$$\frac{(V1 - V2)^2 + (H1 - H2)^2}{V}$$

# 3.6 Minimum Call Completion Rate

The customer can expect a call completion rate of 99% of Feature Group D (1+) calls attempted.

# 3.7 Promotional Offerings

The Company may, from time to time, make promotional offerings to enhance marketing of services. These promotional offerings will be subject to Commission approval prior to implementation.

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# 3.8 Services Offerings

The company will provide the following services:

# 3.8.1 Message Toll Service (MTS)

"1+" Dialing is achieved by customer's telephone lines being programmed by the local telephone company (LEC) to automatically route 1+ calls to the Company's network.

#### 3.8.2 Inbound Service (8XX)

Inbound Service is virtual banded inbound toll service which permits calls to be completed at the subscriber's location without charge to the calling party. Access to the service is gained by dialing a ten digit telephone number which terminates at the customer's location. Inbound services originate via normal shared use facilities and are terminated via the customers' local exchange service access line.

Carrier will accept a prospective inbound service customer's request for up to ten (10) telephone numbers and will reserve such number(s) on a first come first serve basis. All requests for number reservations must be made in writing, dated and signed by a responsible representative of the customer. Carrier does not guarantee the availability of number(s) until assigned. The telephone number(s) so requested, if found to be available, will be reserved for and furnished to the eligible customer.

If a customer who has received an 800/888 number does not subscribe to the Company's inbound service within 90 days, the Company reserves the right to make the assigned number available for use by another customer.

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# 3.8.3 <u>Travel Card Service</u>

Allows subscribers to place calls by gaining access to the network via a toll free number and personal identification number (PIN) issued by the Company.

# 3.8.4 Directory Assistance

Directory Assistance will be provided by the Carrier at the per call charge as set forth in Section 4 of this tariff.

# 3.8.5 Operator Services

The Company does not provide operator services. Operator assisted calls are defaulted to and billed directly by the underlying carrier.

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# **SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES**

# 4.1. Usage Charges and Billing Increments

# 4.1.1 <u>Usage Charges</u>

Usage charges are generally flat rated. However, if any usage charges are determined by the time of day rate periods and minutes of use within each rate period, the rate period is determined by the time and day of call origination at the customer's location.

# 4.1.2 Billing Increments

Usage is billed in accordance with the billing increments set forth in the individual product rate sections of this tariff. All partial usage will be rounded up to the next highest applicable billing increment.

# 4.1.3 Rounding

All calls are rounded to the next highest billing interval. Any partial cents per call will be rounded up to the next highest whole cent.

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# 4.2 Dedicated Service Rates

Rates apply to 1+, Inbound 8XX and Travel Card Service.

Rate Plan	Rate per minute
Option 1:	\$0.0900/minute
Option 2:	\$0.0800/minute
Option 3:	\$0.0750/minute
Option 4:	\$0.0700/minute
Option 5:	\$0.0650/minute
Option 6:	\$0.0600/minute
Option 7:	\$0.0550/minute

Monthly Usage Requirements: \$2,000.00 per month. Contract term of 1 year may apply to some Option plans. Billed in six (6) second increments. No surcharge for travel cards.

# 4.3 Switched Service Rates

Rates apply to 1+, Inbound 8XX and Travel Card Service.

Option 1:	\$0.1400/minute
Option 2:	\$0.1300/minute
Option 3:	\$0.1200/minute
Option 4:	\$0.1100/minute
Option 5:	\$0.1000/minute
Option 6:	\$0.0900/minute
Option 7:	\$0.0850/minute

Monthly Usage Requirements: \$20.00 per month.

Contract term of 1 year may apply to some Option plans.

Billed in six (6) second increments.

No surcharge for travel cards.

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# 4.4 Directory Assistance

Directory assistance will be provided at a charge of \$0.89 per call.

# 4.5 <u>Late Payment Penalty</u>

Customers will be charged 1.5% of any amounts owed to the Company beyond the due date as set forth within this tariff.

# 4.6 Dishonored Check Charge

All customers issuing dishonored check(s) will be charged a fee of \$20.00 per check.

# 4.7 Promotional Offerings

The Company may, from time to time, make promotional offerings to enhance marketing of services. These promotional offerings will be subject to Commission approval prior to implementation.

# 4.8 Pay Telephone (Payphone) Surcharge

A \$0.35 surcharge shall be assessed for each call made from a pay telephone to an 8XX number or using a travel card and dialing the carrier prefix in the form 101XXXX.

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