



August 27, 2008

Via Electronic Filing

Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE: SSTELECOM, Inc., d/b/a ITC, APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE SERVICE IN THE EXCHANGES  
SERVED BY QWEST THROUGHOUT SOUTH DAKOTA

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen,

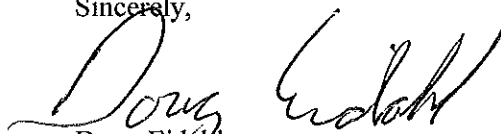
Enclosed please find for filing with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) *SSTelecom, Inc.'s (SSTelecom) d/b/a ITC's Application for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Service in the Exchanges Served by Qwest throughout South Dakota* (Application), which is submitted for Commission approval. A \$250.00 Commission filing fee has been forwarded with a copy of this Transmittal letter, via overnight delivery.

As required by Commission rules, the Application contains a copy of confidential financial information (balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow for 2007). This information is provided in the attached CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit B (stamped accordingly), therefore SSTelecom requests that the Commission treat CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit B as confidential information, to be reviewed by Commission staff only and not to be released to the public.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing via electronic mail.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (605) 995-1750. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Doug Ejdahl  
Vantage Point Solutions

Enclosures

cc: Jerry Heiberger, SSTelecom, Inc.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
SSTELECOM, INC., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF )  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE )  
SERVICE IN THE EXCHANGES SERVED )  
BY QWEST THROUGHOUT SOUTH DAKOTA )**

**Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to the provisions of SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, SSTELECOM, Inc., d/b/a ITC (SSTelecom) hereby applies for a Certificate of Authority to provide interexchange services in South Dakota exchanges served by Qwest.

**1. The applicant's name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, web page URL, and E-mail address.**

SSTELECOM, Inc., d/b/a ITC  
312 4<sup>th</sup> Street West  
PO Box 920  
Clear Lake, SD 57226  
Phone: (605) 874-2181  
Fax: (605) 874-2014  
Web Site: [www.itcmilbank.com](http://www.itcmilbank.com)  
Email: [jerryhei@itctel.com](mailto:jerryhei@itctel.com)

**2. A description of the legal and organizational structure of the applicant's company.**

SSTelecom is a South Dakota corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (ITC). SSTelecom has no subsidiaries or affiliates. ITC's address is the same as SSTelecom's, shown above.

**3. The name under which the applicant will provide interexchange services if different than in subdivision (1) of this section.**

SSTELECOM will provide interexchange services under SSTELECOM, Inc., d/b/a ITC

**4. A copy of the applicant's certificate of authority to transact business in South Dakota from the Secretary of State.**

A copy of SSTELECOM's certificate of authority to transact business in South Dakota is attached to this application as Exhibit A.

**5. The location of the applicant's principal office, if any, in this state and the name and address of its current registered agent, if applicable.**

SSTELECOM's principal office is stated in subdivision (1). SSTELECOM's current registered agent is Todd Boyd whose business address is 415 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South, PO Box 977, Clear Lake, SD 57226.

**6. A list and specific description of the telecommunications services the applicant intends to offer.**

- interexchange services
- operator services
- directory assistance
- access to Telecommunications Relay Service
- toll and 900 number blocking
- special circuits
- other interLATA/intraLATA interexchange services

**7. A detailed statement of how the applicant will provide its services.**

SSTELECOM will purchase wholesale long distance minutes of use from interexchange carrier vendors interconnected to South Dakota Network (SDN) where SDN will pass the traffic for origination and termination of the calls.

**8. A service area map or narrative description indicating with particularity the geographic area proposed to be served by the applicant.**

SSTELECOM currently serves within the boundaries of the Milbank Qwest exchange consistent with the current exchange maps on file with the Commission. SSTELECOM may expand its interexchange services to other Qwest exchanges in the future.

9. For the most recent 12 month period, financial statements of the applicant including a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement. The applicant shall provide audited financial statements, if available.

See CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit B attached to this application.

10. The names, addresses, telephone number, facsimile number, E-mail address, and toll free number of the applicant's representatives to whom all inquiries must be made regarding complaints and regulatory matters and a description of how the applicant handles customer service matters.

Jerry Heiberger, General Manager  
SSTELECOM, Inc., d/b/a ITC  
312 4<sup>th</sup> Street West  
PO Box 920  
Clear Lake, SD 57226  
Phone: (605) 874-2181  
Fax: (605) 874-2014  
After Hours: (605) 438-6000  
Email: [jerryhei@itctel.com](mailto:jerryhei@itctel.com)

SSTELECOM has a customer service office in Milbank with staff to handle all customer service issues or complaints. Customers may also send complaints to the SSTELECOM address in subdivision (1), above. SSTELECOM has a full staff to handle all customer service issues or complaints. The office is open during normal business hours, 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday (also open through the lunch hour). Customers are given access to an after hour tech support call center number. Our end users are currently all local; therefore a toll free number is not necessary at this time. The call center is able to contact and dispatch SSTELECOM staff for any after hour

emergencies as needed. SSTELECOM staff performs all required maintenance and complies with the Commission's quality of service requirements.

**11. Information concerning how the applicant plans to bill and collect charges from customers.**

SSTELECOM mails a monthly bill to its customers on the first of the month for all services. The bill requires payment within 30 days. Although exempt from the Commission's billing, collections and credit rules under SDCL 49-31-5.1, SSTELECOM generally follows them.

**12. Information concerning the applicant's policies relating to solicitation of new customers and a description of the efforts the applicant shall use to prevent the unauthorized switching of interexchange customers.**

SSTELECOM markets services directly to current and potential residential and business customers. Marketing includes a variety of methods, such as direct mail, billboards, newspaper, direct sales, web site, and radio. SSTELECOM utilizes established customer authorization procedures in full compliance with the FCC rules and requirements for all new customers in order to prevent unauthorized switching of interexchange customers.

**13. Information concerning how the applicant will make available to any person information concerning the applicant's current rates, terms, and conditions for all of its telecommunications services.**

For our end user customers, we have a pricing guide in place, along with customer brochures available at our office; our toll services and pricing information are also posted on our website at [www.itcmilbank.com](http://www.itcmilbank.com).

**14. Information concerning how the applicant will notify a customer of any materially adverse change to any rate, term, or condition of any telecommunications service being provided to the customer. The notification must be made at least thirty days in advance of the change.**

If end user rates for toll services are adjusted, we will notify the customer in writing of the revisions at least 30 days prior to the change via billing notices such as bill messages or bill inserts and the rates will be posted on our website at [www.itemilbank.com](http://www.itemilbank.com).

**15. A list of the states in which the applicant is registered or certified to provide telecommunications services, whether the applicant has ever been denied registration or certification in any state and the reasons for any such denial, a statement as to whether or not the applicant is in good standing with the appropriate regulatory agency in the states where it is registered or certified, and a detailed explanation of why the applicant is not in good standing in a given state, if applicable.**

SSTELECOM is not authorized to provide service in any other states. It provides service only in South Dakota. SSTELECOM has never been denied certification in any state. SSTELECOM is in good standing with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

**16. A description of how the applicant intends to market its services, its target market, whether the applicant engages in any multilevel marketing, and copies of any company brochures used to assist in the sale of services.**

SSTELECOM markets services directly to current and potential residential and business customers. Marketing includes a variety of methods, such as, direct mail, billboards, newspaper, web site, and radio. SSTELECOM does not engage in any multilevel marketing. SSTELECOM does not utilize stand alone long distance brochures; however see Exhibit C attached to this application for a copy of marketing information found on our website.

**17. Federal tax identification number and South Dakota sales tax number.**

SSTELECOM's federal tax identification number is 46-0456907 and its South Dakota sales tax number is 19-001-460456907E-ST-001.

**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.**

SSTELECOM has never had any complaints filed against them in any state or federal agency for the unauthorized switching of carriers or for charging customers for services not ordered.

**19. A written request for waiver of those rules the applicant believes to be inapplicable.**

SSTELECOM does not request any waivers.

**20. Other information requested by the commission needed to demonstrate that the applicant has sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capabilities to provide the interexchange services it intends to offer consistent with the requirements of this chapter and other applicable rules and laws.**

The information provided herein and all exhibits fully describe SSTELECOM's ability to provide high quality telecommunications interexchange services to South Dakota consumers. SSTELECOM demonstrates herein that it has the technical, financial and managerial skills to offer interexchange services in South Dakota and that such services will be in the public interest.

SSTELECOM will notify the commission of any changes in subdivisions (1), (3), (5), and (10) if they occur.

WHEREFORE, SSTELECOM hereby requests that the Public Utilities Commission enter an order granting a certificate of authority to SSTELECOM to provide interexchange services in South Dakota exchanges served by Qwest.

Respectfully submitted this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008.

SSTELECOM, Inc., d/b/a ITC

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Heiberger", is written over a horizontal line.

Jerry Heiberger  
General Manager



# State of South Dakota

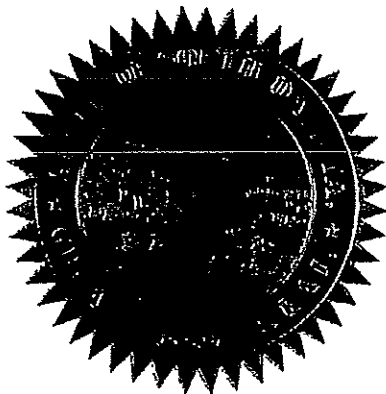


## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE Certificate of Incorporation Business Corporation

I, **JOYCE HAZELTINE**, Secretary of State of the State of South Dakota, hereby certify that the Articles of Incorporation of **SSTELECOM, INC.** duly signed and verified, pursuant to the provisions of the South Dakota Business Corporation 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 Incorporation and attach hereto a duplicate of the Articles of Incorporation.

**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 May 11, 2000.



*Joyce Hazeltine*

**Joyce Hazeltine**  
Secretary of State



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### Residential Phone & Long Distance Rates






**Save up to \$22.40 per month on your services and get included long distance minutes with a ONE RATE Package!**

<b>Unlimited local phone service</b>	\$15.50
<b>Any calling feature</b> <i>(with the exception of Caller ID and Voice Mail)</i>	\$1.50 each
Caller ID	\$3.50
Voice Mail	\$3.95
Caller ID & Call Waiting Package	\$3.50
Long Distance	10¢ per minute

### Business Phone & Long Distance Rates

First phone line	\$25.95
First phone line (including 60 minutes of long distance)	\$26.95
Additional phone lines	\$20.95 each
Additional phone lines (including 60 minutes of long distance)	\$21.95 each
Features	Same as residential
Long Distance	7.5¢ per minute

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