

ACCESS SERVICE

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Nebraska Independent Telephone Association
c/o TELEC Consulting Resources, Inc.
909 North 96th Street, Suite 203
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ACCESS SERVICE

9. Directory Assistance Service

9.1 General Description

9.1.3 Rate Categories

There are two rate categories which apply to Directory Assistance Service:

- Directory Assistance Service Call
- Directory Transport Service

(A) Directory Assistance Service Call

The Directory Assistance Service Call rate category provides for the use of general Directory Assistance (DA) Services, such as operators and DA access equipment necessary to provide DA Service to a customer.

(B) Directory Transport Service

Directory Transport Service provides the transmission facilities and transport termination between the premises of the ordering customer and the DA location. For purposes of determining Directory Transport Mileage, distance will be measured from the wire center that normally serves the customer premises to the DA location(s).

Directory Transport is a two-way voice frequency transmission path composed of Switched Access Local Transport facilities as set forth in 6.1.3 preceding. The two-way voice frequency path transports calls in the terminating direction (from the premises of the ordering customer to the DA location). The following rate elements, which are more fully described in 6.1.3(A) preceding, are applicable:

-Entrance Facility for the transport of the DA call from the customer's premises to the serving wire center (SWC) of that premises.

-Direct Trunked Transport (i.e., Direct Trunked Facility and Direct Trunked Termination) for

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9. Directory Assistance Service (Cont'd.)

9.1 General Description (Cont'd.)

9.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd.)

(B) Directory Transport Service (Cont'd.)

the transport of the DA call from the customer's SWC to the DA location without switching at a tandem or from the SWC to the tandem.

- Tandem Switched Transport (i.e., Tandem Switched Facility, Tandem Switched Termination, and Tandem Switching) for the transport of the DA call from the customer's SWC to the DA location with switching at a tandem, or from the tandem to the DA location.
- Interconnection Charge for the Local Transport costs that are not recovered by the Entrance Facility, Direct Trunked Transport, Tandem Switched Transport, Multiplexing, or dedicated signaling (i.e., SS7) rates.
- Multiplexing. DS3 to DS1 Multiplexing charges apply when a High Capacity DS3 Entrance Facility or Direct Trunked Facility is connected with High Capacity DS1 Direct Trunked Transport. The DS3 to DS1 multiplexer will convert a 44.736 Mbps channel to 28 DS1 channels using digital time division multiplexing.

DS1 to Voice Grade Multiplexing charges apply when a High Capacity DS1 Entrance Facility or Direct Trunked Facility is connected with Voice Grade Direct Trunked Transport. A DS1 to Voice Grade Multiplexing charge does not apply when a High Capacity DS1 Direct Trunked Facility is terminated at an electronic end office and only Switched Access Service is provided over the DS1 facility. The DS1 to voice multiplexer will convert a 1.544 Mbps channel to 24 Voice Grade channels.

Multiplexing is only available at wire centers identified in NECA TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.

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9. Directory Assistance Service (Cont'd.)

9.1 General Description (Cont'd.)

9.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd.)

(B) Directory Transport Service (Cont'd.)

The customer will specify whether the DA Service is to be routed directly to a DA location or through an access tandem switch appropriately equipped for DA measurement and served by DA trunks to the DA location, when such an access tandem switch is available. The combination of FGB, FGC or FGD Switched Access Service with DA Service will only be provided at such available and appropriately equipped access tandem switches.

When Directory Transport is provided using Direct Trunked Transport to the DA location, no address signaling is provided. When Directory Transport is provided with the use of an access tandem switch, wink start-start pulsing signaling is provided at the access tandem switch.

Directory Transport is provided with one of the Local Transport Interface Groups, as set forth in 15.1.1 of NECA TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 5.

9.4 Rate Regulations

This section contains the specific regulations governing rates and charges that apply for Directory Assistance Service.

9.4.1 Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring charges for DA Service are one-time charges that apply for a specific work activity.

(A) Installation of Service

Nonrecurring Local Transport Installation and Direct Trunked Transport Activation charges as set forth in 17.2.1(A) and (E) following are applied as set forth in 6.4.1(B)(1) preceding to each DA Service installed.

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9. Directory Assistance Service (Cont'd.)

9.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd.)

9.4.1 Nonrecurring Charges (Cont'd.)

(B) DA Service Arrangements

All changes to existing services other than changes involving administrative activities will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and an installation of a new service.

9.4.2 DA Service Call Charge

The DA service call charge, as set forth in 17.2.5(A) following, applies for each call to DA Service. (A "call" is defined as one answered by a DA operator.) The charge applies whether or not the DA operator provides the requested telephone number. The number of calls answered by DA operators will be accumulated by Telephone Company measuring equipment. A credit for the provision of an incorrect telephone number will be applied as set forth in 9.4.8 of NECA TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 5.

9.4.3 Directory Transport Service

The Local Transport charges set forth in 17.2 following are also applicable to Directory Transport Service and will be assessed on the same basis as the Switched Access Local Transport rate elements set forth in 6.1.3(A) preceding: Entrance Facility, Direct Trunked Transport, Tandem Switched Transport, Multiplexing, and Interconnection Charge.

9.4.6 DA Service Rearrangements

Nonrecurring charges apply for service rearrangements. Service rearrangements and the regulations concerning the application of associated nonrecurring charges are as set forth in 6.4.1(B)(3) preceding.

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10. Special Construction

10.1 General

This section contains a description of the regulations, rates, charges and liabilities applicable for the special construction of facilities provided by the Telephone Company which are used to furnish intrastate access services.

Special Construction is required when a customer requests service and one or more of the following conditions exist(s):

- The facilities to provide services are not available and, at the request of the customer, the Telephone Company constructs facilities to provide the services for the customer, and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed.
- At the request of the customer, the Telephone Company constructs facilities of a type other than that which they would normally furnish in order to provide services for the customer.
- In order to comply with requirements specified by the customer, construction by the Telephone Company involves a routing of facilities other than that which they would normally utilize to provide services for the customer.
- At the request of the customer, the Telephone Company constructs a greater quantity of facilities than that which they would otherwise construct in order to fulfill the customer's initial requirement for services.
- The facilities to provide services are not available and, at the request of the customer, the Telephone Company expedites construction of the facilities at greater expense than would otherwise be incurred.
- The facilities to provide services are not available and, at the request of the customer, the Telephone Company constructs temporary facilities to provide services for the period during which the permanent facilities are under construction.

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10. Special Construction

10.2 Regulations

When special construction of facilities is required, the following regulations shall apply.

10.2.1 Ownership of Facilities

The Telephone Company shall retain ownership of all specially constructed facilities which it provides.

10.2.2 Interval to Provide Facilities

Based on available information and the type of service ordered, the Telephone Company will establish a completion date for the specially constructed facilities. If circumstances beyond the Telephone Company's control force the completion date to be rescheduled, the Telephone Company will work with the customer to establish a new completion date.

10.2.3 Special Construction Involving Both Intrastate and Interstate Facilities

When special construction involves facilities to be used to provide both intrastate and interstate services, charges for the portion of the construction used to provide intrastate service shall be in accordance with this catalog. Charges for the portion of the construction used to provide interstate service shall be in accordance with terms and conditions as set forth in NECA TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 3.

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10. Special Construction (Cont'd.)

10.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

10.2.4 Payments for Special Construction

(A) Payment of Charges

All bills are due 31 days after the bill date and are payable in immediately available funds.

(B) Late Payment Penalties

If the entire amount billed, excluding any disputed amount, is received by the Telephone Company later than 31 days after the bill date, a late factor shall apply. The late factor shall be the lesser of:

- (1) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company, or
- (2) 0.000292 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company.

(C) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Telephone Company

Late payment charges will apply to amounts withheld pending settlement of the dispute. Late payment charges are calculated as set forth in (B) preceding except that when the customer disputes the bill on or before the payment date and pays the undisputed amount on or before the payment date, the penalty interest period shall not begin until 10 days following the payment date.

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10. Special Construction (Cont'd.)

10.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

10.2.4 Payments for Special Construction (Cont'd.)

(D) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Customer

If the customer pays the total billed amount and disputes all or part of the amount, the Telephone Company will refund any overpayment. In addition, the Telephone Company will pay to the customer penalty interest on the overpayment. When a claim is filed within 90 days of the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin on the payment date. When a claim is filed more than 90 days after the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin from the date of the claim or the date of overpayment, whichever is later.

The penalty interest period shall end on the date that the Telephone Company actually refunds the overpayment to the customer. The penalty interest rate shall be the lesser of:

- (1) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved, or
- (2) 0.000292 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved.

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10. Special Construction (Cont'd.)

10.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

10.2.4 Payments for Special Construction (Cont'd.)

(E) Partial Payments

For special construction projects requiring a construction period longer than one month, the Telephone Company will require partial payments. The partial payment amounts will be determined by dividing the estimated total nonrecurring charge for the special construction project by the number of months between the time when the special construction begins and the completion date. Partial payments may not exceed the total nonrecurring charge for the special construction project. Partial payments will be billed monthly, and payment will be due 31 days after the bill date. If any partial payment is not received by the due date the Telephone Company will immediately cease all work on the special construction project, and cancellation charges will apply as set forth in 8.2.5(C)(3) following.

10.2.5 Liabilities and Charges for Special Construction

(A) General

This section describes the various charges and liabilities that may apply when the Telephone Company provides special construction of facilities in accordance with an order for service. Written approval of all liabilities and charges must be provided to the Telephone Company prior to the start of construction.

(B) Development of Liabilities and Charges

Special construction charges and liabilities will be developed based on estimated costs. These estimates will be adjusted and an appropriate charge or credit determined upon project completion, on an individual case basis.

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10. Special Construction (Cont'd.)

10.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

10.2.5 Liabilities and Charges for Special Construction
(Cont'd.)

(C) Types of Liabilities and Charges

Depending on the specifics associated with each individual case, one or more of the following special construction charges and/or liabilities may be applicable:

(1) Nonrecurring Charge

A nonrecurring charge always applies and includes one or more of the following components:

(a) Case Preparation Charge

A nonrecurring charge always includes a case preparation charge component to cover the administrative expenses associated with preparing a special construction case.

(b) Construction Charge

A construction charge will be applied to recover all direct labor and material costs required to complete the special construction project, along with overhead loadings which are developed according to standard Telephone Company policies.

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10. Special Construction (Cont'd.)

10.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

10.2.5 Liabilities and Charges for Special Construction
(Cont'd.)

(C) Types of Liabilities and Charges (Cont'd.)

(1) Nonrecurring Charge (Cont'd.)

(c) Replacement Charge

If any portion of specially constructed facilities requires replacement involving capital investment, a replacement charge will apply. This charge will be the installed cost of the replaced specially constructed facilities. If any portion of the specially constructed facilities fails, service will not be restored until notification is provided in writing that replacement is required and such replacement is ordered.

(d) Rearrangement Charge

If the Telephone Company is requested to rearrange existing specially constructed facilities, a nonrecurring charge equal to the cost of any additional special construction will apply.

(2) Lease Charge

A lease charge applies when the Telephone Company leases equipment in order to meet service requirements. The amount of the charge is equal to the net added cost to the Telephone Company caused by the lease.

(3) Cancellation Charge

If a service order with which special construction is associated is cancelled prior to the start of service, a

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10.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

10.2.5 Liabilities and Charges for Special Construction
(Cont'd.)

(C) Types of Liabilities and Charges (Cont'd.)

(3) Cancellation Charge (Cont'd.)

cancellation charge equal to the costs incurred by the Telephone Company, less estimated net salvage value will apply. Such costs include the non-recoverable cost of equipment and material ordered, provided or used; plus the non-recoverable cost of installation and removal, including the costs of engineering, labor, supervision, transportation, and rights-of-way; and other associated costs incurred by the Telephone Company up to and including the time of cancellation.

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