**INTRASTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

## A. Switched Access Service

### 1. General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a customers designated premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching, and trunking facilities and for the use of common subscriber plant of SRT Communications, Inc. ("SRT"). Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer designed premises, and to terminate calls from a customer designed premises to an end user's premises in the LATA where it is provided.

### 2. Local Transport Restructure ("LTR") Method

Under this Pricing Schedule, Switched Access Local Transport is offered under one methodology, Local Transport Restructure ("LTR"). Local Transport rates are provided in Section B below.

The customer must specify when ordering Switched Access Service (1) whether the service is to be directly routed to an end office switch or through an access tandem switch, and (2) the type of Direct Trunked Transport and whether it will overflow to Tandem Switched Transport when service is directly routed to an end office, (3) the type of Entrance Facility, (4) the directionally of the service, and (5) when multiplexing is required, the hub(s) at which the multiplexing will be provided.

The Local Transport mileage for Switched Access Service will be measured in multiple segments. When the facility is directly trunked to the Minot Host Office, Direct Trunked Facility mileage will be measured between the Bismarck Serving Wire Center and the Minot Host Office, and Tandem Switched Facility mileage will be measured between the Minot Host Office and the SRT Remote Office. The Tandem Switching Charge will not apply.

When the facility is directly trunked to the Minot Access Tandem, Direct Trunked Facility will be measured from the Bismarck Serving Wire Center to the Minot Access Tandem, Tandem Switched Facility will be measured from the Minot Access Tandem to the Minot Host Office, and another segment of Tandem Switched Facility will be measured from the Minot Host Office to the SRT Remote Office. A Tandem Switching charge would be applicable at the Minot Access Tandem.

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**B. Switched Access Rate Elements – Local Transport Restructure ("LTR") – Recurring**

| | | Originating | Terminating |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Local Switching | | |
| | Per Access Minute | $0.014483 | $0.000700 |

The Local Switching rate element provides for the use of the end office access switching arrangement.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2. | Carrier Common Line | | |
| | Per Originating Access Minute | $0.010905 | $0.000000 |

Carrier Common Line Access provides for the use of end users' Telephone Company provided common lines by customers for access to such end users to furnish Intrastate Communications.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3. | Information Surcharge | | |
| | Per 100 Access Minutes | $0.053111 | $0.000000 |

Information Surcharge rates are related to the local end office switching and end user termination functions necessary to complete the transmission of switched access communications to and from the end users served by the local end office.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4. | Access Adjustment Rate | | |
| | Per Originating IntraLata Access Minute | $0.005432 | $0.000000 |

The Access Adjustment Rate is a rate effecting an adjustment resulting from the North Dakota Access Charge Order dated October 8, 1985, in which average schedule telephone companies were directed to use the 1984 IntraLata settlements as a surrogate for their Intrastate IntraLata toll revenue requirements.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5. | Residual Interconnection Charge | | |
| | Per Originating Access Minute | $0.056414 | $0.000000 |

The Residual Interconnection Charge is a rate developed due to the conversion to Local Transport Restructure effective July 1, 2013, as a result of the FCC's November 2011 Order. It serves as a revenue requirement for originating switched access to remain revenue neutral prior to July 1, 2013 when the non-Local Transport Restructure method was used for switched access billing.

**INTRASTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

**B. Switched Access Rate Elements – Local Transport Restructure ("LTR") – Recurring**

| | | Originating | Terminating |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6. | Tandem Switched Termination<br>Per Access Minute, Per Termination | $0.002267 | $0.002267 |

The Tandem Switched Termination rate recovers a portion of the costs of the circuit equipment that is necessary for the termination of each end of the Tandem Switched Facility.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7. | Tandem Switched Facility<br>Per Access Minute, Per Mile | $0.000437 | $0.000437 |

The Tandem Switched Facility rate recovers a portion of the costs of the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of the interoffice circuits.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8. | Tandem Switching<br>Per Access Minute Per Tandem | $0.005718 | $0.005718 |

The Tandem Switching rate recovers a portion of the costs of switching traffic through the Telephone Company's Access Tandem.

| 9. | Direct Trunked Termination | Monthly Rate |
|---|---|---|
| | Per Termination | |
| | High Capacity DS1 | $ 59.15 |
| | High Capacity DS3 | $379.77 |

Direct Trunk Termination rate covers the costs of the circuit equipment that is necessary for the termination of each end of the Direct Trunked Facility.

| 10. | Direct Trunked Facility | Monthly Rate |
|---|---|---|
| | Per Mile | |
| | High Capacity DS1 | $ 11.42 |
| | High Capacity DS3 | $ 99.30 |

The Direct Trunked Facility rate covers the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of the interoffice circuits.

**INTRASTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

**B. Switched Access Rate Elements – Local Transport Restructure ("LTR") – Recurring**

11. Multiplexing — Monthly Rate

| | |
|---|---|
| Per DS3-DS1Arrangement | $346.50 |

The Multiplexing rate applies when a High Capacity DS3 Direct Facility is connected with High Capacity DS1 Direct Transport.

12. 800 Data Base Access Service Queries

Per Query

| | |
|---|---|
| Basic | $0.005800 |
| Vertical Feature | $0.006400 |

800 Data Base Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC and FGD switched access service. A Basic or Vertical Feature Query charge is assessed for each query launched to the 800 data base. The Basic Query provides the identification of the customer to whom the call will be delivered and includes area of service routing which allows routing of 800 calls by telephone companies to different interexchange carriers based on the Local Access Transport Area (LATA) in which the call originates. The Vertical Feature Query provides this same customer identification function in addition to vertical features which may include: 1) call validation (ensuring that call originates from subscribed service area); 2) POTS translation of 800 numbers (which is generally necessary for the routing of 800 calls); 3) alternate POTS translation (which allows subscribers to vary the routing of 800 calls based on factors such as time of day, place of origination of the call, etc.); and 4) multiple carrier routing based on factors similar to those in 3.

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## C. Presubscription

1. PIC Change $ 5.50

   a. Per Telephone Exchange Service Link or Trunk
   b. This charge is billed to the end user who is the Subscriber to the Telephone Exchange Service.
   c. This charge applies per LATA PIC changed.
   d. In the event an end user is incorrectly presubscribed due to misassignment on the part of the Company, no charge shall apply. In the event an end user is incorrectly presubscribed due to misassignment of the part of the IC, and the IC is unable to document such an assignment, the Company will apply the charge to the IC responsible for the misassignment of the end user and assign the end user to an IC of the end user's choice.

**INTRASTATE SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

## D. Switched Access - Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic

### 1. General

a. This section governs the identification of Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic which the FCC in its Report and Order in WC Dockets Nos. 10-90, etc., F.C.C. Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011) (F.C.C. Order) has allowed it to be tariffed in both federal and state access tariffs unless the parties have a negotiated agreement.[1] SRT Communications, Inc. recognizes that according to the FCC Order all VoIP-PSTN traffic is governed by section 251(b)(5) Framework including Toll PSTN VoIP Traffic which is included in this tariff.

b. For the purposes of this Tariff, Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as interexchange traffic exchanged between SRT's end user and the customer (ex: IXC) in Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) format that originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. Toll VoIP-PSTN traffic originated and/or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

c. The customer (ex: IXC) shall deliver all Toll VoIP-PSTN traffic on its facilities that deliver other voice access traffic. Toll VoIP-PSTN traffic shall not be delivered on local trunk groups. Specifically, this section establishes the method of separating Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic from the customer's traditional intrastate access traffic, so that Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic can be billed in accordance with the F.C.C. Order.

d. Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic identified in accordance with this tariff section will be billed at rates equal to SRT's applicable tariffed interstate switched access rates as set forth in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 5. If the F.C.C. Order is stayed or overturned, Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is jurisdictionally intrastate will be billed at rates under this tariff. This Section is to comply with the F.C.C. Order.



[1] Although the Company has taken the position that this tariff, by its own terms, already applies to VoIP-PSTN traffic, as defined herein, the Company has included this Section in the tariff out of an abundance of caution to prevent any claim that it does not so apply, and to implement the decision by the Federal Communications Commission in its Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC Release No. 11-161 (Nov. 18, 2011) ("FCC Order") that VoIP-PSTN access traffic should be exchanged at interstate access rates (unless the parties have agreed otherwise). By its terms, the FCC Order is prospective only, and does not address preexisting law with regard to the applicability of intercarrier compensation or the enhanced service providers ("ESP") exemption to VoIP-PSTN Traffic.

**D. Switched Access - Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic**

2. **Calculation and Application of Originating Percent-VoIP- Usage Factors**

a. SRT will determine the number of intrastate Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use (MOU) to which interstate rates will be applied by applying an originating Percent Toll VoIP-PSTN Usage (PVU) factor to the total intrastate access MOU originated by SRT's end user and delivered to the customer (ex: IXC).

b. The originating PVU Factor shall be calculated based on information such as the number of the customer's retail Toll VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g. as reported on F.C.C. Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail or other relevant and verifiable information. This information is available on the FCC Wireline Competition Bureau's Voice Telephone Services Report which is released on an annual basis.

c. If the customer provides an Originating PVU factor that is less than the calculated PVU as described in D(2)(b), the customer's lower PVU will be used. If the customer provides an Originating PVU factor that is more than the calculated PVU described in D(2)(b), the calculated PVU as described in D(2)(b) will be used. If the Customer does not furnish an Originating PVU factor, SRT will utilize a PVU equal to zero.

d. It is the responsibility of the customer to retain the call detail, work papers, and information used to develop their Originating PVU factors for a minimum of one year.

e. If the customer provides an Originating PVU that is less than the calculated PVU as described in D(2)(b), such PVU shall be implemented in the billing cycle following the receipt of the PVU. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the updated PVU factors.

f. The customer shall not modify their reported PIU factor to account for Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic.

g. If necessary, not more than twice in any year, SRT may request from the customer an overview of the process used to determine the PVU factors that they provide, the call detail records, description of the method for determining how the end user originates and terminated call in IP format, and other information used to determine the customer's PVU factors furnished to SRT in order to validate the PVU factors supplied. The customer shall comply, and shall reasonably supply the requested data and information within 15 days of SRT's request.

**D. Switched Access - Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic**

3. **Disputes**

a. SRT may dispute the Customer's PVU factor based upon a review of the requested data and information provided by the customer, SRT's reasonable review of other market information, F.C.C. reports on VoIP lines, such as F.C.C. Form 477 or state level results based on the F.C.C. Local Competition Report or other relevant data, a change in the reported PVU factor by more than five percentage points from the preceding quarter.

b. If after review of the data and information, the customer and SRT established revised PVU factors, the Telephone Company will begin using those revised PVU factors with the next bill period.

c. If the dispute is unresolved, SRT may initiate an audit. SRT shall limit audits of the customer's PVU factor to no more than twice per year. The customer may request that the audit be conducted by an independent auditor. In such cases the associated auditing expenses will be paid by the customer.

d. In the event that the customer fails to provide adequate records to enable SRT or an independent auditor to conduct an audit verifying the customer's PVU factors, SRT will bill the usage for all contested periods using the most recent undisputed accepted PVU factors reported by the customer. These PVU factors will remain in effect until the audit can be completed. During the audit, the most recent undisputed PVU factors from the previous reporting period will be used by SRT.

e. The Telephone Company will adjust the customer's PVU factors based on the results of the audit and implement the revised PVU in the next billing period or quarterly report date, whichever is first. The revised PVU factors will apply for the next two quarters before new factors can be submitted by the customer.

f. If the audit supports the customer's PVU factors, the usage for the contested periods will be adjusted to reflect the customer's audited PVU factors.

g. As used in this Section, "Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" is defined as interexchange traffic exchanged between a Telephone Company end user and the customer in Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) format that originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. Toll VoIP-PSTN traffic originated and/or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

## DEFINITIONS

Customer Message
A completed intrastate call originated by a customer's end user. A customer message begins when answer supervision from the premise of the ordering customer is received by Telephone Company recording equipment indicating that the called party answered. A message ends when disconnect supervision is received by Telephone Company recording equipment from either the premise of the ordering customer or the customer's end user premise from which the call originated.

Customer Designated Premises
The premises specified by the customer for the provision of Access Service.

Customers
Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity which orders to the services offered under this tariff, including Local Exchange Carrier(s), Interexchange Carrier(s) (IC's), providers of originating and terminating VoIP–PSTN traffic and End Users(s).

Initial Billing Company
A telephone company who bills Local Transport access charges to Interexchange Carriers on behalf of one or more Local Exchange Carriers.

Interconnection Point
This is a point where a facility of the Telephone Company meets facilities of a connecting exchange telephone company. This point can be defined as the Vertical and Horizontal coordinate of this location as calculated in NECA Tariff #4 online system.

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

Internet Protocol (IP)
The term "Internet Protocol" denotes a packet data-oriented protocol used for communicating call signaling information.

Interstate Call
A term which denotes both interstate and foreign communications.

Intrastate Call
Any toll communications which originates and terminates in the same state.

Originating Direction
The use of access service for the origination of calls from an End User Premises to an IC Premises or a Customer's Premises.

## DEFINITIONS

Pay Telephone
Telephone Company, or privately provided instruments and related facilities that are available to the general public for public convenience and necessity, including public and semipublic telephones, and coinless telephones.

Point of Termination
The point of demarcation within a customer-designated premises at which the Telephone Company's responsibility for the provision of Access Service ends.

Premises
A building or building on continuous property (except Railroad Right-of-Way, etc.) not separated by a public highway.

Public Switch Telephone Network (PSTN)
Public Switch Telephone Network refers to the local, long distance and international phone system which we use every day. In the United States, PSTN refers to the entire interconnected collection of local, long distance and international phone companies, which could be thousands.

Remote Switching Modules and/or Remote Switching Systems
Small, remotely controlled electronic end office switches which obtain all or part of their call processing capability from a Host Office. The Remote Switching Modules and/or Remote Switching Systems cannot accommodate direct trunks.

Termination Direction
The use of Access Service for the completion of calls from an IC premises or a Customer's premises to an End User Premises.

Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic
The term "toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" denotes a customer's interexchange voice traffic exchanged with the Telephone Company in Time Division Multiplexing format over PSTN facilities, which originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. "Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" originates and/or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

Trunk
A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

Trunk Group
A set of trunks which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching Systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

## DEFINITIONS

Trunk Side Connection
The connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system. This type of connection is used when providing FGC and FGD Switched Access Service.

VoIP-PSTN Traffic
VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as traffic exchanged between the Company end user and the Customer in TDM format that originates and/or terminates in IP signaling format. VoIP- PSTN traffic includes tariff that is jurisdictionally local, intrastate IntraLATA, Intrastate InterLATA and interstate.

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