



INTERSTATE TRS ADVISORY COUNCIL

ELIOT GREENWALD
MICHAEL SCOTT
DISABILITY RIGHTS OFFICE
CONSUMER AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BUREAU
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
APRIL 9, 2019

IP CTS REPORT AND ORDER, FNPRM, AND ORDER

- On February 14, 2019, the Commission adopted a Report and Order, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Order addressing IP CTS.
- The Report and Order expands the User Registration Database to encompass IP CTS.
 - Although it became effective yesterday, April 8, compliance is not required until after the Commission receives approval of the information collection requirements from Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act, and a notice of the compliance deadline is published in the Federal Register



IP CTS REPORT AND ORDER, FNPRM, AND ORDER

- The Further Notice proposes to:
 - Require IP CTS providers to include unique user account identifiers in monthly call detail records submitted for compensation
 - Allow new and porting IP CTS user access to service for up to two weeks pending verification in the user registration database
 - Simplify the handling of 911 calls placed by IP CTS users who connect to an IP CTS provider via the Internet in order to place a call
- Comments are due on April 15, and replies are due on April 29
- The Order, Pending completion of the rulemaking, grants waiver of most of these emergency call-handling requirements to IP CTS providers that assign their users such callback numbers.

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IP CTS ASR APPLICATIONS

- The Commission has received two applications for certification to provide IP CTS using ASR
- The Commission is considering those applications and the process for their review

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VRS AT-HOME CALL HANDLING PILOT PROGRAM

- On October 31, 2018, the Commission granted ZVRS and Purple limited waivers of the expiration date of the pilot program, continuing the program for an additional six months, through April 30, 2019
- On January 28, 2019, Sorenson filed a petition requesting to participate in the pilot program
- On February 25, 2019, ZVRS and Purple filed a petition requesting an extension of the limited waiver of the pilot program termination date
- On March 19, 2019, GlobalVRS filed a petition renewing its request to participate in the pilot program
- The Commission is considering whether to extend the pilot program and allow additional providers to participate in the pilot program
- The Commission may soon seek comment on whether to make the at-home call handling program permanent

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RUE PROFILE COMPLIANCE

- The Interoperability Profile for Relay User Equipment (RUE Profile) is a technical standard incorporated into the FCC's rules to support VRS interoperability
- On February 8, 2019, the VRS providers filed a joint petition requesting that the Commission suspend indefinitely the current deadline for VRS provider compliance with the RUE Profile
- The Commission is considering whether to extend the compliance deadline for VRS providers



ADDITIONAL VRS ISSUES

- The Commission may soon address issues concerning:
 - Direct video calling (DVC) provider access to the TRS Numbering Database
 - Per call validation database querying
 - Enterprise and public videophone registration in the user registration database
 - Non-service related inducements
 - Non-compete agreements
- The Commission may soon seek comment on issues concerning:
 - Consumer access to VRS pending verification in the user registration database
 - A log-in requirement for enterprise and public videophones



IP RELAY COMPENSATION RATE

- On November 1, 2019, Sprint filed a petition for rulemaking to establish a new ratemaking methodology for IP Relay service
- On March 21, 2019, Sprint filed a request for interim waivers of the Commission's rules to the extent necessary to permit Sprint to:
 - Be compensated for specified costs incurred in the provision of IP Relay for outreach, indirect overhead, and research and development, and
 - Receive a reasonable operating margin for the 2019-20 TRS Fund Year
- The Commission released a public notice seeking comment on the waivers. Opening comments were due April 8, 2019, and reply comments are due April 15, 2019
- The Commission is considering the request for waivers and may soon seek comment on the compensation rate methodology for IP Relay

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TRS EQUAL ACCESS AND BILLING OPTIONS

- The Commission may soon seek comment on whether to relieve providers of the requirements to offer consumers their choice of long distance carrier (equal access rule) and multiple billing options for long distance calls, as long as the providers do not charge for long distance service
- This would apply to providers of:
 - Traditional TRS
 - Speech-to-speech relay service (STS)
 - Non-Internet Protocol (IP) forms of captioned telephone service (CTS)
- The Commission may also consider whether an extension of the waivers granted to Sprint and Hamilton Relay would be needed pending completion of a rulemaking proceeding



ITTA PETITION

- On May 18, 2018, the Commission sought comment on a petition from ITTA seeking a declaratory ruling that it is permissible for a carrier recovering TRS Fund contributions via an end user cost recovery fee line item (or the like) on customers' bills to include TRS, among other references, in line item descriptions
- The Commission may address this petition in the coming months



TRS RATE ORDER

- The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau anticipates following the usual timeline when adopting an Order establishing per-minute TRS compensation rates, the TRS Fund revenue requirement, and a carrier contribution factor for the Fund Year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020
 - The Fund administrator's report is due on May 1
 - The Bureau would issue a Public Notice seeking comment on the report
 - An order would be adopted before the end of June

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NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING COUNCIL INTEROPERABLE VIDEO CALLING WORKING GROUP

- The IVC Working Group is exploring how to facilitate the provision of interoperable telephone number-based video calling, allowing service providers to voluntarily offer, to any customer, the capability to make or receive a video call between 10-digit telephone numbers

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NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING COUNCIL INTEROPERABLE VIDEO CALLING WORKING GROUP

- The IVC Working Group meets weekly to prepare and ideally submit a final report to the NANC for approval that will:
 - Provide options for, and analyses of, any changes necessary in numbering or numbering administration to allow and encourage the deployment of telephone number-based interoperable video calling, including any changes to Commission rules, and any change, migration, or consolidation of existing numbering directories, including the TRS Numbering Directory;
 - Describe any recommended developments in technology, standards, or operations required to promote the deployment of telephone number-based interoperable video calling, including the incorporation of interoperable video calling in the implementation of NG911; and
 - Recommend next steps the Commission and industry should take to promote interoperable video calling services

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DAC 3

- The first meeting of the third term of the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC 3) will be held on April 10, 2019 (tomorrow)

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INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Subscribe to AccessInfo@fcc.gov to keep current on FCC proceedings and events on disability-related issues
- FCC – Disability Rights Office Webpage: <https://www.fcc.gov/disability>
- DRO@fcc.gov (e-mail)
- 844-432-2275 (videophone)
- 202-418-2517 (voice)
- 888-835-5322 (TTY)
- Online Complaint Form: www.fcc.gov/complaints

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CONTACT INFORMATION

- Eliot Greenwald
 - Voice telephone: (202) 418-2235
 - Email: eliot.greenwald@fcc.gov
- Michael Scott
 - Voice telephone: (202) 418-1264
 - Email: michael.scott@fcc.gov

