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Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

Pursuant to 47 CFR 1.401(a), the undersigned petitions the Commission for a change to 47 C.F.R. 64.1506 to add the "555" telephone number exchange prefix to authorized pay-per-call services, for services operated by government(s), government contractor(s), and organizations exempt from Federal income tax under 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, and protect access under 64.704 for such uses. This petition replaces any previous petition.

Such an amendment by FCC is authorized by 47 U.S.C. 228 (b)(5) and (i)(1)(C), which permits the Commission to designate "pay-per-call" prefixes or area code(s) in addition to 900.

The petitioner requests that Section 64.1506 and 64.704 be amended to read as follows:

I. "64.1506 Number designation.

(a) Except for services operated with a 555 prefix (exchange) by entities described in subsection (b) of

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this section, any interstate service described in 64.1501 (a) (1) through (a) (2), [and not subject to the exclusions contained in 64.1501(a) (4)¹], shall be offered only through telephone numbers beginning with a 900 service access code (area code);

(b) Federal, State, and Local Government(s), authorized government contractors, and organizations found by the Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from income tax under 26 U.S.C. 501(c), and their authorized privies, may provide interstate pay-per-call services with numbers beginning with a 555 prefix (exchange);" and

II. Amend Section 64.704 to add the 555 prefix (exchange) to call blocking prohibitions, provided that pay telephone operators retain payment as if a local call were made (i.e. \$0.25), and provided that dial tone providers (i.e. local exchange or "regional Bell operating companies," etc.) may retain 555 translation charges equivalent to that now provided for 800 area code translations/"lookups" (i.e. \$0.005).

III. Amend 64.1501 (a) (3), as amended August 31, 1994², to include reference to the above authorizations, if necessary.

¹ As amended August 31, 1994, FCC Release 94-200, CC Docket No. 93-22.

² Ref: FCC Notice 94-200, Appendix B.

Facts, Views, Argument, and Data

On May 13, 1994, after over a year of industry meetings and approvals, Bellcore issued Letter IL-94/05-004 announcing the Approval of 555-NXX Assignment Guidelines and Implementation Timeline, for assignment of telephone numbers beginning with the 555 prefix (555-xxxx). (Bellcore Letter IL-94/05-004, as Appendix 1, incorporated herein). The deadline for applications was July 8, 1994, and it is believed that Bellcore (North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA)) has received applications from about 400 entities for about 1,500 of the available 9,890 numbers.

Previously, only a few 555 prefix numbers have been used, such as directory assistance at 555-1212. Certain other numbers were used in some area codes, such as: 555-1000, 1234, 1313, 1515, 1611, 1717, 1811, 4433, and 4652. Thus, only about ten (10) of the possible 10,000 numbers beginning with 555 have ever been assigned in any area code.

The Bellcore/ICCF/NANPA guidelines provide that around three-thousand (3,000) (or more, if needed) of the 555 number assignments are expected to be National, i.e. the assigned number will be for use in all area codes (in service in at least 30% of the area codes), by the same entity (termination point), thus interstate. Numbers beginning with 555-01xx are reserved for movies, films, etc..

A principal stated purposes of the 555 number assignments is to "provide for types of public information service needs which may not be met by current numbering solutions, e.g., 976 and 900." (555 NXX Assignment Guidelines dated 4/29/94, INC 94-0429-002, par. 2.1, p. 3, attachment to Bellcore Letter IL-94/05-004). (Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, Industry Carriers Compatability Forum (ICCF)).

As stated in the purposes, many of the 555 number assignments will be utilized for pay-per-call services covered by 47 C.F.R. 1501 (a)(1) and/or (a)(2). Thus, in accordance with 47 U.S.C. 228 (b)(5) and (i)(1)(C), it is in the public interest that the Commission designate 555 numbers as an authorized interstate pay-per-call prefix for governments, governmental agencies and contractors, and tax exempt organizations.

Public Purpose

The undersigned is a Director of a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization which has received 555 number assignment(s) necessary to effectively provide its services, and which has an interest in assuring that there be early application of pay-per-call standards to National 555 numbers used in the provision of pay-per-call services.³

³ Share-a-Ride International, Inc., t/a Ridexchange, FEIN 52-1190723, exempt under IRS 501(c)(3), and their facilitating privy Ridex Corporation, t/a RideLine FEIN 52-1218448; providing ridesharing services at (301) 294-0199, and unable to obtain PSA's using (900) 773-7433.

The broader 555 prefix/access need has been identified by industry consensus (Bellcore/ICCF Committees and Workshops), and the provision of alternative pay-per-call access by the Commission is in the public interest due to:

- a) increased consumer and citizen access to easy-to-remember national seven-digit 555 numbers for pay-per-call services of governmental, charitable, non-profit, and other tax exempt purposes;
- b) Increased acceptance of public service announcements (PSA's) by media, of 555 prefix numbers (to mitigate an existing general reluctance by media to advertise and/or use 900 numbers or 976 numbers);
- c) competitive effects on billing platform, carrier, provider, and consumer rates, and increased volume/traffic on carriers for public services provided by Government, governmental contractors, and tax exempt entities;
- d) the fact that organizations found exempt by IRS under 26 U.S.C. 501(c) (and possibly Sections 521, 526, 527, and 528, charging "de minimus" fees), have already demonstrated public policy interests which may be taken as established for a showing to FCC of being in the public interest.

Future Rulemaking

Should there be sufficient 555 prefix resources available in the future (i.e. once the initial round of assignments have been

made in 1994), the Commission should consider permitting other information provider access not containing "indecent" speech, leaving such content in the existing 900 service access code (area code), which already has private and some public restrictions on access. (See: Alliance for Community Media, et al. v. Federal Communications Commission, et al., 10 F.3d 812 (D.C. Cir. 1993); also see: Sable Communications of California, Inc. v. FCC, 492 U.S. 115, 126 (1989); cf: 47 C.F.R. 76.702). Such pay-per-call applications would also be subject to applicable pay-per-call Federal laws and regulations, including Federal Trade Commission's regulations at 16 C.F.R. 308 (advertising and operation, 15 U.S.C. 5711-14, and billing errors, 15 U.S.C. 5721-24).

September 12, 1994



Richard C. Bartel
Petitioner

cc: Original + 4 Copies
Attachment: Appendix 1

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

District
Director

Baltimore District

31 Hopkins Plaza, Baltimore, Md. 21201

▷ Share-A-Ride International, Inc.
Ridexchange
3 Choke Cherry Road 360
Rockville, Maryland 20850-4004

Person to Contact:
EP/EO Tax Examiner

Telephone Number:
(301 962-6058

Refer Reply to:
EP/EO:TPA
Room 1618

November 18, 1991

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is in response to your inquiry dated November 18, 1991, requesting a copy of the letter which granted tax exempt status to the above named organization.

Our records show that the organization was granted exemption from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code effective November, 1981. We have also determined that the organization is not a private foundation because it is described in section(s) 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors may deduct contributions to you under section 170 of the Code.

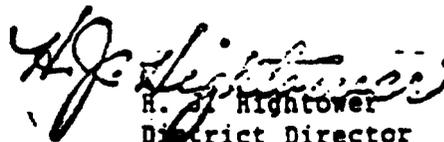
As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

You are required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, and sign the return.

A copy of our letter certifying the status of the organization is not available, however, this letter may be used to verify your tax-exempt status.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt status, it should be kept in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,


R. J. Hightower
District Director

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

District
Director

Baltimore District

31 Hopkins Plaza, Baltimore, Md. 21201

▷ Share-A-Ride International, Inc.
Ridexchange
3 Choke Cherry Road 360
Rockville, Maryland 20850-4004

Person to Contact:
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(301 962-6058

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Donors may deduct contributions to you under section 170 of the Code.

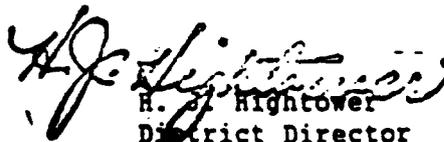
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Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt status, it should be kept in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,


H. J. Hightower
District Director



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Bellcore Letter



Letter Number IL 94/05-004	Type Informational	Date 5-13-94
Title Approval of 555 NXX Assignment Guidelines and Implementation Timeline		See Comments Section: Project Number(s) 422402
Related Documents None	Distribution List Codes NP062, NS001, SS002	
To Recipients of North American Numbering Plan (NANP) Information, Information Industry Liaison Committee		
Distribution Restrictions Unrestricted		

From
R. R. Conners, Director- North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA)

This IL is to inform the telecommunications industry of the approval at the INC of the 555 NXX Assignment Guidelines and associated application forms, which includes an implementation timeline. Key provisions of the guidelines are included along with procedures for applying for 555 line numbers and grandfathering request procedures for current uses of 555 line numbers.

Letter Information (includes safety liability disclaimer (if applicable), ordering information, originator's signature information)

The Industry Numbering Committee (INC) has approved guidelines for the assignment of line numbers in the 555 NXX. The assignment guidelines will become effective on July 8, 1994. The attached document (INC 94-0429-002) contains the assignment guidelines and associated application forms. Entities interested in obtaining the assignment of 555 line numbers are urged to review the criteria for number assignment as set forth in the guidelines as well as the implementation timeline described below.

Key provisions of the 555 guidelines include the following:

- 555 line numbers are intended to be used for the provisioning of public information services within geographic Numbering Plan Areas (NPAs), or area codes.
- 555 line numbers will be assigned either on a national or non-national basis. National assignment means that a 555 line number holder may use that number in any NPA in the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) area. A non-national assignment means the 555 line number may be used in a specific geographic area by one entity and the same 555 line number may be assigned and used by other entities in other geographic areas.
- Applicants may apply initially for up to five 555 line numbers.
- A block of 100 numbers has been reserved as fictitious non-working numbers for use by the entertainment and advertising industries.

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Title Approval of 555 NXX Number Assignment Guidelines and Implementation Timeline		Bellcore Annual Program Number(s) 422402	

Implementation Timeline

The following implementation timeline has been established in applying for 555 line numbers prior to July 8, 1994:

- a. Requests for grandfathering of existing uses of 555 line numbers may be submitted anytime before June 17, 1994. At the end of this period, the administrator will provide, upon request, a list of the 555 line numbers that have been grandfathered to avoid requests for 555 line numbers in NPAs where the grandfathered numbers are in use.
- b. On June 17, 1994, a three-week open enrollment period will begin during which applications for 555 line numbers (except those grandfathered) may be submitted to the administrator, who will accumulate the requests. No assignments will be made during this three-week period. This is to provide an equal opportunity for entities to request any number in the 555 NXX and to identify any multiple requests for the same 555 line number.
- c. On July 8, 1994, the open enrollment period expires and numbers requested during this period will be assigned as described below.
- d. Applications for 555 line numbers received after July 8, 1994 will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis with multiple requests for the same number assigned by a random selection process, as specified in the guidelines.

Disposition of Requests Made During the Open Enrollment Period

If multiple requests for the same 555 line number are received by the administrator during the open enrollment period, these requests will be treated as follows:

- a. The parties requesting the same 555 line number will be asked if they will abide by a random selection process. If all parties agree, then the number will be assigned by random selection.
- b. If all parties requesting the same 555 line number do not agree to a random selection process, a 60-day period will begin in which the administrator will communicate with all parties encouraging that they reach agreement on the assignment and informing them that at the end of the 60 days the issue will be referred to the appropriate regulatory bodies, if necessary. The 60-day period can be extended if the involved parties are making progress and all agree that additional time to reach agreement is needed. An arbitration or mediation process initiated by the parties might take place during the 60-day period if agreed to by the parties.
- c. If agreement has been reached by all parties on the assignment of the 555 line number, the administrator will make the assignment providing all but one request are withdrawn.



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Bellcore Letter Continuation Page

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- d. Any number requests involved in this process are to be counted as part of the five 555 line numbers for which an entity may apply.

Grandfathering of Current Uses

The number 555-1212 will be considered unassignable for any purpose other than directory assistance services as provided by interexchange and local exchange carriers. Current uses of 555 line numbers (other than 555-1212) may be grandfathered as non-national numbers providing they are in active tariffed service or otherwise provided with regulatory approval. Entities using these numbers must apply to the administrator for assignment no later than June 17, 1994 for them to be assigned. Applicants for grandfathering of current uses of 555 line numbers must supply the following to the administrator:

- a. A completed 555 NXX Assignment Request Form, Part 1 and Part 3.
- b. A cover letter to the administrator noting that the application is a grandfathering request for a 555 line number.

Application Procedures

All requests for 555 line number assignments should be submitted to:

Director - NANP Administration
290 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Room 1B-233
Livingston, New Jersey 07039
201-740-4645
201-740-6860 FAX

Questions or concerns related to these guidelines or procedures may be directed to Jim Deak on 201-740-4594.

R. R. Connors
Director
North American Numbering Plan Administration

ICCF

Industry Carriers
Compatibility Forum

INC 94-0429-002
Page 1 of 15

Under the auspices of the
Carrier Liaison Committee

290 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, New Jersey 07039
Fax: (201) 740-6949

Madeline Bogdan
Moderator
Room: 4D249
Phone: 201 740-4612

Dawna Drake
Secretary
Room: 4C227
Phone: 201 740-4657

Kathy Cullen
Secretary
Room: 4C231
Phone: 201 740-3571

555 NXX

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

INDUSTRY NUMBERING COMMITTEE:

555 NXX Workshop

Co-Chairs

Kelly Daniels
Telco Planning

Jim Deak
NANPA

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Appendix A: 555 NXX ASSIGNMENT REQUEST AND CONFIRMATION FORMS

Appendix B: ANNUAL REPORT OF 555 LINE NUMBER ACTIVATION STATUS

1.0 Purpose and Scope of This Document

This document specifies guidelines for the assignment of line numbers within the 555 NXX code, hereafter referred to as '555 numbers' within these guidelines. The intended use for 555 numbers for which these guidelines apply include the provisioning of information services but may include a broad range of existing and future services as well. While these guidelines were developed by the telecommunications industry by consensus process at the Industry Numbering Committee (INC), they do not supersede controlling appropriate World Zone 1 governmental or regulatory principles, procedures and requirements. These industry consensus guidelines are expected to apply throughout World Zone 1 subject to procedures and constraints of the World Zone 1 administrations.

These guidelines apply only to the assignment of 555 numbers in geographic NPAs. This does not preclude a future effort to address non-geographic NPAs in the same guidelines.

These guidelines do not apply for the assignment of 555 numbers in N00 SACs.

2.0 Assumptions and Constraints

The development of the 555 number assignment guidelines include the following assumptions and constraints:

- 2.1 The 555 NXX Guidelines have been established as the result of an industry consensus that a unique number set (NPA-555-XXXXX) is a solution to identified industry needs. The 555 NXX provides for types of public information service needs which may not be met by current numbering solutions, e.g., 976 and 900.
- 2.2 These guidelines are intended to apply until superseded by the appropriate industry or regulatory authority.
- 2.3 NANP numbering resources shall be assigned to permit the most effective and efficient use of a finite numbering resource in order to prevent premature exhaust of the 555 number resource and to delay the need to develop and implement a new number resource. Efficient resource management and 555 number conservation is necessary due to the industry impacts of expanding any numbering resource (e.g., finding an equivalent resource to supplement 555 numbers).
- 2.4 These guidelines treat only the assignment of 555 numbers. Implementation of the 555 number assignments is beyond the scope of these guidelines. These guidelines are not intended to address local dialing arrangements for 555 numbers.
- 2.5 The applicant must be licensed or certified to operate in the area, if required, and must demonstrate that all applicable regulatory authority required to provide the service for which the 555 number is necessary has been obtained.
- 2.6 The guidelines should provide the greatest latitude in the provision of telecommunications services while effectively managing a finite resource.

- 2.7 These guidelines do not address the issue of who will fulfill the role of Administrator(s) of the 555 number resource. The guidelines described herein were developed by the industry without any assumption on who should be the Administrator(s).
- 2.8 The assignment and management of 555 numbers will be administered in accordance with these guidelines by the 555 number Administrator(s). At the direction of the Administrator(s), the number holders/entities who are assigned 555 numbers will be requested to provide service activation information to the Administrator(s) on a periodic basis to ensure effective management of the 555 number resource. The Administrator(s) will use this information to effectively manage the use of 555 numbers and to advise the industry as to the level of assignments and to alert the industry to any concerns such as the potential for number exhaust.
- 2.9 Administrative assignment of the 555 numbers by an entity does not imply ownership of the resource by the entity performing the administrative function, nor does it imply ownership by the entity to which it is assigned. The assignee has the right to use an assigned number in accordance with these guidelines.
- 2.10 The assignment of 555 numbers remains in effect as long as the assignee is in compliance with the criteria set forth in these guidelines.

3.0 Assignment Principles

The following assignment principles apply to the 555 NXX Assignment Guidelines:

- 3.1 All number assignments are for 10-digit 555 numbers in the format NPA-555-XXXX. When a number is requested from the available resource and assigned, the 4-digit line number will be designated as either a national or a non-national number.
- 3.1.1 A national number is a unique line number in the 555 NXX assigned to an entity for use in all or most of the geographic NPAs in World Zone 1. A number will be designated as a national number if it is to be used in at least 30% of all NPAs or states or provinces in World Zone 1. National numbers cannot be assigned by the Administrator to any other entity.
- 3.1.2 A non-national number is a line number in the 555 NXX assigned to an entity for use in a specific geographic area or areas (NPAs, states, or provinces). A number will be designated non-national if it is to be used in fewer than 30% of NPAs or states or provinces. Non-national numbers are available for assignment to multiple entities, assuming those entities wish to use the non-national number in different geographic NPAs.
- 3.2 In order to meet customer needs for the 555-XXXX resource and to ensure that entities served by both geographically large and small areas can have maximum access to the 555 resource, numbers will be available for assignment on a random basis. The criteria for administration of the 555 line numbers available for either national or non-national assignment will be as follows:

National numbers - The industry will be informed by the Administrator 24 months prior to the time the resource is projected to reach its 3000th line number so that the industry may determine what steps, if any, need to be taken.

Non-national numbers - When 70% of the first 1000 individual line numbers are in-service in a single NPA, an additional 1000 individual line numbers will be made available for assignment. When 1700 of the 2000 individual line numbers available for assignment have an appearance in a single NPA, an additional 1000 individual line numbers will be made available for assignment. Non-national number availability will be capped at 3000 individual line numbers pending review of the utilization of the resource by the appropriate industry body.

To conserve the 555 resource in a reasonable manner that also encourages maximum utilization of the resource, when 3000 individual 555 line numbers are projected to exhaust within 24 months in either category, the Administrator(s) will advise the industry with the purpose of convening the appropriate industry body to reevaluate the above guidelines. If it is determined at that time that the assignment guidelines do not meet the needs of the market, or conserve the resource in a reasonable manner, the appropriate industry body will determine what changes are necessary and change these guidelines accordingly.

- 3.3 555 numbers, as part of NANP numbers, are to be assigned only to identify initial destination addresses in the public switched telephone network (PSTN), not addresses within private networks.
- 3.4 555 numbers are a finite resource that should be used in the most effective and efficient manner possible. All applicants requesting 555 numbers will be required to provide the information as specified on the forms of these guidelines (See attached 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Forms).
- 3.5 A 555 number assigned in accordance with these guidelines must be activated, i.e., placed into service and remain in service, within the time limits specified herein. Otherwise, the 555 number will be subject to reclamation and/or reclassification (See Sections 5.4 and 5.5).
- 3.6 Information that is requested of applicants in support of 555 number assignment shall be kept to a minimum and shall be uniform for all applicants. Information received by the Administrator(s) shall be treated as confidential and adequately safeguarded.
- 3.7 555 numbers shall be assigned in a fair and impartial manner to any applicant which meets the criteria for assignment as detailed in Section 4.0.
- 3.8 Applicants for 555 numbers must comply with applicable local, state, federal and World Zone 1 governmental regulations relative to the services they wish to provide.
- 3.9 Any entity that is denied the assignment of one or more 555 numbers under these guidelines has the right to appeal that decision per Section 9.
- 3.10 Assignments will be made on a first come, first served basis and there will be no reservation of 555 numbers. 555 numbers will be assigned from the available unassigned numbers. The Administrator(s) will attempt to match a number assignment with a specific number request.
- 3.11 In situations of geographic NPA relief activity accomplished by either NPA splits, overlays, or boundary realignments, the holders of a national number will retain the right to

request activation of the same number in the newly created NPA. Non-national numbers shall be assigned in the new or realigned NPAs as follows:

- 3.11.1 For NPA splits or overlays, an entity holding a non-national 555 number in an existing geographic NPA will be given the opportunity to request assignment of the same 555 number in the new NPA. If this opportunity is declined, the 555 number in the new NPA will be available for assignment to another entity.
- 3.11.2 For NPA boundary realignment, an entity holding a non-national 555 number in the NPA affected by the realignment (i.e., the boundary shift reduces the serving area) will be given the opportunity to request assignment of the same 555 number in order to provide service in the newly aligned serving area that is part of the realignment, if the number is available. If the number is already assigned, then the entity must request the assignment of a new 555 line number in order to provide service in the newly aligned serving area.

4.0 Criteria for the Assignment And Retention of 555 Numbers

The assignment criteria in the following sections shall be used by the Administrator(s) in reviewing a 555 number assignment request for an initial and/or additional number.

- 4.1 In order to obtain a 555 number, the entity must complete the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form. The first five 555 line number assignments are classified as "initial" assignments. Entities may use single or multiple forms to apply for any or all of these first five 555 numbers. Requests for 555 number assignments beyond the first five 555 initial numbers are classified as "additional" assignments and should be requested on a separate form.
 - 4.1.1 The entity must certify a need for NANP numbers, e.g., provision of local or cellular service in the Public Switched Telephone Network. The assignment of 555 numbers will not apply for use in private networks.
 - 4.1.2 The entity must submit the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Forms certifying that a need exists for a 555 number in order to provide services. In addition, the entity must certify a plan for activation within twelve (12) months from the date of number assignment.
 - 4.1.3 The entity must be licensed or certified to operate in the area, if required, and must demonstrate that all applicable regulatory authority required to provide the service for which the 555 number is required has been obtained.
- 4.2 The requirement in Section 4.1.3 is met if certification is required for activation of a 555 line number, and at the time of application the requestor attests that appropriate certification has been applied for and is expected to be granted in a timely fashion that will allow the applicant to activate the 555 line number before the expiration of the twelve (12) month initial activation period.
- 4.3 The intended use of 555 numbers include the provisioning of information services but may include a broad range of existing and future services as well.

- 4.4 Requests for number assignments beyond the first five (5) numbers must meet the following criteria:
- (a) The request may be for up to a maximum of five (5) national and/or non-national numbers.
 - (b) For a national number an entity must have placed each previously assigned national number in service within 10% of the World Zone 1 geographic NPAs or states or provinces.
 - (c) For a non-national number, an entity must have placed all previously assigned non-national numbers in service in the NPA in which they were requested or, if they were requested in multiple NPAs, in at least 10% of the NPAs in which they were requested.
- 4.5 The applicant's preference for a specific 555 number will be honored to the extent possible. In the event the applicant's preferred number is unavailable, the applicant may specify up to three alternative numbers in order of preference. If the preferred and alternative numbers are not available or the applicant does not indicate a preference for another specific number, the Administrator(s) will assign one.
- 4.6 A block of one hundred (100) 555 line numbers will be reserved as fictitious non-working numbers for use by the entertainment and advertising industries. These specific numbers are 555-01XX, i.e., numbers between and including 555-0100 and 555-0199.
- 4.7 If two or more applicants request the same 555 line number simultaneously, (i.e., their written requests are received by the Administrator on the same date), one of the applicants will be randomly selected to receive the requested 555 number.
- 4.8 In order to qualify for retention of a national number, the entity must meet the criteria for assignment as follows.

To retain national 555 number status:

1. The requesting entity will certify that its intent in obtaining a national 555 number is to deploy service on a national basis.
2. An entity, within eighteen (18) months of assignment, must have activated the 555 number in 30% of active World Zone 1 geographic NPAs or states or provinces as selected by the applicant.

For a non-national number assignment:

1. The requesting entity will certify that its intent in obtaining a non-national 555 number is to deploy service in a NPAs for which assignment was requested.
2. Within eighteen (18) months of assignment the entity must have activated the 555 number in all NPAs for which it has the assignment.

If an entity cannot meet the above criteria within the established time frames due to circumstances beyond its control, e.g., equipment delays, shortage of required facilities,

the inability of the carriers to provide service, etc., the entity may request a 6-month extension from the Administrator. The extension will be granted to the entity to resolve any of these issues that constrain it from meeting the deployment criteria. If the entity has not resolved the issues that constrain it from meeting the deployment criteria outlined above, but has shown good faith in attempting to resolve those issues, the entity may request, and the Administrator may grant, a second 6-month extension.

If the entity still has not resolved the issues that constrain it from meeting the deployment guidelines (with the exception of technical and/or business constraints outside its control), the Administrator will initiate a process for national numbers to reclassify the 555 number as a non-national number and place it in the non-national number pool as available for assignment in NPAs where it is inactive; and for non-national numbers to release all inactive assignments for assignment availability.

- 4.9 If the number of NPA(s), states or provinces where an entity's national number has been activated falls below the 30% threshold described in Section 4.8, excluding NPA relief activity, the Administrator shall notify the entity in writing of this fact and indicate the entity has sixty (60) days in which to satisfy the activation criteria or to demonstrate to the Administrator that a plan is in place to comply with the guidelines. Otherwise the number will be reclassified by the Administrator to a non-national number as outlined in Section 5.4.
- 4.10 If the assigned non-national number is not activated or does not remain activated in the NPAs for which originally requested, the Administrator shall notify the entity in writing of this fact and indicate the entity has sixty (60) days in which to satisfy the activation criteria or to demonstrate to the Administrator that a plan is in place to activate the number in the assigned NPAs. Otherwise the number should be voluntarily returned by the entity to the Administrator in those NPA(s) where the number was assigned but not activated and made available for future assignment.

5.0 Responsibilities of 555 Number Administrator

The Administrator(s) shall:

- 5.1 Provide copies of the 555 number assignment guidelines when requested and timely notification of changes to the industry.
- 5.2 The receipt of 555 number requests shall be tracked and assignments will be made on a first come, first served basis, except as noted in Section 4.7.
- 5.3 Upon receipt of the signed 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form, the Administrator(s) shall process applications for a 555 number in the following manner:
- 5.3.1 Determine if the request is in compliance with 555 number assignment policies and guidelines contained herein.
- 5.3.2 Respond within 10 working days from the date of receipt of a 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form by completing the response portion that is part of these guidelines.

- 5.3.3 The Administrator(s) will attempt to assign the preferred 555 number as listed on the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form. If the requested number is unavailable, the Administrator(s) will discuss with the applicant the assignment of an alternative number.
- 5.3.4 Maintain records on 555 numbers assigned plus those available, and publish the assignments on an annual basis or make available upon request.
- 5.3.5 If the application is approved and a 555 number is assigned, the Administrator(s) will complete the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form and forward to the applicant.
- 5.3.6 In cases where a 555 number application is denied, provide specific reasons for the denial to the applicant on the form and refer the applicant to Section 9 of the guidelines, Appeals Process, for details on how and where to make an appeal of the decision.
- 5.4 It is expected that 555 numbers, when assigned, will be placed in service within twelve (12) months. Absent compliance with Section 4.8, reclassification process will be initiated by the Administrator(s) consistent with the following¹.
- 5.4.1 When reclassification is appropriate, the Administrator(s) will inquire from the entity regarding the status of the 555 number(s) and, a certified letter will be sent to the entity stating the reclassification process has been initiated and requesting the voluntary return of the number(s) from the NPAs in which they have not been activated. The letter will state that the Administrator(s) intends to reclassify the 555 number(s) as a non-national number(s) at the end of a sixty (60) day period if activation of the number has not been established in accordance with these guidelines. The entity will be notified by letter if the 555 number(s) assignment is subsequently reclassified.
- Any 555 number reclassified will be placed in the non-national number pool and will be made available for assignment as a non-national number by the Administrator(s) after an idle period of six months.
- 5.4.2 The reclassification process will entail the following:
- 5.4.2.1 The Administrator will inform the assignee that the unused number is now subject to assignment to another entity.
- 5.4.2.2 The Administrator will, if necessary, inform the involved regulator(s) of this action.

¹ The reclassification process is defined as the procedure whereby the Administrator(s) as maintenance agent for the 555 number resource, reclassifies numbers which do not meet the requirements specified in the guidelines. Note: The Administrator(s) has the responsibility to attempt to reclassify the 555 number resource, especially numbering resources not activated, as the situation requires. These guidelines confer no enforcement authority. Actual enforcement authority resides with the appropriate governmental or regulatory body.

- 5.5 A reclamation process addressing the return of 555 numbers which have been assigned but have not been activated in conformance with these guidelines, and which will be applicable to all holders of 555 numbers is under development.

The words affecting reclamation have been referred to the Resource Management and Long Term Numbering Plan development workshop (RMLD) for further development and will be incorporated in these guidelines when available.

The absence of a reclamation process in this version of the guidelines does not release any holder of 555 numbers from conforming to the reclamation process.

- 5.6 In situations of geographic NPA relief activity accomplished by either NPA splits, overlays, or boundary realignments, the holders of a national number will retain the right to request activation of the same number in the newly created NPA. For entities holding non-national numbers, the Administrator will provide written notification within three (3) months after industry notification (e.g., NANPA Information Letter) to the entities in the affected NPAs concerning their opportunities to request the same 555 number(s) in the new or adjacent NPAs as follows:

5.6.1 For NPA splits or overlays, advise the entities of the opportunity to apply for the same 555 number in the new NPA by submitting a 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form no later than three (3) months after the receipt of the notification letter.

5.6.2 For NPA boundary realignment, advise the entities of the opportunity to apply for the same 555 number in the NPA adjacent to the realigned boundary, if this number is available, no later than three (3) months after receipt of notification. For those situations where the numbers are not available, the entities will be advised to request new 555 numbers in the adjacent NPAs.

- 5.7 In all situations of NPA relief activity, the 555 numbers existing in the affected NPA(s) will not be assigned to entities in the new NPA(s) until the existing 555 number holders have been given the response opportunity stated in Section 5.6 above.

6.0 Responsibilities of 555 Number Applicants and Holders

Entities requesting new 555 number assignments as well as entities already assigned 555 numbers shall comply with the following:

- 6.1 Complete the following:

6.1.1 555 number applicants for initial and/or additional number assignments shall submit their requests to the appropriate Administrator(s) using the 555 Number Assignment Request and Confirmation Form. Separate request forms shall be submitted for initial and additional 555 numbers. The applicant will complete all required entries on the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form to the best of his/her knowledge.

6.1.2 Certify on the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form that to the best of his/her knowledge that necessary governmental/regulatory authorization has been obtained to provide the service(s) for which the 555 number is being requested.

- 6.2 The applicant shall agree to abide by the numbering conservation criteria described in Section 7.
- 6.3 The number assignment holder should provide, upon request of the access provider from which activation has been requested, confirmation of line number(s) and the NPA assignment(s).
- 6.4 The information associated with a 555 number assignment may change over time. Such changes may occur, for example, because of the transfer of a 555 number -- through merger or acquisition -- to a different company. These changes may include not only a change in company name, but also a change in the location to which calls made with a given 555 number are to be routed. Accordingly, the Administrator(s) must be informed using the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form, of these changes to ensure that an accurate record of the entity responsible for the 555 number and the data associated with the 555 number is maintained.
- 6.5 The holder of a 555 number acquired by merger, acquisition, or other means must use the number consistent with these guidelines.
- 6.6 A 555 number holder must participate in any audits conducted by the Administrator. Items that may be audited:
1. Proof of certification or license to operate in the assigned area, if applicable.
 2. Proof that the number is accessible through the PSTN.
 3. Proof that the number is being used in accordance with the guidelines.
 4. Verification of NPAs where the number is activated and the date of activation.
 5. Validation of Company name and address.
- 6.7 A 555 number assigned to an entity, either directly by the Administrator or through merger or acquisition, should be placed in service within 12 months after assignment. Certification of in-service status will be required (see 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form). If the assignee no longer has need for the 555 number, the number should be voluntarily returned to the Administrator(s) for reassignment.
- 6.8 In-service certification (See Part 3 of the 555 NXX Request and Confirmation Form) should be provided by the entity either immediately upon the achievement of activation levels as identified in Section 4.8 for number retention entitlement, or within eighteen (18) months after assignment.

7.0 555 Number Conservation

Assignment of World Zone 1 numbering resources is undertaken with the following objectives: to efficiently and effectively administer/manage a limited NANP resource through sound conservation practices. In meeting these objectives the following are conservation measures to be taken by the Administrator(s).

- 7.1 Review the annual Report of 555 Line Number Active Status as shown in Appendix B. The results of these reviews will be used to determine if the 555 numbers are being used in accordance with these guidelines and could be used to advise applicants in which NPAs 555 numbers are available. This information will be available from the Administrator(s) upon request.
- 7.2 When 555 number resource assignments has reached 70% of the total 555 resource of assignable numbers, the following actions will be taken.
 - (a) The Administrator(s) will notify the industry that the 555 number resource has reached the 70% level and based on the current assignment rate will provide a projection when the numbers will exhaust. Special conservation measures will be invoked immediately (if appropriate).
 - (b) Special conservation measure limiting new 555 line number request assignments to one line number per entity per application.
 - (c) Form an industry workshop to consider alternatives, etc.

8.0 Maintenance of These Guidelines

It may be necessary to modify these assignment guidelines periodically to meet changing circumstances. The Industry Numbering Committee (INC) is currently the group responsible for reviewing and concurring on any modifications to these guidelines.

9.0 Appeals Process

- 9.1 Disagreements may arise between the Administrator(s) and 555 number holders/applicants in the context of the administration of these guidelines. In all cases, the Administrator(s) and 555 number holders/applicants will make reasonable, good faith efforts to resolve such disagreements among themselves consistent with the guidelines prior to pursuing any appeal. Appeals may include but are not limited to one or more of the following options:
 - The 555 number holder/applicant will have the opportunity to resubmit the matter to the Administrator(s) for reconsideration with or without additional input.
 - Guidelines interpretation/clarification questions may be referred to the body responsible for maintenance of the guidelines. These questions will be submitted in a generic manner protecting the identity of the appellant.
 - The Administrator(s) and 555 number holders/applicant may pursue the disagreement with the appropriate governmental/regulatory body.
- 9.2 Requests for modification of the guidelines can be pursued as described in Section 8 of the guidelines.
- 9.3 Reports on any resolution resulting from the above options, the content of which will be mutually agreed upon by the involved parties, will be forwarded to the body responsible for the maintenance of the guidelines. At minimum the report will contain the final disposition of the appeal, e.g., whether or not a 555 number was assigned.

10. Glossary

Administrator	The organization responsible for assignment and overall administration of the 555 line number resource in accordance with these guidelines. The Administrator is North American Numbering Plan administration.
Cerify	<p>(When used by the applicant): As part of the 555 Number Assignment request, to confirm, through a formal statement signed by the applicant or an authorized representative, that the information contained within the assignment request is true, accurate, and complete to the best of his/her knowledge.</p> <p>(When used by the regulator): Where applicable, to authorize, in writing, an entity to provide a telecommunications service in the relevant geographic area. Such authorization is the responsibility of the appropriate regulatory agency.</p>
555 Number Holder	The entity to whom a 555 number has been assigned.
CPCN	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity - A regulatory certificate allowing an entity the ability to conduct business in a specific jurisdiction.
Confidential Information	Information given by any means or methods to the 555 line number Administrator in the course of administering the guidelines, that in the opinion of the line number requester, should only be revealed to parties who have a need to know in order to carry out the administration of the guidelines.
Conservation	Consideration given to the efficient and effective use of a finite numbering resource in order to minimize the cost and need to expand its availability, while at the same time allowing the maximum flexibility in the introduction of new services, capabilities and features.
Entity	For the purposes of obtaining a 555 number, an entity is an applicant that meets the criteria of the guidelines and, as a business, purchases telecommunication interconnection arrangements.
Fictitious Numbers	A 555 line number in the range between and including 555-0100 to 555-0199. These numbers will not be assigned to be placed in service. They, therefore, may be used by the entertainment/advertising industries in advertisements, publications, radio, television, movies, etc. Calls to these numbers placed accidentally or by curiosity seekers will not complete.

INC	The Industry Numbering Committee is structured as a standing committee under the Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum (ICCF). The mission of the INC is to provide an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with the planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of numbering resources and related dialing considerations for public telecommunications.
Information Services	Information services means the offering of capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information via telecommunications.
In-service	An active 555 line number in which a specific subscriber, service or market trial is utilizing the assigned number.
Geographic NPA	A Numbering Plan Area (NPA), also called an area code, is the 3-digit code that occupies the A, B, and C positions in the 10-digit NANP format that applies throughout World Zone 1. NPAs are of the form NO1X , where N represents the digits 2-9 and X represents any digit 0-9. After 1/1/95, NPAs will be of the form NXX . In the NANP, NPAs are classified as either geographic or non-geographic. Geographic NPAs correspond to discrete geographic areas within World Zone 1.
NANP	The North American Numbering Plan is a numbering architecture in which every station in World Zone 1 is identified by a unique ten-digit address consisting of a three-digit NPA code, a three digit central office code of the form NNX/NXX , and a four-digit line number of the form XXXX .
National number	A national number is a unique line number in the 555 NXX assigned to an entity for use in all or most of the geographic NPAs in World Zone 1. A number will be designated as a national number if it is to be used in at least 30% of all NPAs or states or provinces in World Zone 1. National numbers cannot be assigned by the Administrator to any other entity.
Non-national number	A non-national number is a line number in the 555 NXX assigned to an entity for use in a specific geographic area or areas (NPAs, states, or provinces). A number will be designated non-national if it is to be used in fewer than 30% of NPAs or states or provinces. Non-national numbers are available for assignment to multiple entities, assuming those entities wish to use the non-national number in different geographic NPAs.
Private Networks	Private networks are composed of stations which are not directly accessible from all PSTN stations via the use of NANP E.164 numbers.