
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the Matter of)

Southwestern Bell Telephone)
Company's Comparably Efficient)
Interconnection Plan for the Provision)
of Internet Support Services)

CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623,
and 95-20

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S
COMPARABLY EFFICIENT INTERCONNECTION PLAN
FOR INTERNET SUPPORT SERVICES

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FOR INTERNET SUPPORT SERVICES

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SUMMARY*

Pursuant to the Bureau's Memorandum Opinion and Order, SWBT seeks approval of its Comparably Efficient Interconnection (CEI) Plan to offer Internet Support Services. This CEI Plan provides a description of SWBT Internet Support Services and details the basic services used in the provision of SWBT Internet Support Services. The Plan also specifies the manner in which SWBT complies with each of the Commission's nine comparably efficient interconnection parameters. In order that SWBT can meet demand for this service, SWBT hereby respectfully requests expedited approval of its Internet Support Services CEI Plan.

* All abbreviations used herein are referenced within the text.

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In the Matter of)
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Southwestern Bell Telephone) CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623,
Company's Comparably Efficient) and 95-20
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of Internet Support Services)

**SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S
COMPARABLY EFFICIENT INTERCONNECTION PLAN
FOR INTERNET SUPPORT SERVICES**

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT), by its attorneys,
respectfully submits for Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) approval SWBT's
Comparably Efficient Interconnection (CEI) Plan for SWBT Internet Support Services
pursuant to the Bureau's Memorandum Opinion and Order.¹ In that Order, the Bureau
granted waivers, pending remand proceedings on its Computer III rules, permitting the
Bell Operating Companies (BOCs) to offer new enhanced services upon approval of
service-specific CEI plans.² Expedited Bureau approval is needed for SWBT to meet
demand for this service by the planned roll-out before the end of this year.

¹ In the Matter of Bell Operating Companies' Joint Petition for Waiver of
Computer II Rules, Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 95-36, released January 11,
1995 (Order).

² Id., at 18, para. 30(c).

I. INTRODUCTION

SWBT intends to offer Internet Support Services as described herein, upon Commission approval of this CEI plan. The plan fully demonstrates how SWBT will comply with each of the CEI parameters established by the Commission in Phase I of Computer III³ and as directed by the Bureau's Order.⁴

II. SERVICE DESCRIPTION

SWBT's planned Internet Support Services offering will include customer sales, referrals, and billing for Internet service providers (ISPs). Specifically, SWBT plans to provide these services to its affiliate, Southwestern Bell Internet Services, Inc. (SBIS). SBIS will provide traditional Internet access services such as dedicated and dial up access, E-mail, Netnews, File Transfer and related World Wide Web services. SBIS will also offer electronic publishing services such as advertising and local, regional, and national content.⁵

Inquiries regarding the proposed SBIS services will be handled by various SWBT distribution channels (see attached diagram). SWBT sales representatives will perform functions such as describing the affiliate's service, reviewing service options,

³ Report and Order. 104 FCC 2d at 1035-36, para. 147; and 1039-43, paras. 154-66.

⁴ Order, para. 23.

⁵ SWBT is aware of and will abide by the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to offer nondiscriminatory joint marketing to electronic publishers generally. See 47 U.S.C. Sec. 274 (c)(2)(A) and (B). SWBT will comply with such rules.

discussing pricing plans and referring callers to SBIS. If a customer is interested in subscribing to SBIS's Internet service then the sales representative will take the appropriate action to complete the transaction. This information will then be transmitted to SBIS. Beyond that point, SWBT will have no involvement in the provision of SBIS's service. SBIS is responsible for fulfilling the service order.

SWBT's Internet Support Services ultimately will be offered in most major metropolitan areas within SWBT's five state territory (Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas).

III. CEI COMPLIANCE ISSUES

A. CEI Parameters

The Commission's nine CEI parameters are designed to ensure that the basic services used by a BOC's enhanced service are equally available to other Enhanced Service Providers (ESPs), including ISPs.⁶ SWBT demonstrates its compliance with each such parameter below.

1. Interface Functionality

As part of its CEI offering, a BOC must generally provide standardized hardware and software interfaces that support transmission, switching, and signaling functions equal to those utilized in its own enhanced service offering, with information and technical specifications for such interfaces subject to the Commission's network

⁶ SWBT refers to ISPs and ESPs jointly herein as ESPs.

information disclosure requirements.⁷ Each ESP will connect their facilities to SWBT's network through existing standard line-side and trunk-side network interfaces which have already been made available to the public via SWBT's standard network disclosure procedures which comply with the FCC's network disclosure rules.⁸ No special interfaces, signaling, abbreviated dialing, or other unique capabilities will be provided by SWBT to end users, to subscribing ESPs, or to other providers in support of the enhanced offerings described in this plan. If such access arrangements are to be made available to SBIS or to SWBT's Internet Support Services, they will be made available to other ESPs at the same time, in the same jurisdictions and on the same terms and conditions. SWBT will abide by its prior commitments and provide advance notification to ESPs of new interfaces, and will provide prior notification (including "make/buy" disclosure) required by the network disclosure rules.⁹

2. Unbundling of Basic Services

To satisfy the CEI requirements, the basic services and basic service functions that underlie the carrier's enhanced service offering must be unbundled from other basic service offerings and associated with a specific rate element in the CEI tariff.¹⁰ The following services will be used to provide SBIS's services and SWBT Internet Support Services to the customer:

⁷ Phase I Order, para. 157.

⁸ Report and Order, 104 FCC 2d at 1083-85, paras. 252-253.

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ Id., para. 158.

Voice Grade Line - Circuit Switched

Analog Private Line Service - Voice Grade

Digital Private Line - Dedicated

Digital Switched 56 Kbps

Dedicated DS-1

Frame Relay

Basic Rate Interface (BRI) Integrated Services Digital Network
(ISDN)

Cell Relay (Asynchronous Transfer Mode -ATM)

The services identified above plus the following four services will be used to provide SWBT Internet Support Services to SBIS and any other ESP:

Multi-Line Hunt

Primary Rate Interface (PRI) ISDN

SelectVideo Plus ISDN

Dedicated DS-3

A description of the basic services that will be used by SBIS's services and SWBT Internet Support Services is attached hereto as Exhibit A. These services will be available to end users of SWBT's Internet Support Services and to end users of unaffiliated competing ESPs on an unbundled basis, at the same rates, and under the same terms and conditions from state or federal tariffs in effect in all jurisdictions

currently serviced by SWBT.¹¹ As was supplemented in a previous CEI Plan filing for PC Backup and Recovery¹² and subsequently approved by the Bureau,¹³ SWBT has stated it is not technically feasible to offer PRI-ISDN (SmartTrunk Service) in the Federal Access Tariff. The same holds true for BRI-ISDN and PRI- ISDN (SelectVideo Plus-ISDN) for the same reasons. These services were designed to exist only between the end-office and the user's termination point, and therefore there is no network-to-network interface associated with them today.

Any interLATA services required will be obtained by end users without any SWBT involvement. Any additional intraLATA basic services used to support SBIS's services or SWBT's Internet Support Services will be added to this CEI plan by way of an amendment prior to their use by SWBT, as required by prior Commission rulings.

3. Resale

The Phase I Order requires a BOC's enhanced service operations to take the basic services used in its enhanced service offerings at their unbundled tariffed rates as a means of preventing improper cost-shifting to regulated operations and anticompetitive pricing in nonregulated markets.¹⁴ SBIS's services and SWBT's Internet

¹¹ Copies of the illustrative tariff pages are included herein as Exhibit B.

¹² See SWBT's CEI Plan for PC Backup and Recovery (CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623, 95-20) dated August 3, 1995. See also related ex parte filing dated April 23, 1996.

¹³ See Order CCBPol 95-7, released June 11, 1996.

¹⁴ Report and Order, 104 FCC 2d at para. 159.

Support Services will be provided by obtaining underlying basic services at tariffed rates. The resulting enhanced service will be provided on a nonregulated basis.

4. Technical Characteristics

The Phase I Order requires that, as part of its CEI offering to enhanced service competitors, a BOC must offer to unaffiliated ESPs basic services with technical characteristics that are equal to those of the basic services it utilizes for its own enhanced services. These characteristics include, but are not limited to: transmission parameters, such as bandwidth and bit rates; quality, such a bit error rate and delay distortions; and reliability, such as mean time between failures.¹⁵ In providing its services SBIS will interconnect with both SWBT's Internet Support Services and the underlying basic services required from SWBT through existing published standard network interfaces identical to those provided under existing local tariffs and the technical references noted in those tariffs. Therefore, the technical characteristics of the underlying interfaces used by SBIS to provide its enhanced services will be the same as those available to nonaffiliated competitors who wish to use them in providing their own Internet access services. SWBT's procedures for processing and assigning circuits are described in detail in the August 3, 1995, amendment to its CEI Plan for Payment Processing Service filed in CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623 and 95-20. These procedures ensure that there can be no systematic discrimination in circuit assignment based upon the customer or proposed use. Finally, pursuant to Commission

¹⁵ Id., para. 160.

requirements, SWBT files annual affidavits attesting that proper procedures have been followed and that no discrimination has occurred.¹⁶

5. Installation, Maintenance and Repair

The time periods for installation, maintenance and repair of the basic services and facilities included in a CEI offering must be the same as those the carrier provides to its own enhanced service operations.¹⁷ SWBT's internal methods for installing, maintaining and repairing all of its basic services are sufficiently mechanized that discrimination against any given customer or type of customer is prevented. SWBT's methods all are either random in nature or involve mechanized prioritization techniques. For a detailed description of these methods, refer to the August 3, 1995, amendment to SWBT's CEI Plan for Payment Processing Services, filed in CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623, and 95-20, which was approved on October 31, 1995 (DA 95-2264).

6. End User Access

If a carrier offers end users the ability to use abbreviated dialing or signaling to activate or access the carrier's enhanced offerings, it must provide, as part

¹⁶ See In the Matters of: Amendment of Sections 64.702 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations (Third Computer Inquiry); and Policy and Rules Concerning Rates for Competitive Common Carrier Services and Facilities Authorizations thereof. Communications Protocols under Section 64.702 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration, FCC Rcd. 1150, 1160, para. 76 (1988) (Phase II Recon. Order).

¹⁷ Id., para. 161.

of its CEI offering, the same capabilities to end users of all enhanced services that utilize the carrier's facilities. End users will access SBIS's services and SWBT's Internet Support Services via the same tariffed services that end users can use to access the competing services of other ESPs. No abbreviated dialing or signaling arrangements nor any special derived channel access arrangements are uniquely associated with SBIS and SWBT's Internet Support Services offering.

7. CEI Availability

A carrier's CEI offering must be fully operational and available on the date that it offers its corresponding enhanced service to the public. In addition, the carrier must specify a reasonable time prior to this date during which prospective users of CEI, such as enhanced service competitors, can utilize the CEI facilities and services for purpose of testing their enhanced service offerings.¹⁸ The underlying basic SWBT services utilized by SBIS in the provision of its services, and by SWBT in the provision of SWBT's Internet Support Services, are currently offered under tariff in all jurisdictions served by SWBT. Therefore, the underlying services are already available to any ESP on the same terms and conditions. In jurisdictions where access arrangements are not currently available, SWBT will make testing capability available to such providers at the same time that such capability is available to itself or SBIS.

8. Minimization of Transport Costs

In the Phase I Order, the Commission recognized that carriers may

¹⁸ Id., para. 163.

reduce or eliminate certain equipment and transmission costs by collocating or integrating enhanced service facilities with their basic network facilities. Although the Commission did not impose mandatory collocation requirements on carriers subject to CEI, it did require such carriers to provide others with interconnection facilities that minimize such transmission costs. The Commission required that carriers demonstrate in their CEI plans what steps they would take to reduce transmission costs for competitors.¹⁹

The Commission clarified in the Phase I Recon Order that while the requirement that transmission costs be minimized focuses on technological methods rather than pricing, it does not require a CEI offering that is substantially identical to existing services to be priced lower than those services simply for CEI purposes. Instead, the Commission encouraged the use of existing basic services in CEI in order to expedite initial CEI development.²⁰ In the Phase II Recon Order, the Commission clarified that a carrier may satisfy this CEI requirement if it charges itself an access link rate that is the same as that paid by non-collocated ESPs, provided that the access connections in each case are equivalent in technical quality.²¹

Interconnection to all facilities used to provide the underlying basic services supporting SBIS's services and SWBT's Internet Support Services will be

¹⁹ Id., para. 164.

²⁰ Phase I Recon Order, n. 261.

²¹ Phase II Recon Order, para. 34.

offered under tariff, and will therefore be made available at the same rates, and on the same terms and conditions, to both affiliated and nonaffiliated providers of Internet access services. As other configurations and serving arrangements are requested by end users or ESPs and/or become technically feasible, SWBT will work in good faith with customers to develop and implement new techniques which minimize transport costs. SBIS will own and operate all Internet equipment. Initially, SWBT does not intend to collocate SBIS's equipment with its basic network facilities. As SBIS and SWBT's Internet Support Services expand, SBIS may collocate its equipment with SWBT's basic network facilities. Should this occur, SWBT will comply with the Commission's pricing parity rules and any applicable nondiscrimination requirements.

9. Recipients of CEI

In the Phase I Order, the Commission stated that carriers should not restrict the availability of CEI to any particular class of customer or enhanced service competitor.²² In the Phase I Recon Order, the Commission clarified that customer use or user restrictions for state-tariffed basic services were permissible, but required carriers to provide an explanation of, and justification for, any such state-tariffed restrictions in their CEI plans.²³ The availability of the underlying basic services required for SBIS services and SWBT's Internet Support Services will not be limited to any class of customer or service provider. All such services are available on a tariffed

²² Phase I Order, para. 165.

²³ Phase I Recon Order, para. 111, aff'd., Phase I Further Recon Order, paras. 63-77.

basis and will be accessible by all users for any lawful purpose. If any new arrangements are to be made available for SBIS or for SWBT's Internet Support Services, they will be made available to other ESPs at the same time, in the same jurisdictions and on the same terms and conditions, and the Commission and the industry will be notified thereof.

B. Other Nonstructural Safeguards

1. Allocation of Joint and Common Costs

In the Joint Cost Order,²⁴ the Commission adopted rules for the allocation of costs between regulated and nonregulated services provided by carriers subject to its jurisdiction. In the Phase II Order, the Commission required as part of its CEI requirements that the BOCs comply with those rules.²⁵ SWBT's cost allocation procedures for SWBT's Internet Support Services will be consistent with the Cost Allocation Manual (CAM) that it submitted to the Commission pursuant to the Joint Cost Order.²⁶

²⁴ In the Matter of Separation of costs of regulated telephone service from costs of nonregulated activities. Amendment of Part 31, the Uniform System of Accounts for Class A and Class B Telephone Companies to provide for nonregulated activities and to provide for transactions between telephone companies and their affiliates, Report and Order in CC Docket No. 86-111, FCC 86-564, released February 6, 1987 (Joint Cost Order), partially modified on reconsideration, Order on Reconsideration, FCC 87-305, released October 16, 1987 (Joint Cost Recon Order).

²⁵ Phase II Order, para. 72.

²⁶ SWBT's CAM was most recently amended December 31, 1995. SWBT is aware of and will abide by the Commission rules governing Affiliate Transactions, and business between SWBT and SBIS will be conducted accordingly.

2. Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI)

In the Phase II Order, the Commission adopted CPNI requirements for the enhanced service operations of the BOCs that require them to: (1) make CPNI available, upon customer request, to unaffiliated enhanced service vendors on the same terms and conditions that are available to their own enhanced services personnel; (2) limit their enhanced service personnel from accessing a customer's CPNI, if the customer so requests; and (3) notify multiline business customers annually of their CPNI rights. The Commission also required the BOCs to provide to unaffiliated enhanced service vendors the same type of nonproprietary, aggregate CPNI that the BOCs provide to their own enhanced services personnel. This information must be provided to unaffiliated vendors on the same terms and conditions that are available to the BOC's own enhanced service operations.

SWBT will continue to abide by the Commission's existing rules and requirements regarding the use of CPNI in all respects. For a detailed description of SWBT's CPNI policies and procedures, refer to the August 3, 1995, amendment to SWBT's CEI Plan for Payment Processing Services filed in CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623 and 95-20.

It is SWBT's position that as long as it remains in full compliance with existing FCC rules governing use of CPNI for enhanced service or CPE purposes, SWBT should be deemed compliant with the CPNI provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996 Act), Section 702 creating new Section 222 of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. Section

222.²⁷ In any event, pursuant to the customer approval provisions of Section 272 (c) of the 1996 Act, SWBT plans to obtain customer approval for use of its CPNI to provide Internet Support Services during each telephone conversation between a SWBT sales representative and a prospective customer of the service.

3. Nondiscrimination Reporting

SWBT will continue to abide by the Commission's existing nondiscrimination reporting rules which require BOCs to file quarterly installation and maintenance and nondiscrimination reports.²⁸

4. Network Information Disclosure

The Phase II Order required the BOCs to disclose information about network changes or new network services that affect the interconnection of enhanced services with the network at two points in time.²⁹ First, a carrier must disclose such information at the "make/buy" point-- that is, when the carrier decides to make itself, or to procure from another entity, any product the design of which affects or relies upon the network interface. The Commission permitted the BOCs to condition "make/buy" disclosure of technical network information on the signing of a nondisclosure

²⁷This will true at least until such time as the Commission may change those rules. See Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-115 (FCC 96-221), released May 17, 1996.

²⁸ CC Docket No. 88-2, Phase I, Filing and Review of Open Network Architecture Plans. Memorandum Opinion and Order, 5 FCC Rcd 3103 (1990) and Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration, 5 FCC Rcd 3084 (1990).

²⁹ Phase II Order, paras. 107-112.

agreement, and to provide the required network information within 30 days of the execution of such an agreement. Second, the Commission required the BOCs to release publicly all technical information at least twelve months prior to the introduction of the new service or network change that affects enhanced service interconnection with the network. However, if a carrier is able to introduce the service between six and twelve months after the make/buy point, public disclosure is permitted at the make/buy point, but no less than six months before the introduction of the service.

The interconnection between SBIS services and SWBT's Internet Support Services, and the underlying basic services will be achieved through already existing, previously published standard network interfaces. Therefore, no changes to existing network interface specifications or publication of any new interfaces is required. In the future, should interface specifications change, SWBT will comply with the advance notice requirements described above.

5. Tariffs

Illustrative tariff pages (for the State of Texas) for the underlying basic services that will be used in the provision of SBIS services and SWBT Internet Support Services are attached hereto as Exhibit B.

IV. CONCLUSION

SWBT has demonstrated herein compliance with all relevant Commission CEI requirements for approval of a service-specific CEI plan under the Commission's interim waiver procedures. Therefore, SWBT respectfully requests expedited approval of its Internet Support Services CEI Plan so that it can begin meeting demand for this service as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

By Robert J. Gryzmala

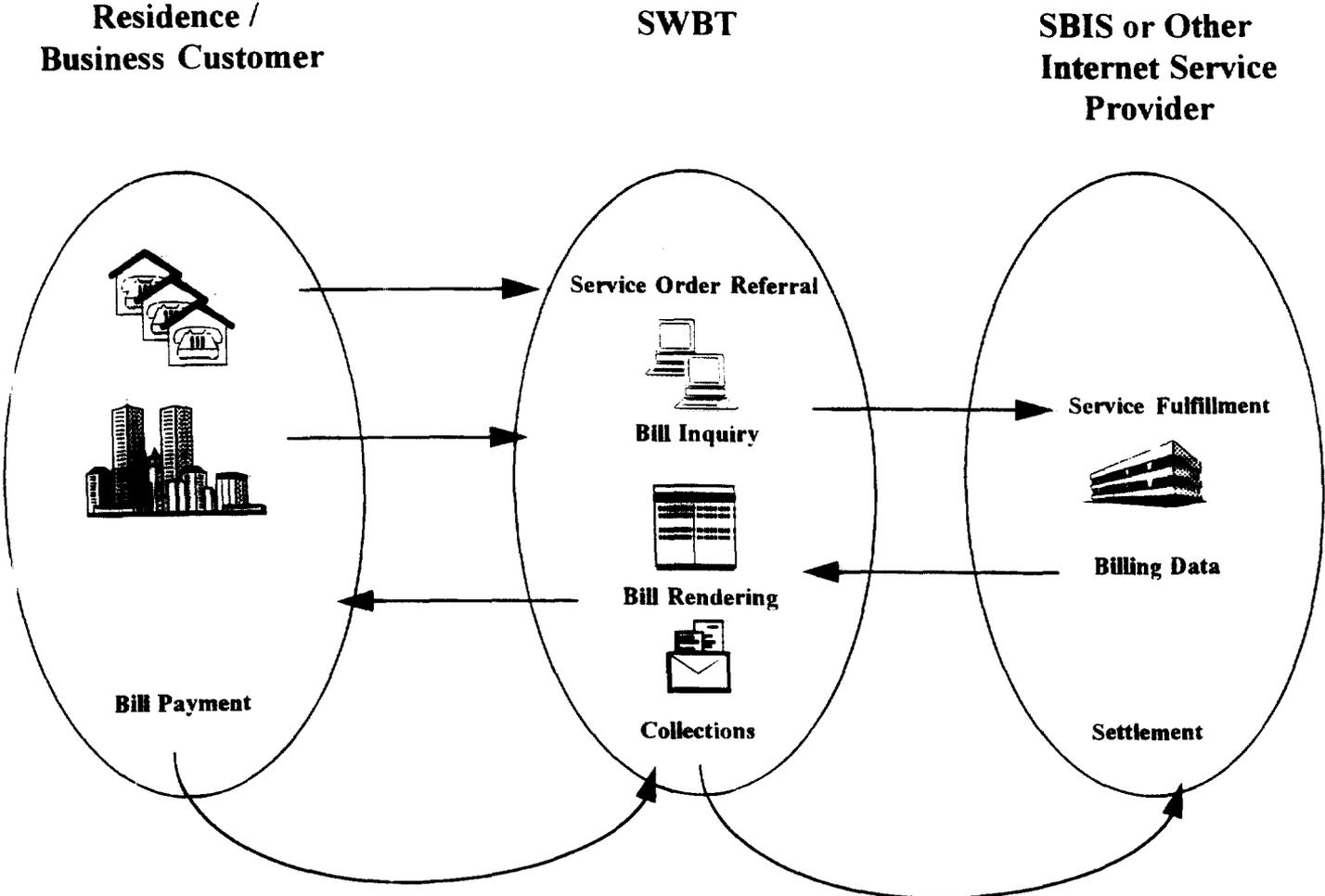
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June 21, 1996

SWBT Internet Support Services



Services used by the customer

- Voice Grade Line - Circuit Switched
- Basic Rate Interface (BRI) - ISDN
- Analog Private Line - Voice Grade
- Digital Private Line - Dedicated
- Digital Switched 56 Kbps
- Dedicated DS-1
- Frame Relay
- Cell Relay (ATM)

Services used by the Internet Service Provider

- Voice Grade Line - Circuit Switched
- Multi-Line Hunt
- Basic Rate Interface (BRI) - ISDN
- Primary Rate Interface (PRI) - ISDN
- Select Video Plus- ISDN
- Analog Private Line - Voice Grade
- Digital Private Line - Dedicated
- Digital Switched 56 Kbps
- Dedicated DS-1
- Dedicated DS-3
- Frame Relay
- Cell Relay (ATM)

**Basic Services and Component for SBIS Services
and SWBT Internet Support Services**

1. Voice Grade Line - Circuit Switched Service

Voice Grade switched access lines are required by the end user for making switched connections to the ESP. The user will employ modem devices to transmit data over these analog lines. The ESP will also use voice grade switched access lines as a means to access the Public Switched Network and collect calls placed by end users. The lines could be flat rate or measured rate residence or business lines and are purchased from the Local Exchange Tariff (Texas). Calls from this type of line can be routed to the ESP via their own voice grade lines or via Feature Group A arrangements from the Texas Access Service Tariff, Section 6.

2. Multi-Line Hunt Service

Hunting Line Services may be used to establish hunting arrangements between two or more of a customer's local exchange access lines. All of the local exchange access lines in a hunting arrangement group must be the same class of service and grade of service. This service is available in Section 1, pages 28 to 30 in the Local Exchange Tariff (Texas). For Texas, this is an Open Network Architecture (ONA) feature and will be filed in its ONA filing by August 10, 1996, in Section 6 of the Texas Access Service Tariff.

3. Analog Private Line Service - Voice Grade Service

The end user can also elect to connect to the ESP with dedicated private line circuits. The ESP will need analog private line circuits to facilitate the transfer of billing data to SWBT. These circuits would be voice grade analog lines (requiring customer provided modems) and are available in Section 2 of the Private Line Service Tariff (Texas). It may also be located in Section 7, pages 48 to 58 of the Texas Access Service Tariff.

4. Digital Private Line - Dedicated Service

The end user could also connect to the ESP with dedicated Digital circuits. The ESP could also use dedicated Digital circuits to transmit billing information to SWBT. Typically, these connections would be 56 Kbps. This service is called MegaLink 1® Service and is available in Section 2 of the Digital Link Service Tariff (Texas). It is also located in the Texas Access Service Tariff, Section 7, pages 68 to 72.

5. Digital Switched 56 Kbps

Another alternative for the end user to connect to the ESP would be through the use of a switched 56 Kbps digital connection. This type of circuit allows the end user to make an end-to-end digital connection to one or more ESPs. The call is switched through specially equipped digital offices and each call is set up based on the initial signals sent to the switch (analogous to dialing a number in the POTS environment). This service is called MicroLink I® by SWBT and is available in Section 5 of the Digital Link Service Tariff (Texas). MicroLink I® access capability is located in Section 6, page 34 of the Texas Access Service Tariff.

In order for the ESP to receive calls from end users using switched 56 Kbps digital connections, the ESP would also subscribe to MicroLink I® Service.

6. Dedicated DS-1 Service

If the ESP elects to make dedicated connections (to SWBT or within its own network) using 1.544 (DS1) circuits, or if the end user chooses to connect to the ESP via this method, it can order this service from Section 4 of the Digital Link Service Tariff (Texas), or from Section 7 (pages 73 to 77) of the Texas Access Service Tariff.

7. Frame Relay Service

Frame Relay is a transport service that facilitates the exchange of variable length information units (frames) between end user connections by way of assigned virtual connections. Each frame is passed to the Frame Relay network with an address that specifies the virtual connections.

The end user can use Frame Relay as the means to connect to the ESP. Frame Relay is a connection oriented digital service that creates a virtual permanent circuit between two users. Although various transmission rates are available, 56 Kbps would be the most likely rate to be used for this application. This service is available in Section 7 of the Digital Link Service Tariff (Texas). This service will be filed in Section 15 of the Texas Access Service tariff by year end 1996.

To accommodate end users who want to make connections using Frame Relay, the ESP would also need to subscribe to Frame Relay Service. While the end user would likely purchase 56 Kbps service, the ESP would likely purchase 1.544 service, thus allowing multiple simultaneous permanent virtual circuits.

8. Basic Rate Interface (BRI) ISDN based service

Another method for the end user to connect to the ESP is through the use of a BRI. This circuit is set up by the ISDN switch and allows an end-to-end digital connection from the end user to the ESP. This BRI provides the end user with two 64 Kbps "B" channels and one 16 Kbps "D" channel. The "B" channels carry customer data and the "D" channel carries control signaling.

A BRI could also be used by the ESP for the purpose of transmitting billing data to SWBT. The ESP would use this type of circuit if the data traffic was expected to be greater than the capacity of an analog private line. In a market area where customer demand justifies the use of a primary Rate Interface (PRI) for accumulating connections from end users, the ESP would use the PRI for data transfer instead of purchasing the BRI.

This service is called DigiLine Service by SWBT and is available in the Integrated Services Tariff (Sections 1 and 3) (Texas). Section 1 of the Integrated Services Tariff provides the rates and regulations for the Integrated Services Network Component which is the pricing structure for the switching and transport function associated with BRI.

9. Primary Rate Interface (PRI) ISDN based service

SmartTrunk Service provides access to and from the public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) for circuit-switched voice (CSV) and circuit-switched data (CSD) communications. This communication capability is provided using ISDN architecture and ISDN services available with SmartTrunk Service using Primary Rate Interface (PRI) technology. SmartTrunk Service employs a 1.544 Mbps facility typically divided into twenty-three B channels and one D channel. The B channels are used for voice and data communications while the D channel provides out-of-band signaling.

To serve end users using ISDN, the ESP would also need a connection to an ISDN switch. While the end user would likely use BRI, the ESP would purchase a Primary Rate Interface (PRI). This service is called SmartTrunk Service by SWBT and is available in the Integrated Services Tariff (Sections 1 and 2) (Texas). Section 1 of the Integrated Services Tariff provides the rates and regulations for the Integrated Services Network Component which is the pricing structure for the switching and transport function associated with PRI.

10. SelectVideo Plus - ISDN Service

SelectVideo Plus (PRI-ISDN) is an intraLATA dial-up multi-rate switched digital data service. SelectVideo Plus provides digital connections ranging from 64 Kbps to 1536 Kbps (synchronous) in 64 Kbps increments of bandwidth via the public switched telephone network. The specific rate is user-selectable on a per call basis. Network access to SelectVideo Plus is via fully configured PRI ISDN. A minimum of two PRIs (one configured for 23B Channels and one D Channel and one configured for 24B Channels) is required for 1536 Kbps calls. This service is available from Section 12 of the Digital Link Service Tariff (Texas).

11. Dedicated DS-3 Service

Dedicated DS-3 (MegaLink Custom ®) Service is a special access service utilizing DS3 technology to provide dedicated high capacity transport between customer designated premises, either directly or through the Telephone Company Hub where bridging, multiplexing, or Transport Resource Management service, or Network Reconfiguration Service functions are performed. The DS3 signal provides for the transmission of nominal 44.736 Mbps isochronous serial data. These MegaLink Custom ® Services are provided (1) between two customer designated premises, (2) between a customer designated premises and a Telephone Company Hub Central Office, (3) between a Telephone Company Hub Central Office and a Transport Resource Management Service Hub, (4) between Transport Resource Management Service Hubs at 44.736 Mbps transmission, (5) between a Network Reconfiguration Service Hub and a Transport Resource Management Service Hub at 44.736 Mbps transmission, between Network Reconfiguration Service Hub and a Transport Resource Management Service Hub at 44.736 Mbps transmission, or (6) between a Network Reconfiguration Service Hub and Telephone Company Hub at 44.736 Mbps transmission, for interconnection with High Capacity Services or other MegaLink Custom ® Services.

MegaLink Custom ® Service offers the customer the option of requesting either an electrical or optical interface at their premises. The interface at a Telephone Company Hub Central Office is electrical.

Customers requesting electrical interface will receive an electrical signal with a transmission speed of 44.736 Mbps per channel. Compatible channel interfaces are set forth in Technical Reference Publication TR-INS-000342. Customers requesting an optical interface will receive (an) optical signal (s) at the transmission speed(s) associated with the equivalent number of DS3s requested on the Access Order. The transmission speeds for optical interfaces are stated as approximate multiples of 44.736 Mbps.

Technical specifications for MegaLink Custom ® Services may be found in the following Technical Reference Publications:

Technical Reference PUB 76625
Technical Reference TR-INS-000342

Note: This DS3 service is available to ESPs via the Interstate Access Service Tariff and the Arkansas Intrastate Access Service Tariff. DS3 is not tariffed in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas but is available to all competitors pursuant to intrastate Individual Case Basis (ICB) tariff arrangements. In Texas, ICB is available in Section 12 of the Texas Access Service Tariff.

12. Cell Relay Service (ATM)

Cell Relay Service (CRS) provides high bandwidth using Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) protocols and statistical multiplexing that allows customers to assign virtual connections which are permanently allocated or established on a per call basis between subscriber locations. CRS transports units of information in fixed length cells of 53 bytes and supports wide area network applications consisting of traffic made up of data, imaging, audio, or video, or combinations of these. CRS can support customer needs for bandwidth-intensive applications which are shared by many customers/end user subscriber locations.

SWBT's CRS offering supports the provisioning of Permanent Virtual Connections (PVCs) between subscriber locations. These PVCs are pre-defined in the CRS networks as Virtual Channels (VCs) and Virtual Paths (VPs).

Due to rapidly evolving national technical standards, continuous evolution of CPE and interfaces, and the unique requirements of each customer application, Cell Relay tariffs have not yet been filed in any jurisdiction. The service is available under contract on an ICB basis. For interstate applications, the ICB process is outlined in Section 12 or Tariff FCC NO. 73. For intrastate applications in Texas, the ICB process is covered by Section 12 or the Texas Access Service Tariff.