

ARTICLE 5
TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF EXCHANGE
ACCESS TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO 251(c)(2)

- 5.0 Transmission and Routing of Exchange Access Traffic Pursuant to 251(c)(2).**
- 5.1 Scope of Traffic.** Article 5 prescribes parameters for certain trunk groups (“**Access Toll Connecting Trunks**”) to be established over the Interconnections specified in Article 3 for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access traffic and 8YY traffic between TCG Telephone Exchange Service Customers and Interexchange Carriers.
- 5.2 Trunk Group Architecture and Traffic Routing.**
- 5.2.1 TCG shall establish Access Toll Connecting Trunks in GR-394-Core format by which it will provide Tandem-transported Switched Exchange Access Services to Interexchange Carriers to enable such Interexchange Carriers to originate and terminate traffic from and to TCG's Customers.
- 5.2.2 Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be used solely for the transmission and routing of (Feature Group B and D) Exchange Access and 800/888 traffic to allow each Party's Customers to connect to or be connected to the interexchange trunks of any Interexchange Carrier which is connected to the other Party's access Tandem.
- 5.2.3 The Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be two-way trunks connecting an End Office Switch that TCG utilizes to provide Telephone Exchange Service and Switched Exchange Access Service in a given LATA to an access Tandem Switch SBC ILLINOIS utilizes to provide Exchange Access in such LATA. The Access Toll Connecting Trunks may, at TCG's election, be 64 Kb Clear Channel trunks or 56Kb trunks. The parties agree that this Agreement does not limit TCG from requesting other bandwidth levels or trunking parameters and SBC ILLINOIS agrees that its acceptance of such a request will not be unreasonably withheld.
- 5.2.4 In each LATA where the parties are interconnected, each TCG Switch Center in that LATA shall subtend a SBC ILLINOIS access Tandem in that LATA.
- 5.2.5 Only those valid NXX codes served by an End Office may be accessed through a direct connection to that End Office.
- 5.3 8YY Interconnection**
- 5.3.1 Trunk Ordering and Provisioning.
- 5.3.1.1 TCG may order from SBC ILLINOIS and SBC ILLINOIS shall provide the trunking arrangements described in this Section 5.3 so that TCG's customers may

place outbound 8YY calls (i.e., 800, 888, 877 etc. prefix calls) to carriers other than TCG and multi-carrier 8YY calls.

5.3.1.2 TCG may order from SBC ILLINOIS and SBC ILLINOIS shall provision, separate 64 Kb Clear Channel trunk groups and will be in addition to any existing trunk groups currently in place between the Parties. All trunk groups shall be designated TCT groups.

5.3.1.3 TCG and SBC ILLINOIS agree that TCG may serve any TCG customer using any TCG Switch Center, including a TCG Switch Center that is not physically located in the LATA where the TCG customer and the SBC ILLINOIS Tandem are located.

5.3.2 Intentionally left blank.

5.3.3 8YY Interconnection Arrangement.

5.3.3.1 Under 8YY Interconnection Arrangement, TCG shall submit and SBC ILLINOIS shall accept an ASR for trunk groups necessary for the transmission and routing of translated (i.e., "dipped") 8YY traffic to SBC ILLINOIS from a TCG or TCG affiliate Switch Center (such as an 5ESS® or equivalent switch) that will perform the necessary Switching Service Point functions and queries to an Industry Toll-Free Database.

5.3.3.2 If the TCG Switch is located in the same LATA as the serving SBC ILLINOIS Tandem, the existing two-way TCT trunk group will connect the TCG Switch to the serving SBC ILLINOIS Tandem, or, in the case of a new interconnection, the two-way TCT trunks provisioned during the initial network turn-up would be used.

5.3.3.3 If the TCG Switch Center performing Switching Service Point functions and queries to an Industry Toll-Free Database is not located in the same LATA as the serving SBC ILLINOIS Tandem, the TCT trunk group shall be provisioned from a POI in the LATA in which both the originating TCG customer and the serving SBC ILLINOIS Tandem are located.

5.3.3.4 SBC ILLINOIS and TCG agree to jointly engineer the 8YY Interconnection Arrangement trunk groups to be used solely for the transmission and routing of either Local Traffic or Exchange Access traffic (both of which includes translated 8YY traffic) to allow TCG's Customers to connect to or be connected to SBC ILLINOIS' end user customers or the interexchange trunks of any Interexchange Carrier that is connected to an SBC ILLINOIS access Tandem or POI. TCG added language is for clarity.

5.3.3.5 The 8YY Interconnection Arrangement trunk groups shall be jointly engineered as follows:

- (1) TCG may elect (at its sole discretion) to send its customers' originating non-translated 8YY calls to a TCG Switch Center that is located outside the LATA in which the TCG customer is located to perform the necessary Switching Service Point functions and queries to an Industry Toll-Free Database. In such case, the Parties will provision one-way trunk groups between a POI in the LATA in which the TCG customer is located and the SBC ILLINOIS Tandem switch in that LATA to allow these calls to be routed to those interexchange carriers connected to the SBC ILLINOIS Tandem switch.
- (2) Alternatively, TCG may elect (at its sole discretion) to send its customers' non-translated 8YY calls to a TCG Switch Center that is located within the LATA in which the TCG customer is located to perform the necessary Switching Service Point functions and queries to an Industry Toll-Free Database. In such case, the parties will use the existing two-way 64 Kb TCT trunk groups between the TCG Switch Center performing the necessary Switching Service Point functions and queries to an Industry Toll-Free Database and the SBC ILLINOIS Tandem to allow these calls to be routed to those interexchange carriers connected to the SBC ILLINOIS Tandem switch.

5.4 InterLATA (Meet Point) Trunk Group.

- 5.4.1 InterLATA traffic shall be transported between TCG Switch Center and the SBC ILLINOIS Access or combined local/Access Tandem over a "meet point" trunk group separate from local and IntraLATA toll traffic. The InterLATA trunk group will be established for the transmission and routing of exchange access traffic between TCG's End Users and inter exchange carriers via a TCG switch or SBC ILLINOIS Access Tandem, as the case may be.
- 5.4.2 When SBC ILLINOIS has more than one Access Tandem in a local exchange area or LATA, TCG shall establish a Meet Point Trunk Group to one or more of SBC ILLINOIS Access Tandems according to where TCG has homed its NXX code(s). If the Access Tandems are in two different states, TCG shall home its codes on tandems in the respective states. In all events codes shall be homed on at least one tandem within the LATA. TCG will work with SBC tandem planning for NXX homing changes that may change tandem traffic volumes.
- 5.4.3 Should a tandem reach an exhaust condition such that traffic blocking becomes a possibility, TCG shall work with SBC in rehomeing codes to help alleviate the exhaust condition.
- 5.4.4 If either Party uses its NXX Code to provide foreign exchange service to its customers outside of the geographic area assigned to such code, that Party shall be solely responsible to transport traffic between its foreign exchange service customer and such code's geographic area.

5.4.5 SBC ILLINOIS will not block switched access customer traffic delivered to any SBC ILLINOIS Tandem for completion on TCG's network. SBC ILLINOIS shall have no responsibility to ensure that any switched access customer will accept traffic that TCG directs to the switched access customer. SBC ILLINOIS also agrees to furnish TCG, upon request, a list of those IXCs which also Interconnect with SBC ILLINOIS' Access Tandem(s).

5.5 Signaling.

5.5.1 The Parties will exchange SS7 signaling messages with one another, where and as available, to handle meet point billing traffic and transit traffic.

5.5.2 The Parties will provide all line information signaling parameters including, but not limited to, Calling Party Number, Charge Number (if it is different from calling party number), and originating line information ("OLP").

5.5.3 For terminating FGD, each Party will pass any CPN it receives from other carriers.

5.5.4 All privacy indicators will be honored.

5.5.5 Where available, network signaling information such as Transit Network Selection ("TNS") parameter (SS7 environment) will be provided by the Originating Party whenever such information is needed for call routing or billing. Where TNS information has not been provided by the Originating Party, the Tandem Party will route originating Switched Access traffic to the IXC using available translations. The Parties will follow all industry Ordering and Billing Forum ("OBF") adopted guidelines pertaining to TNS codes.

5.6 High Volume Call In (HVCI) / Mass Calling (Choke) Trunk Group. The Parties will cooperate to establish separate choke trunk groups for the completion of calls such as radio contest lines, etc., unless this is determined to be unnecessary by both parties because they have implemented "Call Gapping" software, or other call control measures. When completing a new interconnection in an existing LATA or a new interconnection in a new LATA, TCG will establish a MF based choke trunk group if SBC ILLINOIS has a Choke NPA in that LATA.