

September 11, 2000

Wisconsin Collaborative

RE: Ameritech Explanation of Slippage and Directory EDI Interface

As requested in the September 8th Wisconsin Collaborative, this letter provides an explanations of factors that have impacted the system deliverables that are referenced in the latest Wisconsin A-AA issue lists. More specifically, those items that were targeted for September, 2000 that will be delayed. The affected system deliverables include:

1. Sub-Loop EDI ordering – item D
2. 865 versioning – item F
3. Abbreviated Address Validation – item H

Also described at the end of the letter is an explanation of the factors that have impacted the delivery of the directory listing order ability. This is item L in the Wisconsin matrix.

There are numerous factors that have impacted the Ameritech's ability to meet the timing of collaborative system commitments. Preliminary schedules and dates were selected based on a general understanding of the request and assumed that all existing projects that were underway would be completed as planned thus freeing resources. Ameritech recently completed a large flow through initiative that has significantly improved resale order flow through percentages. The flow through project was large and delayed several months due to unforeseen complexities. As a result, both system requirement and development resources were not available as planned. This delay was not the only factor impacting the slippage of the three items. Additionally, the scope of each change was not fully understood until the completion of the business analysis. The scope of items 2 and 3 were underestimated and was a factor in the delivery delay.

Provided below are more specific reasons that impacted the delay:

1. **Sub-Loop EDI Ordering:** As discussed in numerous forums, the sub-loop product offering has been fluid. The product definition has undergone local and industry changes. As a result, the product definition was not defined enough to complete system requirements in time to meet the September, 2000 release. The business requirement baseline has been completed and EDI Sub Loop offering is scheduled for December, 2000.
2. **865 versioning:** The key factor that has impacted the 865 versioning deliverable is clear and agreed to requirements. The Wisconsin commitment was based on the assumption that the versioning change would add the last processed version number to the 865 transaction. However, in the Illinois Plan-of-Record "POR", AT&T presented a different requirement that could not be delivered and did not get CLEC acceptance. Subsequently, CoreCom submitted a change request based on the original assumptions and Ameritech is working to develop to these requirements. The delay caused by working through the requirement issue impacted the ability to complete the business requirements and meet the September, 2000 planned delivery. The 865 versioning enhancement is scheduled for December, 2000.
3. **Abbreviated Address Validation:** This change as discussed in the opening paragraph was impacted by the detail business analysis that was conducted following the Wisconsin offer. After the completion of the business analysis, it was clear that this change would significantly impact Ameritech existing flow through processing. As a result, it was clear that the magnitude of this change was larger then originally estimated. And, in order to complete the complex work and perform the necessary regression testing, the enhancement would require more effort and time. The current delivery date for this request is under investigation.

OFFICIAL FILE
I.C.C. DOCKET NO. 00-0992
AT&T Cross Border
Exhibit No. 15
Witness
Date 10/3/00
Reporter

Issue #1

This completes Ameritech explanation of factors that have impacted three deliverables scheduled for September, 2000.

As described in issue L, Ameritech is planning to migrate the existing directory EDI functionality into a single EDI ordering interface. To complete this process, significant system modifications are required. These modifications include the backend linkage of two legacy systems, the integration of approximately twenty five directory functions, integration of business rules required to extract the directory information, fail safe connectivity, record tracking capabilities, and the integration of two business processes (ordering and directory services). The initial business analysis that provides a fully integrated solution has resulted in a large order of magnitude. Considering the size of the effort and the need to meet committed deliverable in Wisconsin, FCC POR, and Illinois POR, it has been estimated that the production availability of this enhancement is September, 2001. In order to meet the required testing obligation, Ameritech will provide access to the functionality of this change in a test environment sixty days in advance of production availability. This will require Ameritech to complete the system integration and testing no later than July, 2001.

Ameritech is currently conducting a review of the proposed development plan to determine if a different architectural or design approach would provide the same level of integration and shorten the delivery schedule. The review will require approximately two weeks to complete.