

ATTACHMENT 6C

INTERCONNECTION BILLING AND RECORDING

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APPENDIX C

INTERCONNECTION BILLING AND RECORDING

I. General

This Section describes the Meet Point Billing and Mutual Compensation requirements applicable when AT&T is Interconnected to GTE network facilities.

I. Meet Point Billing

- A. AT&T and GTE will establish meet-point billing ("MPB") arrangements in accordance with the Meet Point Billing guidelines adopted by and contained in the OBF's MECAB and MECOD documents, except as modified herein. Both parties will use their best reasonable efforts, individually and collectively, to maintain provisions in their respective federal and state access tariffs, and/or provisions within the National Exchange Carrier Association ("NECA") Tariff No. 4, or any successor tariff to reflect the MPB arrangements identified in this Agreement, in MECAB and in MECOD.
- B. AT&T and GTE will implement the "Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff" option in order to bill any interexchange carrier ("IXC") for that portion of the Unbundled Network Elements provided by AT&T or GTE. For all traffic carried over the MPB arrangement, AT&T and GTE shall bill each other all applicable elements at the rates specified in this Agreement. Charges for those Unbundled Network Elements shall be billed as set forth in Appendix B of this Attachment.
- C. GTE shall provide to AT&T the billing name, billing address, and carrier identification code ("CIC") of the IXCs that may utilize any portion of AT&T's network in an AT&T/GTE MPB arrangement in order to comply with the MPB Notification process as outlined in the MECAB document. Such information shall be provided to AT&T in the format set forth by this Attachment. If GTE does not have a CIC for any IXC that will utilize a portion of AT&T's network in an AT&T/GTE MPB arrangement, and for whom GTE must supply to AT&T MPB billing information, GTE agrees that it will assist such carrier in obtaining a CIC expeditiously. Until such carrier has obtained a CIC, GTE will submit LEC's CIC on those MPB records provided to AT&T for MPB. GTE



understands and agrees that it will be solely responsible for obtaining any reimbursements from those carriers who have utilized the jointly provided networks of GTE and AT&T.

- D. GTE and AT&T agree that in an MPB arrangement where one party provides local transport and the other party provides the end office switching, the party who provides the end office switching is entitled to bill any residual interconnection charges ("RIC") and common carrier line ("CCL") charges associated with the traffic. The parties further agree that in those MPB situations where one party sub-tends the other party's access tandem, the party providing the access tandem is only entitled to bill the access tandem fee and any associated local transport charges. The parties also agree that the party who provides the end office switching is entitled to bill end office switching fees, local transport charges, RIC and CCL charges, as appropriate, and such other applicable charges.
- E. GTE and AT&T will record and transmit MPB information in accordance with the standards and in the format set forth in this Attachment. GTE and AT&T will coordinate and exchange the billing account reference ("BAR") and billing account cross reference ("BACR") numbers for the MPB arrangements described in this Attachment. Each party will notify the other if the level of billing or other BAR/BACR elements change, resulting in a new BAR/BACR number.
- F. If MPB data is not processed and delivered by either GTE or AT&T and in turn such party is unable to bill the IXC for the appropriate charges, the party who failed to deliver the data will be held liable for the amount of the unbillable charges.
- G. If MPB data is not submitted within ten (10) days of their recording or is not in the proper format as set forth in this Attachment, and if as a result the other party is delayed in billing the IXC for the appropriate charges it incurs, the delaying party shall pay the other party a late MPB data delivery charge which will be the total amount of the delayed charges times the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the date the MPB charges should have been received to and including the date the MPB charge information is actually received.
- H. Errors in MPB data exchanged by the parties may be discovered by AT&T, GTE or the billable IXC. Both AT&T and GTE agree to provide the other party



with notification of any discovered errors within two (2) business days of the discovery. The other party shall correct the error within eight (8) business days of notification and resubmit the data. In the event the errors cannot be corrected within the time period specified above, the erroneous data shall be considered lost. If MPB data is lost due to incorrecable errors or otherwise, the parties shall follow the procedures set forth in the Customer Billing Data Attachment of this Agreement and compensate the other for the lost MPB billing data.

- I. In the event AT&T purchases from GTE Elements, or Combination thereof, in a LATA other than the LATA to or from which the MPB services are homed and in which GTE operates an access tandem, GTE shall, except in instances of capacity limitations, permit and enable AT&T to sub-tend the GTE access tandem switch(es) nearest to the AT&T rating point(s) associated with the NPA-NXX(s) to/from which the MPB services are homed. In instances of capacity limitation at a given access tandem switch, AT&T shall be allowed to sub-tend the next-nearest GTE access tandem switch in which sufficient capacity is available. The MPB percentages for each new rating point/access tandem pair shall be calculated in accordance with MECAB and MECOD.
- J. Neither AT&T nor GTE will charge the other for the services rendered, or for information required for Collocation as set forth in this Attachment except those MPB charges specifically set forth herein. Both parties will provide the other a single point of contact to handle any MPB questions.

II. **Mutual Compensation**

- A. The parties shall bill each other reciprocal compensation in accordance with the standards set forth in this Agreement for traffic terminated to the other party's customer, where both such customers bear NPA-NXX designations associated with the same LATA or other authorized area (e.g., extended area service zones in adjacent LATAs), including those traffic types that have been traditionally referred to as "local calling", as "extended area service (EAS)", and as "intraLATA toll". Such traffic shall be recorded and transmitted to AT&T in accordance with this Attachment. Further, the traffic exchanged pursuant to this Attachment shall be measured in billing minutes of use and shall be in actual conversation seconds. The total conversation seconds per chargeable traffic type will be totaled for the entire monthly billing cycle and then rounded to the next whole conversation minute. Reciprocal

compensation for the termination of this traffic shall be charged at rates specified in Attachment 14 of this Agreement.

- B. In lieu of the reciprocal compensation arrangement described above and where permitted by state law or Commission regulation or order, the parties may elect in writing to adopt a bill-and-keep compensation arrangement or such other mutually agreed upon compensation arrangement.

III. **Issuance of Meet Point Billing Data and Mutual Billing Data**

- A. GTE and AT&T shall issue the data required to implement Section 2 of this Appendix (i.e. Meet Point Billing Data) and Section 3 of this Appendix (i.e. Mutual Compensation) as provided in EMR format via Connect: Direct as provided in Section 2.5 of this Attachment.

I. **Testing Requirements**

GTE shall adhere to the same testing requirements and specifications for transmitting Meet Point Billing data and Mutual Compensation data as applicable to the recording of Call Information as set forth in Section 2.5 of this Attachment.