

Announcement Date: July 20, 2004 Effective Date: Immediately

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Notification Category: General Notification

Target Audience: CLECs

Subject: Qwest Platform Plus™ Terms Available to all

Interested CLECs

By now you are aware of the <u>ground breaking commercial agreement between Qwest and MCI</u> concerning Qwest Platform Plus™ (QPP™).

On June 1, 2004, Qwest and MCI announced a commercially negotiated agreement governing the pricing and availability of wholesale services that Qwest would provide to MCI once the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals' decision took effect vacating the FCC's wholesale unbundling rules. It was the first commercially negotiated agreement between an RBOC and a major CLEC. It followed on the heels of the FCC's March 3, 2004, letter urging telecommunications carriers to "engage in a period of good faith negotiations to arrive at commercially acceptable arrangements for the availability of unbundled network elements."

Qwest engaged in good faith negotiations with many individual CLEC customers as well as mediated multilateral sessions with a CLEC consortium. While Qwest and the CLEC consortium didn't ultimately reach agreement, the customer input that was garnered from those sessions was critical to the development of the final QPP™ offering. Individual customer negotiations with respect to QPP™ and other TRO-impacted products continue.

On July 16, 2004, Qwest and MCI signed the definitive agreements that will govern the pricing and availability of wholesale services from Qwest to MCI through July 31, 2008, now that the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals' decision vacating the FCC's wholesale unbundling rules has taken effect. Qwest is making the terms of the Qwest/MCI deal available to all interested CLECs. Qwest and MCI have proven that business-to-business negotiations can result in significant commercial agreements without government intervention. Qwest hopes that other CLEC customers will take advantage of these terms.

The QPP™ commercial agreement provides wholesale pricing continuity and certainty about the availability of services. Qwest Platform Plus™, a new offering, is the functionally equivalent replacement for UNE-P and is priced equivalent to UNE-P service through Dec. 31, 2004:

- During the transition period of Jan. 1, 2005-Jan. 1, 2007, there will be incremental rate adjustments at scheduled points.
- Rates will increase an average of less than \$5 (across both residential and business lines) by the end of the transition period.
- The agreement recognizes the inherent differences in residential and business service markets and includes a split schedule for wholesale service rates in these markets.
- Like UNE-P, QPP<sup>™</sup> rates are geographically sensitive.

Note: In cases of conflict between the changes implemented through this notification and any CLEC interconnection agreement (whether based on the Qwest SGAT or not), the rates, terms and conditions of such interconnection agreement shall prevail as between Qwest and the CLEC party to such interconnection agreement.

The Qwest Wholesale Web Site provides a comprehensive catalog of detailed information on Qwest products and services including specific descriptions on doing business with Qwest. All information provided on the site describes current activities and process.

Prior to any modifications to existing activities or processes described on the web site, wholesale customers will receive written notification announcing the upcoming change.

If you would like to unsubscribe to mailouts please go to the "Subscribe/Unsubscribe" web site and follow the unsubscribe instructions. The site is located at: http://www.qwest.com/wholesale/notices/cnla/maillist.html

- QPP<sup>™</sup> services may also be purchased with Qwest DSL services, Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN) Services and Qwest Voice Messaging.
- Finally, QPP<sup>™</sup> includes commercially negotiated quality assurance measures designed to assure that CLECs receive quality wholesale service.

An interconnection agreement amendment includes new rates and features for Batch Hot Cuts, the batch process of moving customer lines from a Qwest switch to a CLEC switch. The deal also includes new electronic scheduling and online status tools to make the Batch Hot Cut process more efficient and cost effective for both parties.

The Qwest/MCI agreements became effective on Friday, July 16, 2004, the day the definitive agreements were executed. The commercial agreement covering Qwest Platform Plus™ is not subject to Section 252 requirements and therefore does not fall under the jurisdiction of any state regulatory commission. However, Qwest provided a courtesy copy of the commercial agreements to its in-region state commissions.

Shortly, both the Interconnection Agreement Amendment and the QPP™ Commercial Agreement will be posted to Qwest Web sites. Qwest will make QPP™ available to any interested CLEC:

- The Interconnection Agreement Amendment will be located here: http://www.gwest.com/wholesale/clecs/amendments.html
- The QPP Commercial Agreement will be located here: http://www.gwest.com/wholesale/clecs/commercialagreements.html

Qwest will host a conference call that is open to all interested CLECs to acquaint the industry with the details of the QPP™ service offering. During the call, Qwest will discuss the QPP™ service offering and answer your questions:

Conference Call Date: 07/22/04

Conference Call Time: 3:30pm Mountain

Conference Bridge Information: Domestic Participants - 800-862-9098

International Participants - 785-424-1051

Conference ID - QW722

If you have questions or concerns in advance of this discussion, please feel free to contact:

Cliff Dinwiddie Wholesale Business Management Qwest Services Corporation 303-896-7846 cdinwid@gwest.com

Sincerely.

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Qwest