

# GLOSSARY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS TERMS

## Docket UT-053025

TERM	DESCRIPTION
<b>Access</b>	A local carrier must allow customers access to their preferred long-distance carrier. Customers pay an access charge to their local carrier for access to their long distance carrier and long distance carriers pay access charges to the local carrier to connect to the local carrier's network. <i>(From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at pages 26-27.)</i>
<b>Access line</b>	A telephone line from a central office to the local premises. <i>See also local loop. (From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 27.)</i>
<b>ARMIS</b>	Automated Reporting Management Information System. The FCC's database of telecommunication carriers' network, financial and service quality data. Carriers update the information annually on April 1.
<b>Business line</b>	A loop or line used for business purposes, i.e., not a residential line.
<b>Central Office</b>	A building where the local loops are connected to switches to allow connection to other customers; also referred to as a wire center where there are several switches functioning as a switch exchange. <i>(From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 157.)</i>
<b>Circuit</b>	"The physical connection (or) path of channels, conductors and equipment between two given points through which an electric current may be established." <i>(From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 167.)</i>
<b>CLEC</b>	Competitive local exchange company. A company competing with an incumbent local exchange company (ILEC) for local service customers; generally subject to limited regulation.
<b>Collocation/ Collocator</b>	<b>Collocation</b> occurs when a competing local carrier locates its switches within another local exchange carrier's central office. A <b>collocator</b> is a carrier that collocates its switches in another carrier's central office. <i>(From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 182.)</i>
<b>Dedicated transport</b>	Facilities dedicated to a particular competitive carrier that the carrier uses for transmission between or among ILEC central offices and tandem switching offices, and to connect its local network to the ILEC's network. <i>(TRRO, ¶ 67)</i>
<b>DS0 / Voicegrade</b>	The digital representation of the capacity of an analog voice channel, i.e., the traditional copper pair loop, transmitting information at 64 kilobytes per second (kbps). <i>(TRO, n. 634)</i>

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<b>DS1</b>	The initial level of multiplexing in the time division hierarchy of the telephone network; a 1.544 megabytes per second (Mbps) signal that provides the equivalent of <b>24 64 kbps DSO channels</b> . The same as a T1 facility. ( <i>TRO, n. 634</i> )
<b>DS3</b>	A digital local loop having a total digital signal speed of 44.736 Mbps provided over various transmission media, including, but not limited to fiber optics, coaxial cable, or radio. DS3 loops can be channelized into <b>28 DS1 channels</b> , or unchannelized to provide a continuous bit stream for data. ( <i>TRO, n. 634</i> )
<b>High-capacity</b>	High-capacity refers to the ability of the facility to handle a large amount of traffic or information at a single time, e.g., DS1, DS3, OCn capacity.
<b>ILEC</b>	Incumbent local exchange company. A local exchange company in operation at the time the Act was enacted (August 1996).
<b>Interconnection</b>	Connection between facilities or equipment of a telecommunications carrier with a local exchange carrier's network under Section 251(c)(2).
<b>Interconnection Agreement</b>	An agreement between an ILEC and requesting telecommunications carrier (which may be a CLEC) addressing terms, conditions and prices for interconnection, services or network elements pursuant to Section 251.
<b>Local exchange</b>	A geographic area consisting of one or more central offices. ( <i>From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 301.</i> )
<b>Loop</b>	The local loop. The copper wire, fiber, or cable serving a particular customer, generally running from a central office to a residence or building.
<b>Network element</b>	A facility or equipment used in providing telecommunications services.
<b>Non-impaired</b>	A term relating to whether a competing carrier has access to unbundled network elements. Under Section 251(d)(2), an ILEC must provide unbundled access to an element if failure to provide the element would impair the carrier's ability to provide service. Under the TRRO, the FCC determined that competing carriers are not impaired under Section 251(d)(2) without unbundled access to high-capacity elements at a wire center if the wire center meets certain criteria. If a wire center meets the criteria, it is designated <b>non-impaired</b> , meaning competitors are not allowed unbundled access to high-capacity loops and transport in the wire center.

TERM	DESCRIPTION
<b>OCn</b>	OCn is an optical interface designed to work with a Synchronous Optical Network (SONET). OCn transmission facilities are deployed as SONET channels having a bandwidth of typically 155.52 Mbps (megabytes per second)(OC3) or higher. ( <i>TRO, n. 631</i> ).
<b>Residential line</b>	A loop or line connecting a residence; used generally for residential, rather than business, purposes.
<b>Section 251(c)(3)</b>	The section of the Act that requires ILECs to provide competing carriers with access to network elements on an unbundled or individual basis. The unbundled elements provided under this section are known as UNEs.
<b>Switched access</b>	The connection between a customer's phone and a long distance carrier's switch when making a local or long distance call over standard telephone lines. ( <i>From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 756.</i> )
<b>TELRIC</b>	Total Element Long Run Incremental Cost. A method of determining the cost, and prices for network elements using a forward-looking process, rather than the existing network of a carrier. Generally, the pricing methodology for UNEs.
<b>TRO</b>	The FCC's Triennial Review Order. August 2003 order addressing UNEs and the impairment standard for UNEs, vacated in part and remanded in part by the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in <i>USTA II v. FCC</i> .
<b>TRRO</b>	The FCC's Triennial Review Remand Order. March 2005 order entered in response to D.C. Circuit's <i>USTA II</i> decision: Eliminates local switching as a UNE as of March 11, 2006, and limits unbundling of high-capacity transport and loops.
<b>Transport</b>	Lines or connections used to transmit voice or data through a carrier's network. Transport media include copper wire, fiber optics, microwave, or satellite. ( <i>From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 815.</i> ) See dedicated transport.
<b>Trunk, Also trunked transport</b>	A communication line between two switching systems. A single trunk, capable of carrying a single conversation, is referred to DS0.
<b>Unbundled</b>	A network element that is provided by itself, not in connection with or "bundled" with another network element. A means for a carrier to request particular services from an ILEC to customize the service the carrier provides, without having to accept a package of elements and services that the carrier must take as an all or nothing option.

TERM	DESCRIPTION
<b>UNE</b>	Unbundled network element. Generally a network element an ILEC must make available under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act.
<b>UNE-P, also UNE-P line</b>	Unbundled Network Element Platform, or a combination of local loops, switching and transport offered by the ILEC.
<b>UNE-loop, or UNE-L</b>	Unbundled network element loop, or a stand-alone loop provided without the combination of switching and transport provided via UNE-P.
<b>Wire center</b>	The location where a telephone company terminates and switches local lines, or loops. A wire center may have one or more class 5 central offices or exchanges. <i>(From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 884.)</i>