

ATTACHMENT 13
PRINCIPLES FOR IMPLEMENTING
ELECTRONIC INTERFACES FOR
OPERATIONS SUPPORT SYSTEMS

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1. PREORDERING

1.1 Transaction-Based Information Exchange

The Parties agree that preordering information exchange will be transmitted over the same interface according to the same content definition both for resold GTE services and for services provided using UNE. AT&T and GTE will work together to establish a transaction-based electronic communications interface. Both parties will diligently pursue completing mutually consistent translations within six (6) months after the Effective Date of this Agreement and proceed to systems readiness testing that will result in a fully operational interface for local service delivery within one (1) year from the Effective Date of this Agreement. AT&T and GTE agree to adapt the interface based upon evolving industry standards. Changes to ATIS guidelines and standards relevant to Transaction-Based Pre-Order information exchange will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule, but in no case will the time for adoption, including testing of the changes introduced, extend more than 6 to 12 months beyond the date of initial closure by the relevant ATIS committee or subcommittee. This preceding target implementation obligation may be modified by mutual agreement.

1.2 Batch Data Information Exchange

GTE will accept AT&T's request for an initial batch feed of information related to Switch/Feature Availability and Street Address Guide (or equivalent) data and relationship file information via an agreed upon format. At a minimum, this batch feed will include switch/feature availability, including but not limited to type of switching equipment and active features, and a means to reliably correlate a customer address with the assigned servicing office of GTE. AT&T and GTE agree to adapt the interface based upon evolving industry standards. Changes to ATIS guidelines and standards relevant to Batch Pre-Ordering Information Exchange will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule, but in no case will the time for adoption, including testing of the changes introduced, extend more than 6 to 12 months beyond the date of initial closure by the relevant ATIS committee or subcommittee. This preceding target implementation obligation may be modified by mutual agreement.

- 1.2.1 GTE will transmit the initial batch feed of the data within three (3) Business Days of receipt of the initial request by AT&T. In addition, GTE will provide complete refreshes of the data on a mutually agreeable monthly schedule. GTE will send the initial batch feed and subsequent monthly updates electronically over a mutually agreeable file transfer network (e.g., the Network Data Mover Network) using a mutually acceptable file transfer protocol. AT&T and GTE will translate necessary data elements used in their internal processes into mutually agreeable and consistent file formats and record layouts. Both parties will diligently pursue completion of the definition of file

formats, record layout and information content within six (6) months after the Effective Date of this Agreement and proceed to systems readiness testing that will result in a fully operational interface within one (1) year from the Effective Date of this Agreement.

2. ORDERING AND PROVISIONING INFORMATION EXCHANGE

2.1 AT&T Resells GTE Telecommunications Service(s)

The exchange of information relating to the ordering and provisioning of local service, when AT&T is the customer of record for the resold service(s), will be based upon the most current interpretations of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12 Standards as documented by the Service Order Subcommittee (SOSC) of the Telecommunications Forum/Electronic Data Interexchange (TCIF/EDI) committee. AT&T and GTE agree to adapt Ordering and Provisioning Information Exchange based upon evolving industry standards for forms-based information exchange, using Local Service Request (LSR) Form, End User Information Form, the Resale Service Form and any other relevant form developed by the OBF. In accordance with OBF, SOSC forms and transaction codes (i.e. 850, 860, 855, 865 and 997), GTE and AT&T agree to convey all necessary data to connect, modify or disconnect retail local services of GTE that AT&T resells. AT&T and GTE will translate ordering and provisioning requests originating in their internal processes into the agreed upon forms and industry transactions. Both parties will diligently pursue completion of mutually consistent translations within six (6) months after the Effective Date of this Agreement and proceed to systems readiness testing that will result in a fully operational interface for local service delivery within one (1) year from the Effective Date of this Agreement.

Changes to guidelines and standards relevant to ordering of services for resale will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule, but in no case will the time for adoption, including testing of the changes introduced, extend more than 6 to 12 months beyond the date of initial closure by the relevant ATIS committee or subcommittee. This preceding target implementation obligation may be modified by mutual agreement.

2.2 AT&T Provides Service Using GTE Unbundled Network Elements

2.2.1 The Parties understand and agree that baseline information such as a main billing account, intercompany contact points, the 800 number for GTE to transfer a misdirected end user UNE customer's call, geographic coverage for common use UNE, and other mutually agreeable information is required prior to the first UNE customer specific order. The parties also agree to document, in the Joint Implementation Agreement, the relevant information from the AT&T Infrastructure Footprint Form and the GTE CLEC Profile into a mutually acceptable notification mechanism. GTE will respond to the initial notification request with a batch feed of information related to Switch/Feature Availability

and Street Address Guide (SAG) and relationship file that are further discussed in Section 1 (PREORDERING). AT&T and GTE may mutually agree to use an alternative format for exchange of Footprint Order related information, provided that the same information content is delivered. GTE will accept the Infrastructure/ Footprint Form developed by AT&T or the mutually agreed-upon equivalent format, until such time as AT&T and GTE agree that the OBF has adopted an acceptable alternative form. AT&T and GTE recognize that modifications to routing tables may be necessary in order to accommodate the treatment of customer calling associated with the combination of UNEs that AT&T may employ to deliver service. Both parties agree that a mutually agreeable mechanism for communicating routing changes, at the local office level, will be documented in the Joint Implementation Agreement relating to this interface. Unless another mutually agreeable mechanism is established, GTE will accept delivery of these forms through the ASR process, including passing of the information over a mutually agreeable file transfer network (e.g. the Network Data Mover Network) and file transfer protocol.

- 2.2.2 Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the customer specific provisioning order will be based upon OBF LSR forms. The applicable implementation guidelines described in the prior paragraphs relating to resale of GTE retail services also apply to the customer specific provisioning orders. GTE agrees that the information exchange will be forms-based using the Local Service Request Form, End User Information Form, Loop Service Form and Port Form, Loop Form with Number Portability, and Number Portability Form developed by the OBF. The SOSC interpretation of 850, 860, 855, 865, and 997 transactions, in accordance with the OBF forms, will be used to convey all the necessary data to connect, modify or disconnect GTE customer-specific UNEs employed by AT&T to deliver retail local services. Customer-specific elements include, but are not limited to, the customer loop, the network interface device, the customer-dedicated portion of the local switch and any combination thereof. AT&T and GTE will translate ordering and provisioning requests originating in their internal processes into the agreed upon forms and industry standard transactions. Both parties will diligently pursue completing mutually consistent translations within six (6) months after the Effective Date of this Agreement and proceed to systems readiness testing that will result in a fully operational interface for ordering UNEs within one (1) year from the Effective Date of this Agreement. Unless otherwise mutually agreed because of time, cost and compatibility with existing systems, AT&T and GTE agree to adapt the interface based upon evolving industry standards. Adaptations to SOSC implementation guidelines, to the extent relevant to local service ordering and provisioning for customer specific UNEs, will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule. Changes to ATIS guidelines and standards relevant to Ordering and Provisioning Information Exchange will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule, but in no case will

the time for adoption, including testing of the changes introduced, extend more than 6 to 12 months beyond the date of initial closure by the relevant ATIS committee or subcommittee. This preceding target implementation obligation may be modified by mutual agreement.

2.3 Treatment of Subsequent/Supplemental Transactions

A mutually acceptable treatment of subsequent/supplemental transactions will be adopted by both parties until the SOSC explicitly clarifies the information exchanges associated with supplementing orders. AT&T and GTE will agree upon a mutually acceptable time frame for adapting their internal systems to accommodate the OBF clarifications.

3. MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- 3.1 Maintenance and repair information exchange will be transmitted over the same interface according to the same content definition both for resold GTE retail local services and for services AT&T provides using a GTE UNE or combinations of GTE UNEs. AT&T and GTE will, for the purpose of exchanging fault management information, establish an electronic bonding interface, based upon ANSI standards T1.227-1995 and T1.228-1995, and Electronic Communication Implementation Committee (ECIC) Trouble Report Format Definition (TRFD) Number 1 as defined in ECIC documents ECIC/TRA/95-003, and all standards referenced within those documents. The parties will use and acknowledge functions currently implemented for reporting access circuit troubles. These functions include Enter Trouble, Request Trouble Report Status, Add Trouble Information, Modify Trouble Report Attributes, Trouble Report Attribute Value Change Notification and Cancel Trouble Report, all of which are fully explained in clauses 6 and 9 of ANSI T1.228-1995.

- 3.2 AT&T and GTE will exchange requests over a mutually agreeable X.25 network or, if both AT&T's and GTE's platforms are capable, a mutually agreeable TCP/IP based network may be employed. AT&T and GTE will translate maintenance requests or responses originating in their internal processes into the agreed upon attributes and elements. Both parties will diligently pursue completing mutually consistent translations within six (6) months after the Effective Date of this Agreement and proceed to systems readiness testing that will result in a fully operational interface for local service delivery within one (1) year after the Effective Date of this Agreement. AT&T and GTE agree to adapt the interface based upon evolving industry standards. Changes to ATIS guidelines and standards relevant to Local Service Maintenance will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule, but in no case will the time for adoption, including testing of the changes introduced, extend more than 6 to 12 months beyond the date of initial closure by the relevant ATIS committee or subcommittee. This preceding target implementation obligation may be modified by mutual agreement.

4. LOCAL ACCOUNT MAINTENANCE

- 4.1 When acting as the switch provider for AT&T, where AT&T either is reselling retail services of GTE or employing UNEs to provide local service, GTE will notify AT&T whenever the local service customer transfers service from AT&T to another local service provider. GTE will provide this notification via a mutually agreeable 4 digit Local Use Transaction Code Status Indicator (TCSI) that will indicate the retail customer is terminating local service with AT&T. GTE will transmit the notification, via a mutually agreeable file transfer network (e.g., the Network Data Mover Network) and file transfer protocol, within twenty-four (24) hours of GTE provisioning the switch. The TCSI, sent by GTE will be in the 960 byte industry standard CARE record format.
- 4.2 GTE will accept account changes that affect only the pre-subscribed intraLATA and/or interLATA toll provider (PIC) through a local service order. Additionally, AT&T and GTE will work together diligently to develop industry standard CARE processes to process account changes.
- 4.3 In addition, GTE will reject, via the industry standard CARE Record TCSI Code 3148, any interexchange carrier initiated change of the Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC), where GTE is the switch provider either for the retail local services of GTE that AT&T resells or UNEs of GTE that AT&T employs in providing service.

- 4.4 AT&T and GTE agree to adapt the interface based upon evolving industry standards. Changes to ATIS guidelines and standards relevant to Local Account Maintenance will be implemented based upon a mutually agreeable schedule, but in no case will the time for adoption, including testing of the changes introduced, extend more than 6 to 12 months beyond the date of initial closure by the relevant ATIS committee or subcommittee. This preceding target implementation obligation may be modified by mutual agreement.
- 4.5 Agreement by the Parties to the Local Account Maintenance described above does not, in any way, set a precedent or remove any obligation for the Parties to work toward an industry solution for supporting customer movement between and among other ILECs and CLECs.

5. TESTING AND ACCEPTANCE

AT&T and GTE agree that no interface will be represented as either generally available or as operational until end-to-end integrity and load testing, as agreed to in a Joint Implementation Agreement or other mutually acceptable document are completed to the satisfaction of both Parties. The intent of the end-to-end integrity testing is to establish, through the submission and processing of test scenarios, that transactions agreed to by AT&T and GTE will successfully process, in a timely and accurate manner, through both Parties' support OSS as well as the interfaces. The testing will include the use of mutually agreeable test transactions, designed to represent no less than 95 percent of the transaction types that AT&T and GTE expect to send and receive through the interface undergoing end-to-end testing. In addition, AT&T and GTE will establish either a mutually agreeable testing environment or an audit process sufficient to demonstrate that the interfaces established between AT&T and GTE have the capability and capacity to exchange busy period transaction volumes reasonably projected to occur during the forward-looking twelve month period following implementation of the interface. AT&T will provide mutually agreeable forecast data to GTE for the forward-looking twelve month period, necessary to determine capability and capacity. The test environment or audit process, which ever is utilized, must validate that GTE can accept and process the anticipated busy period load without degradation of overall end-to-end performance of the information exchange delivered to AT&T even when other CLEC transactions are simultaneously processed by GTE.

6. JOINT IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT DEVELOPMENT

AT&T and GTE recognize that this Attachment is not sufficient to fully resolve

all technical and operational details related to the interfaces described. Therefore, AT&T and GTE agree to document the additional technical and operational details in the form of a Joint Implementation Agreement (JIA). Both parties further agree that any technical, operational or implementation issues, once identified at the working team level, may be escalated by the initiative of either Party, thirty days after an issue is identified, to the dispute resolution procedures of Attachment 1 for binding resolution. In addition, AT&T and GTE will document both a topical outline for the JIAs as well as establish a schedule for identifying, discussing, resolving and documenting resolution of issues related to each aspect of the JIA topical outline for each interface discussed in this document. In no event will either end-to-end integrity testing or load testing begin unless the parties agree that for each interface to be tested, the JIA properly documents the intended operation of the interface scheduled for testing. Any issues identified and subsequently resolved through either the end-to-end integrity or load testing processes will be incorporated into the impacted interface JIA within 30 days of issue resolution.