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The Dark Tower Phase II

<314> 432-0756

Proudly Presents

The MCI Telecommunications Glossary

MISP81.TXT

Part I Volume III (O - S)

Typed and edited by Knight Lightning

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- O -

OFFERED TRAFFIC

The number of call attempts in any

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specified period of time.

OFF HOOK

The condition which which results when a telephone handset is lifted from its mounting, allowing the hookswitch to operate.

OFF NETWORK ACCESS LINE (ONAL)

A connection from a private switched service or transmission network accessing the public switched network.

OFF NETWORK CALLING

Telephone calls through a private

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switching system and transmission network

which extend to the public telephone

system.

OFF PREMISES EXTENSION (OPX)

An extension telephone or keyset that is

geographically separated from its

associated PBX.

ON HOOK

The condition which results when a

telephone handset is placed on its

mounting, which causes the hook-switch to

open up its contacts.

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ON NETWORK CALLING

A term used to describe a call that originates and terminates on private network.

OPERATOR ASSISTED CALLS

Non-DDD calls requiring manual intervention.

ORIGINATING OFFICE

The central office that serves the calling party.

OTHER COMMON CARRIER (OCC)

A company which provides long distance

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telephone services, other than AT&T.

OUT-OF-BAND

Any frequency outside the band used for

voice frequencies.

OUT-OF-BAND SIGNALING

Use of a narrow band filters to place the

voice signal on a carrier channel below

3,400 CPS, reserving the 3,400 - 3,700

CPS band for supervisory signals.

OVERBUILD

Adding radio capacity to a

telecommunications network.

OVERFLOW

Switching equipment which operates when

the traffic load exceeds the capacity of

the regular equipment.

- P -

PAD

A non-adjustable resistance network used

to insert transmission loss into a

circuit.

PHASE JITTER

(See JITTER.)

POINT-TO-POINT

A communications circuit between two terminations which does not connect with a public telephone system.

POLLING

A process by which a computer interrogates the "readiness to transmit" status outlying terminals.

PORT

(See COMPUTER PORT.)

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POSTAL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH (PTT) Foreign government agencies responsible
for regulating communications.

PRIMARY AREA A customer's local telephone calling
area.

PRIMARY ROUTING POINT The switch designated as the control
point for a longhaul telephone call.

PRIVATE AUTOMATIC BRANCH EXCHANGE/ A switching system that provides internal

PRIVATE BRANCH EXCHANGE (PABX/PBX) telephone communications between stations

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located on a customer's premises as well as between these stations and public or private telephone networks.

PRIVATE LINE

A dedicated communications path for use between specific points.

PRIVATE LINE SERVICE

Subscribers have dedicated, usually full-time communications facilities.

Services can range from standard

communications lines to highly

sophisticated unique arrangements

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tailored to a customer need. Channels
may be established between two points,
(e.g., tie together several customer
PABX's linking various locations.)

Subscribers may elect to purchase
transmission facilities and create
their own privately owned network.

PRIVATE USE NETWORK

Two or more private line channels
contracted for by a customer and
restricted for use by the customer only.

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PROGRAMMABLE READ ONLY MEMORY (PROM) Memory which is electrically programmed by the equipment manufacturer into a computer and can only be changed with special equipment which erases the previous program. Unaffected by power loss.

PROGRAMMED SPEED DIALING Synonym: Abbreviated Dialing.

PUBLIC SWITCHED NETWORK (PSN) The nationwide network maintained by AT&T and the independent telephone companies which provide nationwide, unrestricted

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telephone service.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION (PUC)/

The state commissions regulating

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC)

intrastate communications.

PULSE CODE MODULATION (PCM)

The conversion of an analog signal to a

digital one through rapid sampling of the

signal amplitude (minimum 7,000 samples

per second). Provides undistorted

transmission, even in the presence of

noise.

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PULSE-LINK REPEATER

Connects one E&M signaling circuit

directly to another.

PUSH BUTTON DIALING

Synonym: Dual Tone Multi-Frequency.

- Q -

QUEUE

A temporary delay in providing service

caused by the inability of the system

provided to handle the number of messages

or calls attempted.

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- R -

RADIO COMMON CARRIER (RCC)

A communications common carrier that

provides radio paging and mobile

telephone services to the public.

RANDAM ACCESS MEMORY (RAM)

That portion of a computer's memory which

can be accessed non-sequentially and,

therefore, is considered the "working

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memory."

RATE CENTER

A specified geographic location used by the telephone company to determine interchange mileage for rate.determination purposes.

READ ONLY MEMORY (ROM)

That portion of a computer's memory which is programmed electrically by the manufacturer, is unchangeable, and is unaffected by a power loss.

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REDUNDANCY

Duplicate equipment that is provided to minimize the effect of failures or equipment breakdowns.

REGENERATION

The process of receiving distorted signal pulses and from them recreating new pulses at the correct repetition rate, pulse amplitude, and pulse width.

REGIONAL OPERATING COMPANY (ROC)

There are currently 7 ROC's which own 22 BOC's.

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RE-HOMING

A major network change which involves moving customer services from one switching center to another and establishing the necessary trunking facilities to do so.

REMOTE ACCESS

The ability of transmission points to gain access to a computer which is at a different location.

REPEATER

An electronic device used to amplify signals which have become too weak.

REPEATING COIL

The telephone industry's term for a voice-frequency transformer.

RESELLER

A business which buys services from one business at a bulk rate and sells portions of those services to multiple users.

RESTORATION

The re-establishment of service by rerouting, substitution of component parts, or as otherwise determined.

RETARD COIL

A coil having a large inductance which

retards sudden changes of the current

flowing through its winding.

RINGBACK TONE

Synonym: Audible Ringing Tone.

RINGDOWN

A circuit or a method of signaling where

the incoming signal is actuated by

alternating current over the circuit.

ROTARY DIAL

A rotary mechanism having a ten-hole

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finger wheel which when wound up and released causes pulsing contacts to interrupt the line current and operate the central office selecting equipment in accordance with the digit dialed.

ROUTE GUIDE

A map showing how a customer's calls are routed.

ROUTE OPTIMIZATION

Synonym: Least Cost Routing.

ROTARY HUNT

An arrangement which allows calls placed

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to seek out an ideal circuit in a pre-

arranged multi-circuit group and find the

next open line to establish a through

circuit.

- S -

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

A vehicle in geosynchronous orbit with

the Earth which contains a source of

energy, such as solar cells, and

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amplifies the signals it receives
before transmitting it back to Earth.

SECONDARY CARRIER

Customer can override their primary
carrier selection on a call by call basis
and select other IC's to carry their long
distance traffic in equal access areas.

SELECTIVE CALLING

The ability of a transmitting station to
specify by the use of assigned codes
which of several stations is to receive a
message.

SERVICE

A group of circuits which terminate at the same location and provide the same capabilities.

SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT RECORD

A list of equipment billed to customer by type, quantity, monthly charge, location, and billing dates.

SF SIGNALING (SINGLE-FREQUENCY)

A signaling system which uses a 2,600 Hz in-band signal on the voice path. The tone is on in the idle condition, pulsed

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for dialing, and off when the circuits is

in use.

SHORT HAUL

Circuits designated for use over

distances of 10 - 200 miles.

SIGNALING

A procedure for indicating to the

receiving end of a communications circuit

that data is to be transmitted

SIGNALING CONVERTER

A device with input and output signals

that contain the same information but

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employ different electrical systems for transmitting that information. Used at the terminal of a trunk to convert the equipment signals to the system used on the trunk. Examples are: (1) ring down to SF, (b) E&M to SF.

SIGNALING, IN-BAND

A type of signaling using an AC signal (usually a 2,600 Hz) within the normal voice band. This signal can be transmitted from and end to end of a long voice circuit without any intermediate

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signaling equipment. Since the signaling
is audible, the signaling equipment must
be arranged for "tone on when idle"
operation.

SIMPLEX (SX) SIGNALING

A signaling path over a dry talking
circuit which uses the two sides of the
circuit in parallel, derived by
connecting the midpoints of repeating
coils or retardation coils which are
across the circuit.

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SINGLE SIDEBAND RADIO (SSB)

A form of amplitude modulation of a radio signal in which only one of the two sidebands is transmitted. Either of the two sidebands may be transmitted, and the carrier may be transmitted, reduced or suppressed.

SINGING

A continued whistle or howl in an amplified telephone circuit. It occurs when the sum of the repeater gain exceeds the sum of the circuit losses.

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SOFTWARE

(1) Any of the routines, programs, and instructions required to use computers.

(2) A written statement of the procedures to be used and the format of the data at every step.

SPECIAL GRADE NETWORK TRUNK

A trunk specially conditioned by providing amplitude and delay equalization for the purpose of handling special services such as medium-speed data (600 to 2400 BPS).

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SPECIALIZED COMMON CARRIER

A new type of common carrier specializing

in providing transmission facilities.

(e.g., Microwave Communication Inc.(MCI),

Southern Pacific Communication Co.(SPC),

and the satellite communication companies

like Satellite Business System (SBS).)

SPEED NUMBER

A one, three, or four digit number that

replaces a seven or ten digit telephone

X]

number. These numbers are programmed

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Select (G/S/T/?/H/*/1-20, Last=9) :