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The Dark Tower Phase II

<314> 432-0756

Proudly Presents

The MCI Telecommunications Glossary

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Part I Volume III (0 - S)

Typed and edited by Knight Lightning

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- 0 -

OFFERED TRAFFIC

The number of call attempts in any

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specified period of time.

OFF HOOK

The condition 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.

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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.

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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 of outlying terminals.

PART

(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.

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 COMMISION (PUC)/

The state commisions regulating

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISION (PSC)

intrastate communications.

PULSE CODE MODULATION (PCM)

The conversation 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.

RANDOM 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."

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.

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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.

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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.

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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 trans-

mitted from end to end of a long

voice circuit without any intermediate

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signaling equipment. Since the signaling

is audibile, 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 satelite 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) :