

DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

101XXX CALLING. Equal Access codes that connect the calling party to a particular long distance (interexchange) carrier. Each interexchange carrier has a unique three digit code. These equal access codes are not dialed from the Government installation. Government official users use the GSA FTS2000 network for direct distance dialing. Unofficial calls from users that would generate a toll charge, will originate calls using personal calling card access numbers for personal billing. Toll calls in the local area not otherwise covered by official direct distance dialing networks will be originated by the primary carrier selected by the Communications-Computer Systems Officer (CSO)

3002 GRADE CHANNEL. A voice grade channel which can support full duplex communications.

A and B SIGNALING. Digital Signaling Level 1 (DS-1) format occurs when one bit is robbed from the sixth frame and users alternate mark inversion (AMI) encoding. The bits are used to carry call setup and supervision information between connected switching systems. This standard framing is being replaced by extended superframing (ESF) and B8ZS encoding that permit a 64 Kbps clear channel vice 56 Kbps for AMI coding.

ABBREVIATED DIALING. A feature of some telephone switches that permits users to establish calls by entering fewer digits than would otherwise be required. Abbreviated dialing directories are pre-defined, though usually changeable by the user. Also known as speed dialing.

ACCEPTANCE REPORT. An official notification that the US Government has accepted pecuniary liability for a lease service or equipment as meeting all technical and operational requirements. Also call completion reports.

ACCESS AREA. A specific calling area containing those customers or carriers for access by one or more central office exchanges. See extended area of service (EAS).

ACCESS CHARGE. A tariff imposed on customers or carriers for access to the telephone network.

ACCESS LINE. A commercial telephone line circuit connecting a switched network subscriber directly to a switching center.

ACCESS SIGNALING. Signaling system used by equal access end offices to transmit originating information and address digits to the customer's premises and includes the mean of verifying the receipt of these address digits. Information usually includes identification of the call type, the ten digit telephone number of the calling party and wink supervisory signals.

ACTIVIATION DATE. The date a local communications service is activated.

AGENCY PROCUREMENT REQUEST. A request submitted by the requiring activity to obtain Delegation of Procurement Authority (DPA) to procure service or equipment for which some other agency currently has exclusive authority. The request is submitted to the agency with authority. If approved, this agency will provide the requesting activity with a DPA.

AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL. A modification to an existing contract which is accomplished by the mutual action of the parties. The term is synonymous with contract modification.

ALTERNATE ROUTE. A secondary communications path used to reach a destination if the primary path is unavailable.

ALTERNATE ROUTING. A feature of network switches, especially PBXs, where a call is completed over the circuit routes when the first-choice routes are unavailable, not in service, or occupied.

ALTERNATE USE. An arrangement which permits the use of a circuit for different types of transmission, such as voice, data, facsimile, magnetic tape, etc. Normally, only one type of operation is possible at any one time (alternate use), although simultaneous use is possible in some instances. The use of a circuit exclusively for voice communications, even though both secure and nonsecure voice conversations are passed over the circuit, is not considered alternative use.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH 1956 CONSENT DECREE. A judicial settlement ending the Federal Government's 1949 antitrust suit against AT&T and Western Electric. Among the provisions was a restriction that the Bell System engage only in the manufacture of equipment and the provision of services related to regulated common carrier telecommunications services and those services incidental to the provision of such services.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH 1982 CONSENT DECREE

"DIVESTITURE". A judicial settlement ending the Federal Government's 1974 antitrust suit against AT&T, Bell Labs, and Western Electric. Among the provisions was a restriction agreed to where the divestiture of the local exchange service and access functions of the 22 Bell operating companies as well as the modification of the AT&T 1956 Consent Decree so that the remaining Bell System may enter into unregulated markets (e.g. data processing).

AMPLIFIER. An electric component which boosts the signal strength of an electric transmission. Amplifiers are one-way in dual cable topologies and bi-directional in single-cable configurations.

ANALOG. A transmission mode in which information is encoded on a carrier wave by means of a continuity variable current or voltage level. Analog signals transmitted across long distances require amplifiers to boost the signal level interference. Compare with digital.

ANALOG LINE. A subscriber line that transmits information in analog signal. An analog line carries a single telephone call.

ANNUAL APPROPRIATION. An appropriation which is available for incurring obligations only during fiscal year specified in the appropriations act.

ANSWER SUPERVISION. Off-hook indication when the called party has answered that is returned to the originating switch. This triggers and starts billing mechanisms at the originating switch for the calling party (or in the case of 800 numbers to the called party). Calling parties are not billed for unanswered calls.

APPROVAL. The unified command concurrence in the utilization of the communication resources in its area of responsibility to fulfill the requirement of another unified or specified command, military department, or DOD agency.

AREA CODE RESTRICTION. A switch feature which identifies the three digit numbering plan (NPA) codes and either allows or denies access to those area codes.

ASYNCHRONOUS. A typical framing of a data stream delineated by start and stop bits arranged in an identifiable pattern that the transmission equipment and software can detect. Loss of framing causes loss of information.

ASYNCHRONOUS TRANSFER MODE (ATM). A high bandwidth technology (OC-1/3) for transferring information over a digital communication network. A multiplexed information transfer and switching method in which information is organized into a fixed length of 53 octet cells and transmitted according to each application's need. The ATM system can typically aggregate multiple types of data streams of very different functions, e.g., DS-1, OC-1, Ethernet and Fiber Distributed Data Interface (FDDI).

AUTOMATED ATTENDANT. Service provided by a voice processing system which performs attendant functions such as answering calls, extended calls, and may be associated with providing voice mail service. These systems provide voice prompts to which users respond via the DTMF/numeric keypads on their telephone sets.

AUTOMATED DTA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (ADPE). General-purpose commercially available mass-produced automatic data processing components, and the equipment systems created from them, regardless of use, size, capacity, or price, that are designed to be applied to the solution of processing of a variety of problems or application and are not specifically designed (not configured) for any specific application. ADPE includes digital, analog, or hybrid computer equipment, auxiliary or accessory equipment, such as plotters, communication terminals, tape cleaners, tape testers, data conversion equipment, source data automation recording equipment (optical character recognition devices, paper tape typewriters, and other data acquisition devices), used in support of digital, analog, or hybrid computer equipment, either cable connected, wire connected, or self-standing and selected or acquired either with a computer, or separately; and punched card accounting machines (PCAM) used in conjunction with, or independently of, digital, analog, or hybrid computers.

AUTOMATIC CALLING UNIT (ACU). A dialing device supplied by the communications common carriers which permits a business machine to automatically dial calls over the communications network.

AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION (ANI). The billing number of the calling party's assigned directory number in a telephone call. ANI identifies and transmits to the connecting switching system the originating station directory number. This feature is used in automated message accounting schemes as well as E911 systems to identify the calling party.

BANDWIDTH-ON-DEMAND. A service which can devote more network resources when requested to an application needing to transport data at a higher throughput. The demand may signal requested bandwidth provisioning. Bandwidth-on-demand is billed only for the time used and perhaps for the data rate used. Bandwidth-on-demand

examples using dial-up or leased circuits for the following applications:
videoconference, telemetry info transfer, LAN interconnecting, disaster recovery, etc.

BANDWIDTH TRANSPORT ALLOCATION. Provisioning of additional transport channel bandwidth capability to meet short term transmission requirements. For instance, within a DS-1 allocating more DS-0 for peak usage periods.

BASE COMMUNICATIONS. Facilities, equipment, and services used to communicate within the confines of post, camp, station, base, headquarters or federal buildings to include local interconnect trunks to the nearest commercial central office providing service to the local serving area. It includes off-premise activity interconnections that are located within the geographical boundary served by the connecting commercial central office. See also local service, exchange component, and long-haul service.

BASIC AGREEMENT. See General Contract Basic Agreement.

BASIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES. The FCC definition of common carrier transmission services which only result in the movement of information and do not involve the manipulation or restructuring of such information. See Enhanced Telecommunications Service.

BASIC TERMINATION CHARGE (BTC). Settlement charges paid as a result of early termination of basic services of facilities.

BASIC TERMINATION LIABILITY (BTL). A contractually established dollar value by which the Government agrees to pay settlement costs to a commercial entity if the Government cancels prior to a mutually established date. This liability ensures the commercial entity that is can recoup its expenditures for such non-recoverable costs as construction required to support the contract.

B-CHANNEL. Bearer channel that can transmit digital information at 64 Kbps, usually for ISDN basic and primary rate.

BELL OPERATING COMPANY (BOC). The 22 formerly Bell system owned telephone companies which presently provide local and intraSTATE telephone services.

BID. An offer submitted in response to a formally advertised invitation for bids, to buy from or furnish supplies or services to the Government under certain prescribed conditions at a stated or determined price.

BIDDERS LIST. A listing of communications companies authorized to provide communications service or equipment to the Government.

BIT ERROR RATE. The ratio of bit received in error over a digital transmission medium to a specific number of bits received.

BROADCAST. To send information to two or more receiving devices simultaneously over telephone networks, data networks, voice mail, etc.

BUDGET. A planned program for a fiscal period in terms of (a) estimated costs, obligations, and expenditures, (b) source of funds for financing, including reimbursements anticipated and other resources to be applied, and (c) explanatory and workload data on the projected program and activities.

BUDGET ESTIMATE. The Air Force's statement of the funding required to fund the program in the first year of the Program Objective Memorandum (POM)>

BUDGET YEAR/FISCAL YEAR. The 12-month period, beginning 1 Oct and ending 30 Sep.

BUFFER. A storage device used to compensate for a difference in rate of flow of data or time of occurrence of events, when transmitting data from one device to another.

BUNDLED. Combining several tariffed service charges under a signal charge.

BUSINESS EVALUATION. A measuring of a business proposal against the business requirements of the procurement data and rating the proposal accordingly.

BUSINESS SUBSCRIBER LINE. A central office subscriber line terminated to a telephone set, FAX, modem, etc., to provide switch network access for a single user.

CALL DETAIL RECORDING (CDR). A feature of private branch exchanges (PBXs) where each phone call is logged, typically by time and charges, and retrievable by the network operator for cost charging by the department. Also called Station Message Detailed Recording (SMDR).

CARRIER. An electromagnetic transmission signal which is modulated to support data transmission. A wave suitable for modulation by an information-bearing signal to be transmitted over a communications system.

CENTRAL OFFICE. The place where communications common carriers terminate customer lines and locate the equipment which interconnects those lines.

CENTREX. A type of private branch exchange service in which incoming calls can be dialed direct to any extension without an operator's assistance. Outgoing and intercom calls are dialed direct by the extension users. It is the partitioning of a Local Exchange carriers switch to provide intra-premise dialing with an abbreviated dialing plan and trunking to external networks.

CENTREX LINE. A centrex line, similar to subscriber line, is a communications path connecting the line side of a local exchange centrex switch with an end user's premise equipment.

CHANNEL. In communications, a physical or logical path allowing the transmission of information—the path connecting a data source and a data sink, or receiver.

CHANNEL BANK. Equipment, typically in a telephone central office, that performs multiplexing of lower speed, generally digital, channels into a higher speed composite channel. The channel bank detects and transmits signaling information for each channel, and transmits framing information so that time slots allocated to each channel can be identified by the receiver.

CHANNEL SERVICE UNIT. Component of customer premise equipment used to terminate a digital circuit such as a T-1 facility. The channel service unit typically permits the T-1 (DS-1) to be monitored and provides loop-back for testing and isolation.

CIRCUIT. A means of one or two-way communications between two points, comprising associated "go" and "return" channel.

CIRCUIT EXTENSION. To extend a circuit or circuits beyond the current demarcation point to a customer designated location. The extension may be required to properly terminate an engineered data transmission circuit.

CIRCUIT, 2-WIRE. Communication path using the same channel for transmission direction.

CIRCUIT, 4-WIRE. Communication path using one channel for each transmission direction.

CLASSIFIED CONTRACT. Any contract that requires or will require access to classified information by the contractor or his employees in the performance of the contract. A contract may be a classified contract even though the contract document is not classified.

CLASSIFIED PROCUREMENT. A procurement that requires access to classified information (confidential, secret, or top secret) either to submit a bid or proposal, or perform the contract.

CLEAR CHANNEL. A 64 Kpbs channel in which all data bits are used for transmission. No bits are taken for signaling.

CLOCKING. A reference source of timing for a machine or system.

CODE RESTRICTION. A feature in which selected station lines are denied completion of dialed outgoing exchange network calls to selected exchange and area codes.

COMMERCE BUSINESS DAILY. A daily list of US Government procurement invitations, subcontracting leads, contracts awarded, sale of surplus property, and foreign business opportunities published by the Department of Commerce.

COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS. The circuits, services, equipment, and facilities furnished by the private sector regulated and non regulated entities or foreign communications entities that satisfy telecommunications requirements.

COMMERCIAL SUBSCRIBER LINE. A subscriber line serving directly from the contractor's central office switch. A central office subscriber line terminated to a telephone set, FAX, modem, etc., to provide switch network access for single user.

COMMITMENT. An accounting procedure to reserve funds for something to be bought in the near future based on a firm order or request, but prior to letting of the contract/lease.

COMMON CARRIER (CC). A private company, subject to Government regulated (FCC and state), which furnishes the general public with telecommunications services, i.e., a telephone or satellite communication company.

COMMON-USER NETWORK. A system or circuits of channels allocated to furnish communication paths between switching centers to provide communication service on a

common basis to all connected stations or subscribers. It is sometimes described as a general purpose network.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMON CARRIER. Any person, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental authority, or corporation authorized or franchised by the Federal Communications Company (FCC) or other appropriate governmental regulatory authority to provide communications services to the general public. Also included are foreign government Posts-Telegraph Telephone (PTT) and other organizations that provide telecommunications service to the general public in foreign countries.

COMMUNICATIONS-COMPUTER SYSTEMS OFFICER(CSO). The Government representative at the installation responsible for communications activities. Coordination for the placement, removal, expansion, or change-out of equipment shall be the CSO. For the purposes of this contract activity, references to the CSO shall be taken to mean that the Contractor shall coordinate primarily with the CSO's designated representative.

COMMUNICATIONS LINE. A physical or logical connection which links together resource stations on a communications network. Sometimes referred to as a line.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE. Circuits, equipment, services, and other telecommunications facilities procured by EIG/PK and DECCO.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE AUTHORIZATION (CSA). An authorization to obtain communications services issued against either a basic agreement or a contract that constitutes a binding contractual obligation. The DD Form 428 CSA, its electronic data processing substitute, or other form prescribed by the departments or agencies may be used for this purpose.

COMPETITION IN CONTRACTING ACT (CICA). The policies and procedures used to promote full and open competition by the federal government in the acquisition process.

CONDITIONING. Extra-cost options that users may apply to leased, or dedicated, voice-grade 3002-type, phone company data circuits, so that line impedance are carefully balanced. This generally allows for higher quality and/or higher speed data transmission. In increasing order of resultant line quality, and cost, conditioning may be C1, C2, C4, or D1 which allows improved line performance with regard to frequency response and delay distortion.

CONTRACT. An agreement, enforceable by law, between two or more competent parties, to do something not prohibited by law, for a legal consideration. Any type of agreement or order for the procurement of supplies and services. It includes award and preliminary notice of award, contract of a fixed price, cost, cost-plus-a-fixed fee, or incentive type; contract providing for the issuance of job orders, task orders, or task letters thereunder letter contract, letter of intent; and purchase orders. It also includes supplemental agreements and modifications with respect to any of the foregoing.

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION. The management of all facets of assigned contracts to assure that the contractor's total performance is in accordance with his contracted commitments and that the obligations of the government are fulfilled. This management is conducted within the frame work of delegated responsibility and authority and includes support of buying organizations.

CONTRACT AWARD. The date of execution of the contract by both parties. The date that the contractor commences work unless authorized in advance by the contracting officer.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATED. Contract obtained by direct agreement with a contractor, without formal advertising for bids, but soliciting proposals from qualified sources.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATOR. The individual who negotiates the contract pricing , term, and conditions.

CONTRACTING OFFICER. The individual with the authority to enter into, administer, and/or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings on behalf of the Government.

CONTRACTING OFFICER REPRESENTATIVE (COR). An individual who is the government's authorized agent in dealing with the contractor. This individual has authority to negotiate and award contracts on behalf of the government and to make changes and modifications to the contract.

CONTRACTING OFFICER TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE (COTR). The individual who is responsible for the technical direction and evaluation of the contractor's proposal.

CUSTOMER. The agency or organization who is responsible for the technical direction and evaluation of the contractor's performance.

CUSTOMER PREMISE EQUIPMENT (CPE). In telephony, equipment which interfaces to the telephone network and physically resides at the user's location.

CUSTOMER SERVICE RECORD (CSR). A document which provides the Government a record of detailed information for local communications circuits being served by the Contractor.

CUTOVER. Physical activation of the initial local communications service requirements as specified in the contract.

DATA. Any representative, such as characters or analog quantities, to which meaning might be assigned.

DATA CIRCUIT. A communications facility which allows transmission of data in either direction. Data may be in the form of analog or digital signals.

DATA COMMUNICATION. The electronic transmission, reception, and validation of data. Data transfer between functional units over connections according to a protocol.

DATA CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT. Communications data terminating equipment which allows data transmission to be properly presented to the end equipment. Data may be in the form on analog or digital signals.

DATA LINK. A general term which refers to any physical means for carrying data from one resource station to another. Examples are channels, communications lines, communications loops, and telephone lines.

DATA TRANSMISSION. The act of sending data from one point on a communications network to another.

D-CHANNEL. A data channel that is used for call setup and user data for ISDN. Common to ISDN lines, the D-channel operates at 16 Kbps for BRI and 64 Kbps for PRI.

DEDICATED CIRCUIT. A circuit designated for the specific use of one or more users.

DEDICATED SERVICE. Service established to support specific users and functions. An example of the is found in the most alerting systems where only specified users have access to the system.

DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEM AGENCY (DISA). Department of Defense organization chartered to provide military site-to-site essential and routine communications.

DEGRADATION. A condition in which the system continues to operate, but at a reduced level of service. Unavailability of major equipment subsystems or components is the usual cause.

DELEGATION OR PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY (DPA). A written document obtained from the *General Services Administration (GSA)* authorizing the agency to conduct the procurement. It will include any specific conditions which must be met.

DELIVERY ORDER. A DD Form 1155 used without dollar limitation for ordering under indefinite delivery contracts.

DEMARICATION. A point, position, or location (building, room, floor, area, etc.) intended to provide a formal termination of a transmission facility, typically designated to be a patch or cross connect panel or a terminal block. The place where the Contractor's responsibility ends and the Government's responsibility begins. The demarcation serves to designate the responsibility limit for a transmission system or circuit beyond which maintenance or activation becomes the responsibility of another service or transmission carrier.

DEMARICATION EXTENSION. To extend a circuit or circuits beyond the current demarcation point to a customer designated location. The extension may be required to properly terminate an engineered data transmission circuit.

DIAL CENTRAL OFFICE. The telephone exchange on a Government installation regardless of the size of the switching system.

DIGITAL. A transmission mode in which information is encoded on a carrier wave by means of voltage or current levels which exist in discrete states, in binary implementations, two such states exist. Long distance digital transmissions require the use of repeaters to regenerate data signals as they weaken due to signal losses associated with noise, radiation, and interference. Compare to analog.

DIGITAL LINE. A subscriber telephone instrument or terminal and line that transmits information using digital signaling and messages to relay call progress or feature instruction operation to the key system or PABX.

DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING (DDD). A service which enables a user to dial long distance (toll) calls directly to telephones outside the user's local service area without operator assistance.

DIRECT INDIAL (DID) NUMBERS. Directory numbers reserved from the local exchange Contractor for use by the customer. Numbers are assigned by the customer as required to the stations homed off of the local PBX. Numbers are usually reserved individually or in blocks. These local exchange direct indial numbers permit the local exchange network to establish and terminate calls to private exchange switching systems owned by customers.

DIRECT INWARD DIAL TRUNKS OR LINES. Indicates the inward originating direction of a trunk call from the serving exchange to the customer's telephone switching equipment without the assistance of an operator to terminate the incoming call to the user.

DIRECT OUTWARD DIAL (DOD) TRUNKS OR LINES. Indicates the outward originating direction of a trunk call from the customer's telephone switching equipment to the serving exchange without the assistance of an operator to originate the outgoing call from the user.

DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE. Access to directory assistance provided services include (1+)411 local directory assistance and long distance directory service to NPA-555-1212.

DIRECTORY NUMBER. An exchange access direct indial number (NPA-NXX-XXXX) assigned or provided to a customer's private automatic branch exchange station line.

DIVERSE ROUTING. An alternate route or back up cable facility to protect the single point of failure.

DIVERSITY. A transmission facility path which provides duplicate or backup equipment and geographically separated transmission paths to immediately take over the function of equipment if it fails, or replaces transmission facilities which have been interrupted to prevent communications disruption.

DOWNTIME. The total time that communications service is unavailable to the customer because of equipment failure or interruption of transmission facilities.

DS-1 (1.544 Mbps). The Digital Signal Level 1 is a digital transmission format in which twenty-four 64 Kbps channels are multiplexed into one 1.544 Mbps T-1 digital

channel. DS-1 with AMI encoding uses a robbed A and B bit signaling format limiting digital transmissions to 56 Kbps. Using the B8ZS coding, 65 Kbps transmission is available.

DS-3 (45 Mbps). The Digital Signal Level 3 is a digital transmission format in which 28 DS-1 digital channels are multiplexed into one 45 Mbps circuit. An example is a high capacity transmission path connecting the trunk side of the serving exchange to the trunk side of the local PBX utilizing the DS-3 transmission format.

DSX-1/3. Digital cross connect and path panel to which DS-1 or DS-2 (electrical) circuits are terminated which permits permanent cross connections or temporary cross connects by patch cords and plugs.

DUAL TONE MULTIFREQUENCY (DTMF) SIGNALING. Signaling format used primarily by telephone stations and PBAXs in which a matrix combination of two frequencies, each from a group of four frequencies, are used to transmit numerical address information.

DUPLEX CIRCUIT. A circuit which permits communications between stations in both directions simultaneously (often called a full-duplex circuit).

DYNAMIC BANDWIDTH ALLOCATION. Lines or trunks which are permanently provisioned but are not used by the customer under normal traffic environments. These circuits would be permanently available to handle temporary overflows of traffic from other existing lines or trunks. These 10 trunks are sufficient of handling normal traffic loads 95% of the time. The other 5% of the time, the PBX experience large increases in traffic which are beyond the bandwidth of the trunks to handle. It is expected that costs incurred for these overflow trunks would be on a usage basis only and not as permanent fee.

E&M SIGNALING. Signaling format in which separate paths are used for signaling and voice transmissions. The M lead transmits ground or battery (idle and seizure, respectively) to the distant end of the circuit, while the E lead receives incoming signals as either a ground or open circuit (seizure or idle, respectively).

ELECTRONIC SWITCHING SYSTEM (EES). A communications switching system which uses solid-state devices and other computer-type equipment and principles. (It operates in millionths of a second and gives customers many necessary services.)

EMERGENCY 911 ASSISTANCE. Access to enhanced 911 services provided by the local city or county emergency services organization. This access is typically by a central automatic message accounting (CAMA) trunk which provides ANI to the connecting central office.

END-TO-END. A term which encompasses all elements of a communication between two end users.

EQUAL ACCESS. The process by which end users are allowed access to the long distance carrier of their choice without the use of touch-tone phones or access numbers. The ability for an end user to choose between any long distance carrier all have access into the LEC system.

EXCHANGE. A defined area, served by the telephone company, within which the carrier furnished service at the exchange rate and under the regulations applicable in that area as prescribed in the carrier's filed tariffs.

EXCHANGE ACCESS. The connection of inter-exchange carriers to the exchange carrier's local telecommunications network.

EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE. A communications path connecting the line side of an exchange switch with an end user's premise equipment. The usage of this line interface is typically larger than the usage of a subscriber line used for business.

EXCHANGE ACCESS TRUNKS. Provides a communications path connecting the trunk side of the serving exchange to the trunk side of the local PBX utilizing wires for both transmission and receiving.

EXCHANGE AREA. The local territory of specific NXX exchanges within which telephone service is provided without extra charge.

EXCHANGE CARRIER. A provider of telecommunications exchange service.

EXCHANGE SERVICE. Telephone service within a geographic area established by a regulated body which provides customers with the ability to originate calls within that local area, receive incoming calls, and obtain access to the message toll network. Under the AT&T 1982 Consent Decree, service provided by a divested Bell operating company which remains within a local access transportation area (LATA).

EXPANDED SERVICES. Those local commercial communications services and circuits that satisfy the Government requirements. Routine, priority, and emergency services will be determined by the CSO.

EXTENDED AREA OF SERVICE (EAS). An arrangement of exchange areas where a customer in one exchange can call a local number in another exchange area that is part of the extended area without paying a toll charge.

FEATURES. Provides, as a minimum but not limited to, the following common optional features for a subscriber line: 3-way calling, automatic call back, call forward, call trace, call waiting, caller ID, last number redial, speed dial.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC). The Federal agency which regulates interstate and transcontinental electronic communications.

FEDERAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS. Regulations which apply to all federal agencies to the extent specified in the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 as amended, or in other law. These regulations apply to procurements made within and outside the United States.

FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE (FSS) CONTRACTS. The Federal Supply Service, General Services Administration, establishes contracts for common-use classes of supplies and services. These contracts are summarized in Federal Supply Schedules which list the contractors and the supplies or services that may be purchased from them. Purchasing offices shall order their requirements for supplies and services covered by these contracts as set forth in Armed Services Procurement Regulations 5-102 and 5-103. Copies of the Federal Supply Schedules and the Federal Supply Schedule Check List (a quarterly publication indicating the status of all Federal Supply Schedules) are distributed by the General Services Administration to all purchasing activities. Copies of the schedules and the checklists and the General Provisions of the Federal Supply Schedule contracts are available from the General Services Administration regional offices listed in Armed Services Procurement Regulation 5-203. Requests for them should be submitted on GSA Form 457A which is also available from the regional offices.

FEDERAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (FTS2001). A General Services Administration (GSA) procured voice and data record telephone network which provides long distance carrier services for all federal agencies.

FINANACIAL MANAGEMENT BOARD (FMB). Chaired by the commander and composed of senior officials of activities. Insures financial programs are valid, balanced, and that all known requirements have been considered.

FINANCIAL WORKING GROUP (FWG). Chaired by the Budget Officer and composed of line and staff personnel. Recommends actions to the FMB.

FISCAL YEAR (FY). The 12 month period which begins 1 Oct and ends 30 Sep of the next year.

FIVE-YEAR DEFENSE PROGRAM (FYDP). A detailed compilation of forces, costs, manpower, procurement, and construction information for the next five years. Maintained at Program Element level. Updated three times a year.

FLAT RATE. A fixed monthly basic service charge with unlimited calling and unlimited usage for local exchange access.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE (FX). In many areas, organizations need to establish communications with telephone numbers which are outside their local calling area. By connecting a location to a remote (foreign) exchange, the equivalent of local service from a distant exchange is provided.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE SERVICE (FEX). A service which connects a customer's telephone to a remote exchange. This service provides the equivalent of local service from the distant exchange.

FRAME RELAY. A data transmission scheme using smaller packets that consist of 1000 or more bits and requires less error checking. Frame relay provides more efficiency in data transfer at high speed over wide area network.

FULL-DUPLEX. A term which refers to simultaneous two-way independent communications. Also see Duplex. Compare to Half-Duplex.

GENERAL CONTRACT/BASIC AGREEMENT. Interchangeable terms which denote the development of written agreements between the government and the commercial entities establishing the conditions under which the business will be conducted, should a CSA for services or equipment be issued against the basic agreement. The general contract/basic agreement does not commit the government to the expenditure of funds. A CSA must also be issued referring the general contract/basic agreement as authority.

GROUND START SUPERVISORY SIGNALING. A type of signaling protocol which provides for the application of ground on the tip side at the point of termination as an initial seizure signal before the application of ringing in the originating direction.

HALF-DUPLEX. A term which refers to non-simultaneous two-way communications. Compare with Full-Duplex.

HIGH CAPACITY DATA SUBSCRIBER LINE (HDSL). Provides DS-1 capacity over copper cable lines with driver equipment to reduce the need for T-1 repeaters or equipment.

HOTLINE. Allows designated telephones to place calls to a predetermined destination by lifting the handset. Not always but generally means the line is not subject to busy or lack of resources tones. Direct line is another term.

IMMEDIATE START SIGNALING. A format in which no start dial protocol is used by either switch. The called switch is expected to be ready to accept incoming digits from the calling switch within a defined time of receipt of the connect seizure.

INQUIRY. A request to a prospective contractor for information on pricing, the contractor's ability and willingness to provide service, and lead-time required to satisfy a telecommunications requirement.

INTEREXCHANGE MILEAGE. Single-channel mileage costs applied to circuits between exchanges within a rate center.

INTEREXCHANGE SERVICE. Telephone service between a point or points located in one exchange area and a point or points in another or multiple exchange areas. Formerly characterized as either intraSTATE or interstate calls, inter-exchange calls under the 1982 AT&T Consent Decree will be intra-LATA or inter-LATA . See Exchange Area.

INTERLATA. Facilities between two separate local access and transportation areas.

INTEROFFICE CHANNELS. Channels between central offices of the same Local Exchange Carrier. Users may extent these channels to their premises with local channels.

INTERSTATE. Between two states.

INTRALATA. Facilities within the same local access transportation area.

INTRASTATE. Within the same state.

INWARD BOUND WIDE AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES (IN-WATS).

Toll free to the user and paid by the organization which acquires the service for long distance toll calling into their organization.

INTEGRATED SERVICES DIGITAL NETWORK (ISDN). Standardized operating parameters and interfaces for networks to allow a variety of mixed digital transmission services to be accommodated, i.e., voice, data, or video. Access channels normally include basic 14.4 Kbps and primary rate 1.544 and 2.048 Mbps.

LANGUAGE ID. A common language name assigned to a line, trunk, trunk group, or a transport service circuit.

LATA. Local Access Transport Area.

LINES. Physical circuits established as communications paths which provide two-way communications between users.

LINK. A circuit, channel or path from one network node to another.

LOCAL AREA NETWORK (LAN). A facility for high volume data transmission, functioning over a moderately-sized geographic area such as a warehouse, single office building, or campus. It is used as a cable-based backbone for connecting a number of communications devices such as computers, terminals, and other peripherals. Typically, a LAN interconnects equipment performing different functions and using different protocols in a structured manner.

LOCAL CHANNEL. Channels furnished within a LATA under private line tariffs that connect LEC central offices to a customer premises located outside the central office that connect two such customers premises. A local channel is a dedicated circuit between two or more points.

LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIER (LEC). See Common Carrier and Communications Common Carrier.

LOCAL LOOP. A communications channel connecting two or more user's customer premises through the local exchange carriers central office.

LOCAL MEASURED SERVICE. A method of pricing local telephone services based on the number, duration, time-of-day, and distance of calls within the local exchange area instead of an all-inclusive flat rate.

LOCAL SERVICE. A type of localized calling whereby a subscriber can complete calls from their station to other stations within a specified area without incurring toll charges.

LONG DISTANCE SERVICE. See message toll service (MTS).

LONG HAUL SERVICE. Communications service not classified by DISA as base communications. Generally used within the military community to distinguish from message toll service, which is considered a base communications service. When used in the civilian community, generally interchangeable with message toll service and private line service. See also base communications.

LOOP. In telephone systems, a pair of wires from a central office to the subscribers telephone.

LOOP START SIGNALING. A signaling format which indicates a request for service condition between an analog phone set operation and a switching system or between switching systems by closing the circuit and allowing a DC current to flow.

MAIN DISTRIBUTION FRAME (MDF). A distribution frame, on one part of which terminate the permanent outside lines entering the central office and communications office building and on another part of which terminate the subscriber line multiple cabling, trunk cabling, etc., used for associating any outside line with any desired terminal in such a multiple or with any other outside line.

MAINTENANCE SERVICE CHARGE. A charge assessed as a result of commercial telephone company personnel responding to a trouble call and finding that the actual trouble is within either the customer provided facilities or the facilities of another commercial entity.

MAINTENANCE TESTING. The testing provides a measure of quality check on the connecting facilities. Tests typically include net loss, bit error rate, echo return loss, supervision signaling, etc.

MEANTIME BETWEEN FAILURE (MTBF). The average length of time for which exchange services work without failures.

MEANTIME BETWEEN REPAIR (MTBR). The average time to repair interruption in exchange services.

MESSAGE TOLL SERVICE (MTS). The furnishing of facilities for telephone communications between telephones in different local service areas in accordance with the telco's tariff. The toll service charges are in payment for all services between the calling and called telephone.

MILITARY INTERDEPARTMENTAL PURCHASE REQUEST (MIPR). A funding requisition used to purchase service, materials, and/or supplies from another military department.

MODIFIED FINAL JUDGEMENT (MFJ). See AT&T 1982 Consent Decree.

NATURAL MONOPOLY. A market situation in which it is considered to be more efficient and economical for a product or service to be provided by a single firm under regulation, than by two or more competing firms. The provision of telecommunications service was originally considered to be a natural monopoly market situation by many regulators.

NEGOTIATION. The term, when applied to purchases and contracts, refers to purchases and contracts without formal advertising. Under negotiated contracts, the lowest offeror does not necessarily receive the award since technical proposal, price, and other factors are considered in the selection of a contractor.

NETWORK. A series of points interconnected by communications channels, the switched telephone network is the network of the telephone lines normally used for dialed telephone calls. A private line network is a network of communications channels confined to the use of one customer.

NETWORK-OUTWARD DIALING (NOD). Permits a PABX user to originate routine precedence calls within his number plan area without the assistance of the PABX attendant. Priority and above precedence calls and calls outside the number plan area can only be originated by the PABX attendant.

NON-LISTED DIRECTORY NUMBER. A user phone number which is not listed in the local telephone directory, but can be given to the public.

NON-PUBLISHED DIRECTORY NUMBER. A non-listed directory number which will not be published or given in any means, with the exception of the state and/or federal regulations and policies requirements.

NON RECURRING CHARGES (NRC). The non recurring charge for installation or relocation of the associated local services and equipment.

NON REGULATED CONTRACTOR. An entity other than a common carrier that offers communications facilities, services, or equipment for lease or purchase and is not regulated by a state or federal body.

NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN (NANP). A destination code scheme whereby each station has a unique address defined by a 10 digit code. The code consists of a 3-digit NPA code and a 7-digit telephone directory number consisting of a 3-digit central office exchange (NXX) and a 4-digit station number. The NANP includes a 6-digit equal access code used by subscribers to access an inter-exchange carrier of their choice.

NXX. Central Office exchange code consisting of 3-digits which designate a particular central office OR a block of 10,000 subscriber lines. N is any digit between 2 and 9 and X is any digit between 0 and 9.

OBLIGATION. The estimate or actual amount of the cost of an authorized service or article you have ordered. This estimate is carried in the official accounting record and reserves funds pending completion of the contract. This reservation is required by public law.

OBLIGATION OF THE GOVERNMENT. The total cost of the required service for the minimum contractual period prescribed by a tariff or as defined in the contract; i.e., one months service charge plus non recurring charge, excluding Contingent Termination Liability (CTL) charges.

OFFEROR. A commercial entity, legally licensed to provide communications service, which may respond to contracting officer inquiries or issue unsolicited proposals for service to the Government.

OFFICIAL USER. Government employee or contractor engaged in duties in support of Government business or mission.

OFF-PREMISE EXTENSION. PBX or CENTREX service provided by a base, post, camp, or station to a customer located on a different premise.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (OM) (3400 FUNDS). Provides the financing for day-to-day costs of Air Force activities.

OPERATOR ASSISTANCE. Access to operator provided services including subscriber line verification, barge-in, extension to long distance providers, and assistance with other exchange functions.

ORDER. The executory document for all leased communications services. This is usually the DD Form 1367 Commercial Communications Work Order. The acceptance of the order by the contractor constitutes an obligation on the part of the contractor to provide the services described in the order. Prior to an order being issued there must be an authorization signed by a contracting officer in place, i.e., CSA.

OTHER PROCURMENT FUNDS (3080 FUNDS). Provides for procurement of electronic telecommunications services. Includes replacement of equipment, production, testing technical data, and handbooks procured with end item equipment.

PRIVATE BRANCH EXCHANGE (PBX). A telephone switching system, usually on premises, which services an individual organization and is connected to a public telephone exchange. Also called CBX (Computer-Based Exchange).

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION. Documents dealing with design or performance of services/ equipment and definitions of specific requirements those services or equipment must meet.

POINT OF PRESENCE (POP). A divestiture-related item which refers to the physical access location within a LATA of an interLATA common carrier or the point to which the local telephone company LEC terminates subscribers' service for leased communications services.

POINT TO POINT CIRCUITS. Circuits which connect two points directly, where there are generally no intermediate processing nodes.

PREAWARD SURVEY. Investigation of a firm at the request of a contracting activity to determine its ability to perform under a proposed contract.

PRIMARY DEMARCATION. A main location for local communications circuit termination.

PRIVATE LINE SERVICE. A service provided for the exclusive use of the requesting customer. It includes intrastate, interstate, and international point-to-point and switched circuits with or without associated switching and terminal equipment; obtained on a full-time, part-time, deferred, or standby basis. The circuits may be provided by means of radio, wire, cable, laser, satellite, or any combination thereof.

PROCUREMENT. The obtaining of material or services by purchasing, renting, leasing or other means from sources outside the government. In the supply management sense, it may include the functions of design, standards, determination, specification, writing, selection of supplier, financing, contract management, and other related functions.

PROCUREMENT PLANNING SCHEDULE. A time schedule planned jointly by the contract negotiator and project officer for accomplishing the major milestones in the placement of a contract.

PROPOSAL. The contractor's response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) or formal solicitation document.

PROPOSAL CLOSING DATE. A date and time after which proposals will not be accepted in response to an inquiry. Exceptions to this date can be made by the contracting officer in such instances as inoperative electrical transmission equipment which prevent submission of a proposal prior to expiration of the proposal closing date.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA. Criteria against which proposals are evaluated. Offerors must be advised of the factors and their order of importance and approximate weight in the request for proposal.

PUBLIC LISTING. A listing that consists of an organizations name, address, and telephone number in the local telephone directory. The public listing for the Government is under the Federal Government section, blue pages or similar.

PURCHASE ORDER. Negotiated purchase not to exceed \$25K using DD Form 1155.

QUOTATION. Response to an inquiry wherein the contractor proposes to provide the services described in a solicitation. Quotations will contain the rates to be charged for each element of service and any exception of qualification of the contractor concerning their ability of willingness to provide the service requested or their ability to meet the service date.

RATIFICATION. A method of retroactively authorizing payment for a service or equipment obtained from a contractor without appropriate contractual authority.

RECURRING CHARGE. The monthly charge of a service item.

REGIONAL HOLDING COMPANIES (RHCs). The seven holding companies established to control 20 BOCs, all except Cincinnati Bell and Southern New England Telephone which were permitted to become independent operating companies. These include: Ameritech, Bell Atlantic, Bell South, NYNEX, Pacific Telesis, Southwestern Bell, and U.S. West.

REGULATED SERVICE. Telecommunications services which State Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regulate user cost, type of services, and amount of revenue a telco may make from the service.

REIMBURSEMENT. Amounts received for material or services furnished to another government agency, foreign country, commercial concern, or individual.

RELOCATION. The relocations consists of removal and relocation of a circuit as well as the data/system administration actions necessary to complete the disconnection of a circuit from its original location and the connection of that circuit to the new location.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP). The government's invitation to prospective offerors to submit a proposal based on the terms and conditions set forth in the RFP.

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ). Written quotation may be solicited by Standard Form 18 (Request for Quotation), DD Form 1155 (Order for Supplies or Service/Request for Quotations), approved automated format, or teletype. A quotation submitted to the requesting activity is not to be construed as an offer which can be accepted by the government to form a binding contract. Therefore, issuance by the government of a purchase order pursuant to a contractor's quotation does not constitute a contract, but the purchase order is an offer by the government to the contractor to lease certain goods or services based upon specific terms and conditions.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE (RFS). This is a validated request for communications services or facilities prepared in the Telecommunications Service Request (TSR) format as prescribed in DISAC 310-130-1 and submitted by the MAJCOM, SOA, DRU, to the DISA for implementation.

RESTORATION PRIORITY (RP). A numerical and alphabetical designation developed by the National Communications System (NCS) established a sequence of priorities for the restoration of communications to users of the DCS.

REVERSE BATTERY SIGNALING. A type of loop signaling in which battery and ground are momentarily reversed on the tip and ring of the loop to give an off-hook signal when the called party answers.

ROTARY DIAL. A telephone that sends dial pulses to the telephone switching equipment to establish a connection.

SINGLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT. A contract award accomplished without competition which, except for overriding considerations expressed in the contracting officers determination and findings, could have been awarded competitively.

SECONDARY DEMARCATION. An alternate location for local communications circuit termination.

SERVICE OUTAGE. Any loss of call handling capability. Can be an emergency, catastrophic, serious or routine outage.

SERVING EXCHANGE. An exchange in which a customer's subscriber line and/or PABX trunk terminate.

SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT. A noncompetitive procurement situation which occurs when communications services, equipment, or facilities can be obtained from only one person or firm, i.e., when only one common carrier is franchised, licensed, or otherwise authorized to provide service within a specific geographical area.

SONET. Family of fiber optic transmission bit rates designed to provide the flexibility required to transport many digital signals with different capacities.

SOURCES FOR SOLICITATION. The offerors to whom the Request for Proposal will be sent.

SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION. Construction in support of a requirement when either no facilities exist or those which do exist are not sufficient. When a customer requests services above and beyond what the contractor would normally provide.

STATEMENT OF WORK (SOW). The document which states the technical objectives and requirements of the contract.

STATION MESSAGE DETAILED RECORDING (SMDR). See CDR.

SYSTEMS TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT (STEM-C/STEM-B). Engineering Division of 38 EIG that develops and helps manage the Base Telecommunications Architecture.

T-1. An electrical high-speed communications technology that can carry 24 each 64 Kbps channels simultaneously.

T-3. An electrical high-speed communications technology that can carry 28 each T-1 systems simultaneously.

T-CARRIER A digital transmission facility for voice and data, usually time division multiplexed, based on Pulse Code Modulation encoding techniques. A T-1 operates 1.544 Mbps; T-2 at 6.313 Mbps; T-3 at 44Mbps; and T-4 at 273 Mbps..

TARIFF. A schedule published by a communications common carrier and filed with a public services commission describing the service provided by the carrier, the rates therefore, and the conditions under which they are offered.

TECHNICAL EVALUATION. The measuring of a technical proposal against the technical requirements of the procurement data and rating the proposal accordingly.

TECHNICAL SUFFICIENCY. A condition that exists when services are engineered, configured, installed, conditioned, tested, and maintained on an end-to-end basis in a manner that meets the communications requirements as described in the TSO, service inquiry, Order, or CSA.

TELECOMMUNICATION. Any transmission, emission, or reception of signs, signals, writing, images, and sounds or information of any nature by wire, radio, visual, or other electromagnetic systems.

TERMINATION. The discontinuance of a service subsequent to its operational date.

TIE LINE. A private line communications channel of the type provided by communications common carriers for linking two or more points together.

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS. A quantitative measurement of the total calls and their lengths, expressed in hundred call seconds.

TRANSPORT SERVICE. A generic term which describes the various communication formats used for transmission of telecommunication services.

TRUNK. A dedicated aggregate telephone circuit connecting two switching centers, central office, or data concentration devices.

TWISTED PAIR WIRE. A bundle consisting of one or more pairs of insulated copper wires twisted together to minimize signal attenuation due to radiation losses. Twisted pair wires are a medium widely utilized for local telephone call distribution.

TWO-WAY TRUNK. Indicates the originating direction of a DDD trunk between the serving exchange and the local PBX.

UNIFORM SERVICE ORDERING CODE (USOC). A method by which communications companies standardize, for pricing purposes, various service offerings. This code, when filed in a tariff, will allow the contracting agency to easily identify specific service types and associated costing for the services.

UNREGULATED SERVICES. Telecommunications services which are competitive in nature and are not regulated by a state utilities commission.

UNSOLICITATED PROPOSAL. A proposal which is made to the government by a prospective contractor without prior formal or informal solicitation from a procuring activity.

USER. A person, organization, or other entity, that employs the services provided by a telecommunications system for transfer of information to others.

VIDEO TELECONFERENCING. A telecommunications service transmitting voice and image traffic which provides a conference-like environment for physically distant separated individuals or groups. Real-time, and usually two-way, this technology employs the transmission of digitized video images between two or more locations and requires a wide band transmission facility (a popular choice in satellite communications). Transmission images may be freeze-frame (where a monitor is refreshed every few seconds) or full motion. Bandwidth requirements for two-way conferencing range from 56 Kbps (freeze frame) to T1 rates (1.544 Mbps).

VOICE GRADE CHANNEL. A channel suitable for transmission of speech, digital or analog data, or facsimile, generally with a frequency range of about 300 to 3000 Hz.

VOICE SERVICE. Service procured to provide voice communications for customers. However, voice grade service may also include the capability to process slow speed data service.

WIDE AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (WATS). A service provided by telephone companies which permits a customer by use of an access line to make calls to or receive calls from telephones in a specific zone on a dial basis for a flat monthly charge.

WINK START SIGNALING. An E&M and loop signaling format in which the calling switch initiates a seize connect signal.