

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

#### **2.4.2 MINIMUM PERIODS**

C. (Cont'd)

3. When the minimum billing period has been met, charges for a fraction of a month will be the monthly charge, prorated for the actual number of days service is furnished. For this purpose every month is considered to have 30 days.

Fractions of a cent are carried throughout the computation of the charge. When the computed charge includes a fraction of a cent;

- One-half cent or more is treated as one cent
- Less than one-half cent is disregarded

The charges for service installed, or changes in service which involve a change in charges, will become effective on the date the service is installed or changed.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (CONT'D)**

#### **2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

##### **A. General**

The customer remedies identified in this Price List apply when Private Line Transport Service(s) are provided to the customer on a wholesale basis. When Private Line Transport Service(s) are provided to the customer on a retail basis, the customer remedies are identified in the Minnesota Alternative Form of Regulation (AFOR) Service Quality Agreement.

A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the customer because of a failure of facilities used to furnish service under this Price List. An interruption period starts when an inoperative service is reported to the Company and ends when the service is operative. Reports of an inoperative service will be taken only from the customer of record for that particular service.

##### **B. When a Credit Allowance Applies**

In case of an interruption to any service, allowance for the period of interruption, if not due to the negligence of the customer shall be as follows:

1. For Private Line Transport Services, other than Audio and Video Services, Foreign Central Office, Exchange Service Extensions, Telephone Answering Service, Self-Healing Alternate Route Protection (SHARP) and SHARP Plus protected services, and Self-Healing Network Service (SHNS), no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 4 hours. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 4 hours or more at the rate of 1/180 of the monthly charges, except for Service Guarantee - Repair as specified in B.8., following, for the facility or service for each period of 4 hours or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

The monthly charges used to determine the credit, including Service Guarantee as specified in B.8., following, shall be as follows:

- a. For two-point services, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., two Network Access Channels, Channel Termination, Channel Performance, Transport Mileage and Optional Features and Functions).
- b. For multipoint services, the monthly charge shall be only the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service that is inoperative (i.e., a Network Access Channel and Channel Performance per customer premises, Transport Mileage and Optional Features and Functions).

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

#### **2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

##### **B.1. (Cont'd)**

- c. For multiplexed services, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service that is inoperative. When the facility which is multiplexed or the multiplexer itself is inoperative, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate charges associated with the service (i.e., the Network Access Channel, Channel Performance, Transport Mileage and Optional Features and Functions, including the multiplexer on the facility to the wire center, and the Network Access Channel, Channel Performance, Transport Mileages and Optional Features and Functions on the individual services from the wire center). When the service which rides a channel of the multiplexed facility is inoperative, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service from the wire center to a customer premises (i.e., Network Access Channel, Channel Performance, Transport Mileage and Optional Features and Functions).
2. For Audio and Video Services, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 30 seconds. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 30 seconds or more as follows:
  - a. For two-point services, when monthly rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/8640 of the monthly charges for the service for each period of five (5) minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.
  - b. For two-point services, when daily rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/288 of the daily charges for the service for each period of five (5) minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.
  - c. For multipoint services, when monthly rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/8640 of the monthly charges for each Network Access Channel, Channel Performance, Transport Mileage and Optional Features and Function that are inoperative for each period of five (5) minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

#### **2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

##### **B.2. (Cont'd)**

- d. For multipoint services, when the daily rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the daily rate of 1/288 of the daily charges for each Network Access Channel, Channel Performance, Transport Mileages and Optional Features and Functions that are inoperative for each period of five (5) minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.
  - e. For multipoint services, the credit for the monthly or daily charges includes the charges for the distribution amplifier only when the distribution amplifier is inoperative.
  - f. When two or more interruptions occur during a period of five (5) consecutive minutes, such multiple interruptions shall be considered as one interruption.
3. For Foreign Central Office Service, Exchange Service Extensions, or Telephone Answering Service, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 24 hours. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 24 hours or more at the rate of 1/30 of (a) any applicable monthly rates, (b) the minutes of use charge, or (c) the monthly call allowance charge, for each period of 24 hours or fraction thereof that the interruption continues. However, in no case is a credit allowance applicable when the actual usage charge exceeds the minimum monthly usage charge in any one monthly billing period.
  4. For Private Line Transport Service Self-Healing Alternate Route Protection (SHARP) and SHARP Plus, out of service credit will apply when the customer experiences a service interruption and the system fails to switch to the protected electronics and/or facilities within one second. The protected electronics and/or facilities are between the Company point of termination located on the customer premises and/or the Company Wire Center(s) associated with the SHARP option. Such credit will be based on information provided by the network surveillance system associated with SHARP and SHARP Plus. In the event of a service interruption, one month's billing credit of the protected service will be given. Such credit will apply to the Channel Termination and the SHARP rate element for SHARP protected service. For SHARP Plus protected circuits, credit will apply to the SHARP Plus rate elements, Primary and Alternate Transport Channels, and the SHARP Plus Central Office Termination (where applicable). Credit will be limited to a maximum of one month for an interruption or series of interruptions within that month.

**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

**2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

**B. When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)**

5. For Self-Healing Network Service (SHNS) credit allowance is as specified in 5.2.15, following.
6. The credit allowance(s) for an interruption or for a series of interruptions shall not exceed any applicable monthly rates.
7. For certain Private Line Transport Services any period during which the error performance is below that specified for the service will be considered as an interruption.

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES

#### 2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

##### B. When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

##### 8. Service Guarantee - Repair

The Company assures that all service interruptions for DS1 and DS3 Service, excluding Free-Frame DS1, will be restored within four (4) hours from the time the interruption was reported by the customer. Failure to meet this commitment will result in a credit allowance as set forth in b., following.

##### a. In addition to B.6., preceding, as applicable, the following regulations apply to Service Guarantee - Repair:

- A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the customer because of a failure of a facility component used to furnish service under this Price List or in the event that the protective controls applied by the Company result in the complete loss of service by the customer. An interruption period starts when an inoperative service is reported and ends when the service is operative.
- The interruption period is based on the start and stop time of the service interruption and excludes customer requested monitoring and other times when the service or customer's premises is not available for testing or repair of the service.
- The credit allowance for an interruption or a series of interruptions shall not exceed any applicable monthly charges for the service interrupted in any one monthly billing period, as determined in B.1., preceding.

##### b. Service Guarantee - Repair Credit

	<b>USOC</b>	<b>CREDIT</b>
DS1 Service		
• 4 hours up to but not including 8 hours	SG3BB	\$ 60.00
• 8 hours up to but not including 16 hours	SG3CB	70.00
• 16 hours up to but not including 24 hours	SG3DB	80.00
• 24 hours and over	SG3EB	100.00
DS3 Service		
• 4 hours up to but not including 8 hours	SG3BB	500.00
• 8 hours up to but not including 16 hours	SG3CB	700.00
• 16 hours up to but not including 24 hours	SG3DB	800.00
• 24 hours and over	SG3EB	1,000.00

**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

**2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS (CONT'D)**

C. When Credit Allowance Does Not Apply

No credit allowance will be made for:

1. Interruptions caused by the negligence of the customer.
2. Interruptions of a service due to the failure of equipment or systems provided by the customer or others.
3. Interruptions of a service during any period in which the Company is not afforded access to the premises where the service is terminated.
4. Interruptions of a service, when the customer has released that service to the Company for maintenance purposes, to make rearrangements, or for the implementation of an order for a change in the service during the time that was negotiated with the customer prior to the release of that service.
5. Interruptions of a service which continue because of the failure of the customer to authorize replacement of any element of special construction, as set forth in 4.1.6, following. The period for which no credit allowance is made begins on the seventh day after the customer receives the Company's written notification of the need for such replacement and ends on the day after receipt by the Company of the customer's written authorization for such replacement.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

#### **2.4.3 CREDIT ALLOWANCE FOR SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

##### **C. When Credit Allowance Does Not Apply (Cont'd)**

6. Periods when the customer elects not to release the service for testing and/or repair and continues to use it on an impaired basis.
7. Periods of temporary discontinuance as set forth in 2.2.1.B., preceding.
8. Periods of interruption when a Maintenance of Service Charge applies as set forth in 4.1.9, following.
9. An interruption or a group of interruptions, resulting from a common cause, for amounts less than one dollar per customer bill.
10. In addition to C.1. through C.9., preceding, as applicable, Service Guarantee - Repair credit allowances do not apply to:
  - SHARP, SHARP Plus, and Specialized Service and Arrangements.
  - Service interruptions due to natural disasters (e.g., tornado, earthquake, fire or flood) or work stoppage.

##### **D. Use of an Alternative Service Provided by the Company**

Should the customer elect to use an alternative service provided by the Company during the period that a service is interrupted, the customer must pay the Price List rates and charges for the alternative service used.

##### **E. Temporary Surrender of a Service**

In certain instances, the customer may be requested by the Company to surrender a service for purposes other than maintenance, testing or activity relating to a service order. If the customer consents, a credit allowance will be granted. The credit allowance will be 1/1440 of the monthly rate for each period of 30 minutes or fraction thereof that the service is surrendered. In no case will the credit allowance exceed the monthly rate for the service surrendered in any one monthly billing period.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (CONT'D)**

#### **2.4.6 TITLE OR OWNERSHIP RIGHTS**

The payment of rates and charges by customers for the services offered under the provisions of this Price List does not assign, confer or transfer title or ownership rights to proposals or facilities developed or utilized, respectfully, by the Company in the provision of such services.

#### **2.4.7 ORDERING, RATING AND BILLING OF PRIVATE LINE TRANSPORT WHERE MORE THAN ONE EXCHANGE TELEPHONE COMPANY IS INVOLVED**

The Company, if requested by the customer, will handle ordering, rating, and billing of that portion of Private Line Transport Service that it provides. When service is jointly provided by the Company and another Local Exchange Company the following will apply:

- A. Each Local Exchange Company will provide the portion of the mileage element in its operating territory and will bill its rates and charges.
- B. The rate for the mileage element for services provided by the Company as set forth in A., preceding, is determined as follows:
  1. The appropriate mileage is determined by computing the airline mileage between each premises serving wire center using the V&H methods as set forth in the National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff F.C.C. No. 4.
  2. The billing percentages will be agreed upon by the Local Exchange Telephone Companies involved and are listed in the National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff F.C.C. No. 4 or other billing percentage document agreed to by the companies involved.
  3. Using the rates for the airline mileage determined in B.1., preceding, multiply the rates by the Company's billing percentage to obtain the mileage element rates.

**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

**2.4.7 ORDERING, RATING AND BILLING OF PRIVATE LINE TRANSPORT WHERE  
MORE THAN ONE EXCHANGE TELEPHONE COMPANY IS INVOLVED  
(CONT'D)**

- C. When Private Line Transport service is provided jointly between the Company and another Local Exchange Company, the appropriate recurring rates and nonrecurring charges are applied as follows:
  - 1. The appropriate Private Line mileage rates and nonrecurring charges are applied as specified in B.3., preceding.
  - 2. All other appropriate Private Line Transport recurring rate elements (e.g., Network Access Channel and Channel Performance) and their associated nonrecurring charges apply at 100 percent.
- D. When Private Line Transport service is provided jointly and the Company is the intermediate non-terminating carrier, only the recurring mileage rate applies. The rate is determined by multiplying the appropriate mileage rate by the billing percentage.
- E. When Private Line Transport service is provided jointly between the Company and another Local Exchange Company, or when the Company is the intermediate non-terminating carrier, the appropriate nonrecurring charges apply as set forth in Section 5, following.

**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

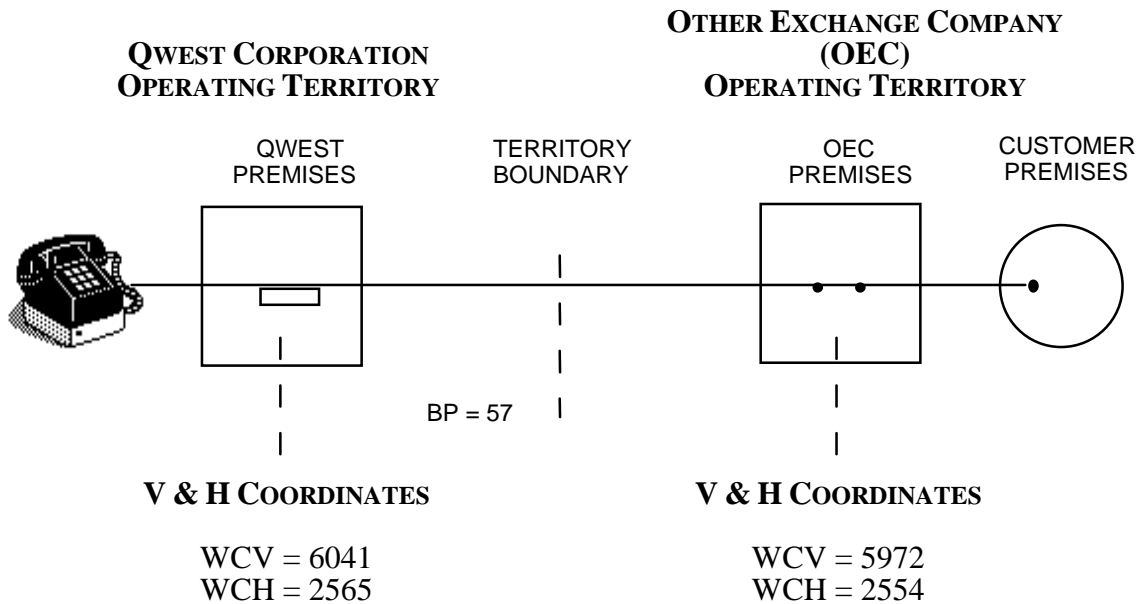
**2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

**2.4.7 ORDERING, RATING AND BILLING OF PRIVATE LINE TRANSPORT WHERE MORE THAN ONE EXCHANGE TELEPHONE COMPANY IS INVOLVED (CONT'D)**

F. Example - Private Line Transport

The following diagram depicts a Private Line Transport Service between a Qwest Corporation Serving Wire Center and a customer premises served by another Exchange Company.

- a. Private Line Transport is ordered to a serving wire center which is in the operating territory of Qwest Corporation.
- b. Premises of ordering customer is in operating territory of another Exchange Company.



**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

**2.4.7 ORDERING, RATING AND BILLING OF PRIVATE LINE TRANSPORT WHERE MORE THAN ONE EXCHANGE TELEPHONE COMPANY IS INVOLVED**

F. Example - Private Line Transport (Cont'd)

2. Airline Mileages (Using National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff F.C.C. No. 4)

- Qwest Corporation premises to OEC premises = 22.1, rounded = 23

3. Transport Mileage[1]

- Assume Qwest Corporation rates for Transport Mileage Band of over 8 to 25 miles are \$20.00 fixed and \$4.00 per mile.
- Assume Qwest Corporation Billing Percentage (BP) is 57.
- Calculation of Transport Rates[2]

Qwest Corporation TRANSPORT MILEAGE RATE =

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 23 \times \$4.00 \times 57\% & = & \$52.44 \\ \text{plus } \$20.00 \times 57\% & = & \underline{11.40} \\ & & 63.84 \end{array}$$

4. The rates and charges for the Transport Mileage provided by another Exchange Company, will be billed by the other Exchange Company, in accordance with its appropriate tariff.

[1] Rates used in this example are used for demonstration purposes only.

[2] The same calculation is performed to determine the appropriate Transport Mileage nonrecurring charge, if applicable.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (CONT'D)**

#### **2.4.8 TERMINATION LIABILITY/WAIVER POLICY**

All Private Line Transport Services provided via service agreements, are subject to the Termination Liability/Waiver Policy, unless otherwise specified.

##### **A. Minimum Billing Level**

When services are provided under a fixed-period service agreement, a Minimum Billing Level will be established for use in calculating discontinuance charges. The Minimum Billing Level is 100% of the total monthly rates for the service provided under the customer's service agreement, unless otherwise specified. Partial discontinuance of service will not decrease the Minimum Billing Level.

##### **B. Minimum Service Period**

When services are provided under a service agreement, a Minimum Service Period may be established. This would be the period of time that the 100% factor of the Termination Liability Charge would apply.

##### **C. Complete Discontinuance of Service**

If the customer chooses to completely discontinue contracted service, at any time during the term of the agreement, a termination charge will apply, unless the customer satisfies the conditions specified in the Waiver Policy. The termination charge is 100% of the rates for the Minimum Service Period, if applicable, plus the Minimum Billing Level multiplied by the termination liability percentage specified in the service agreement, for the remaining term of the agreement.

- For example, if the customer discontinues service after 17 months of a 3-year (36 month) agreement, the termination charge will be the Minimum Billing Level for the service, multiplied by the termination liability percentage, multiplied by 19 months.
- If the customer discontinues service after 6 months of a 3-year (36 month) agreement, with a 1-year (12 months) Minimum Service Period, the Termination Charge will be 100% of the Minimum Billing Level for the remaining 6 months of the Minimum Service Period, plus the Minimum Billing Level multiplied by the termination liability percentage, multiplied by 24 months.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.4 PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES**

#### **2.4.8 TERMINATION LIABILITY/WAIVER POLICY (CONT'D)**

##### **D. Partial Discontinuance of Service**

If the customer discontinues a portion of their contracted service, and that causes the customer's monthly billing level to fall below the Minimum Billing Level of the agreement, a termination charge will apply to the portion of the service agreement that is below the Minimum Billing Level.

##### **E. Waiver Policy**

A termination charge will be waived when the customer discontinues their contracted service(s), provided all of the following conditions are met:

- the customer signs a new service agreement for any other Company provided service(s);
- both the existing and the new service(s) are provided solely by the Company;
- the order to discontinue the existing service(s) and the order to establish the new service(s) are received by the Company at the same time;
- the new service(s) installation must be completed within thirty calendar days of the disconnection of the old service(s), unless the installation delay is caused by the Company;
- the total value of the new service agreement(s), excluding any special construction charges and any other nonrecurring charges, is equal to or greater than 115% of the remaining value of the existing agreement(s);
- a new minimum service period goes into effect when the new service agreement term begins;
- the customer agrees to pay any previously billed, but unpaid recurring, and any outstanding nonrecurring charges. These charges cannot be included as part of the new service agreement;
- all applicable nonrecurring charges will be assessed for the new contracted service(s).

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.5 CONNECTIONS**

#### **2.5.1 GENERAL**

Equipment and Systems (i.e., terminal equipment, multiline terminating systems and communications systems) may be connected with Private Line Transport Service furnished by the Company where such connection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in 2.1, preceding.

### **2.6 DEFINITIONS**

#### Attenuation Distortion

The term "Attenuation Distortion" denotes the difference in loss at specified frequencies relative to the loss at 1004 Hz, unless otherwise specified.

#### Bandwidth

The term "bandwidth" denotes a defined range of frequencies.

#### Baud

The term "baud" denotes a unit of signaling speed. It is the reciprocal of the time duration in second of the shortest signal element when all signal elements have equal length. The speed in bauds is the number of signal elements per second.

#### Bit

The term "Bit" denotes the smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

#### Business Day

The term "Business Day" denotes the times of day that a company is open for business. Generally, in the business community, these are 8:00 or 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 or 6:00 P.M., respectively, with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, resulting in a standard forty (40) hour work week. However, Business Day hours for the Company may vary based on company policy, union contract and location.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.6 DEFINITIONS (CONT'D)**

#### Carrier or Common Carrier

See "Interexchange Carrier".

#### Central Office

The term "Central Office" denotes a local Company switching system where Local Exchange Services are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice trunks or the Public Switched Network.

#### Central Office Prefix

The term "Central Office Prefix" denotes the first three digits (NNX) of the seven digit telephone number assigned to a customer's Local Exchange Service when dialed on a local basis.

#### Channel(s)

The term "Channel(s)" denotes an electrical or photonic, in the case of fiber optic-based transmission systems, communications path between two or more Demarcation Points.

#### Channelize

The term "Channelize" denotes the process of multiplexing wide bandwidth or higher speed channels into narrower bandwidth or lower speed channels or vice versa.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.6 DEFINITIONS (CONT'D)**

#### Communications Systems

The term "Communications Systems" denotes channels and other facilities which are capable of communications between terminal equipment provided by other than the Company.

#### Continuous Property

The term "continuous property" means property occupied by one subscriber, such as one lot, or two or more contiguous lots, or contiguous parts of a city block, whether or not traversed by an alley or partially traversed by a railway siding terminating within such property. Properties separated by property occupied by others, or by public highways, streets, railway tracks or physical barriers such as rivers are not classed as "continuous property".

#### Contract

The term "contract" refers to the service agreement between a customer and the Company under which facilities for communication between specified locations, for designated periods, and for the use of the customer and the authorized users specifically named in the contract, are furnished in accordance with provisions of this Price List.

#### Customer(s)

The term "customer(s)" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, governmental entity or any other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this Price List.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.6 DEFINITIONS (CONT'D)**

#### Decibel

The term "Decibel" denotes a unit used to express relative difference in power, usually between acoustic or electric signals, equal to ten (10) times the common logarithm of the ratio of two signal powers.

#### Demarcation Point

The term "Demarcation Point" means the point of connection, provided and maintained by the Company, at which the Company's service and the property owner's or customer's facilities are connected. The Demarcation Point is to be mutually agreeable to the Company and the subscriber or property owner, and is normally located near the point where the Company's facilities enter the building or property, on the subscriber's side of the Company's protector, or its equivalent.

The Company will provide a Demarcation Point for each residential structure having a separate ground level entrance. Residential structures sharing common walls, but not sharing common entrances or common space, such as hallways or basements, will have separate Demarcation Points.

Multitenant residential structures sharing common entrances or common space will have one Demarcation Point per structure. "Residential structure" does not include garages, barns, or other buildings situated on residential property but not intended for human habitation.

For multiple buildings constructed on continuous business property, such as shopping centers, condominiums, industrial parks, and campuses, the Company may establish a single Demarcation Point or may designate one of the existing terminating connections on a property as a main Demarcation Point. Where feasible, one or more alternate Demarcation Points may be placed or reinforced by the Company at the request of the business customer or property owner. Charges will be applied to cover additional costs of placing or reinforcing alternate Demarcation Points. The property owner or customer is responsible for service on the customer side of the Demarcation Point(s).

#### Direct Routed Channels

The term "Direct Routed Channels" denotes private line transport channels furnished over facilities, which the Company elects to provide on a direct basis and is not routed through a central office.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.6 DEFINITIONS (CONT'D)**

#### Distribution Amplifier

The term "distribution amplifier" as used in connection with Type 6000 channels for a loudspeaker (wired music) multipoint network denotes an interconnection amplifier point in a wire center for feeding two or more customer loudspeaker locations within an exchange.

#### Effective 2-Wire

The term "Effective 2-Wire" denotes a condition which permits the simultaneous transmission in both directions over a channel, but it is not possible to insure independent information transmission in both directions. Effective 2-wire channels may be terminated with 2-wire or 4-wire interfaces.

#### Effective 4-Wire

The term "Effective 4-Wire" denotes a condition which permits the simultaneous independent transmission of information in both directions over a channel. The method of implementing effective 4-wire transmission is at the discretion of the Company (physical, time domain, frequency-domain separation or echo cancellation techniques). Effective 4-wire channels may be terminated with a 2-wire interface at the Demarcation Point on the property where the customer is served. However, when terminated 2-wire, simultaneous independent transmission cannot be supported because the two wire interface combines the transmission paths into a single path.

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **2.6 DEFINITIONS (CONT'D)**

#### End Office Switch

The term "End Office Switch" denotes a local Company switching system where Local Exchange Services are terminated for purposes of interconnection to trunks. Included are Remote Switching Modules and Remote Switching Systems served by a host office in a different wire center.

#### Equal Level Echo Path Loss

The term "Equal Level Echo Path Loss" (ELEPL) denotes the measure of Echo Path Loss (EPL) at a 4-wire interface which is corrected by the difference between the send and receive Transmission Level Point (TLP). [ELEPL = EPL - TLP (send) + TLP (receive)].

#### Exchange

The term "Exchange" denotes a unit generally smaller than a Local Access and Transport Area, established by the Company for the administration of communications service in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one or more central offices together with the associated facilities used in furnishing communications service within that area. One or more designated exchanges comprise a given Local Access and Transport Area.

#### Exchange Carrier

A land line telephone company that provides local telephone service in a designated local serving area under authority of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. The Exchange Carrier may also provide other services and facilities.