

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: PROPOSED TARIFF FILING BY UNITED ) DOCKET NO. 890953-TL  
 TELEPHONE COMPANY OF FLORIDA INTRODUCING ) ORDER NO. 21914  
 DIGITAL DATA "SWITCHLINK" SERVICE. ) ISSUED: 9-19-89  
 )

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MICHAEL McK. WILSON, Chairman  
 THOMAS M. BEARD  
 BETTY EASLEY  
 GERALD L. GUNTER  
 JOHN T. HERNDON

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF FILING

## BY THE COMMISSION:

United Telephone Company of Florida, Inc. (United) filed proposed revisions to its General Exchange Tariff on June 28, 1989 introducing United SwitchLink service. SwitchLink consists of a data-only local loop with the capability of transmitting from 300 to 19,200 bits per second so that customers may take advantage of the higher speed modems and data sets now being produced by the computer.

SwitchLink may be used as a high grade switched transmission path for business customers with limited requirements or as a backup to an existing private line. It may also be useful to residential subscribers who own a personal computer and modem. SwitchLink is designed to be a lower cost alternative to private line service for customers with small to medium data transport needs.

United hopes that this service will ensure a clean, low-error local loop that meets United Telephone's transmission parameter specifications for switched data transmission. A typical SwitchLink call would originate from an analog or digital data set or modem tied to a computer, travel over a SwitchLink line and terminate at another computer. United states that it guarantees transmission integrity only over its own facilities. If a data transmission call is placed where another local exchange carrier or an interexchange carrier is

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involved, the transmission would be guaranteed by United only to the end of United's network.

United proposes to provision SwitchLink from its DMS-100 central offices. If a customer desires service in United's territory and is served from another type of central office, his circuit will be routed to the nearest SwitchLink-equipped central office and be provisioned from there. SwitchLink customers will be required to subscribe to a separate line to receive this service as this data-only circuit cannot be provisioned over an existing B-1 or R-1 line.

The rates for this service consist of a \$25.00 nonrecurring installation fee and a \$25.00 monthly recurring charge for customers served from a DMS-100 central office equipped with SwitchLink software. In addition there are monthly recurring usage charges of \$0.06 for the first minute of each call, and \$0.02 for each additional minute, with a 50% off-peak discount. These usage rates were developed from BellCore's Switching Cost Information Study (SCIS). SCIS is a model for determining per minute usage on local calls. Statewide PATS usage rates, as well as cellular rates, were developed at the \$0.06/\$0.02 level from this study.

Customers served from nonequipped central offices must also subscribe to Remote Capability. Remote capability connects the customer's serving central office with the equipped central office via a private line, much like other data transport services at monthly recurring rates of \$35.00 for the first mile and \$1.00 for each additional mile.

In addition, a Remote Capability subscriber would pay a \$10.00 monthly flat usage charge and not the \$.06 and \$.02 previously mentioned. United developed this rate as a surrogate while it develops the technical ability to measure calls from a remote central office. The Remote Capability call would be routed over an interoffice private line to the Switchlink serving office. The SwitchLink office would interpret the call as an interoffice trunk and could not bill usage on a per-minute basis yet. The company, alledgedly, is working on software that will alleviate this problem.

A customer may also opt for Modem Pooling as an option with SwitchLink. Modem Pooling will allow an analog data set

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or modem to interact with a digital one, and vice versa. Without Modem Pooling, a customer would be responsible for making sure the modems at each end of the transmission were compatible. Modem Pooling is available at a \$12.00 nonrecurring and a \$5.40 (for one-way) or \$9.50 for two-way monthly recurring charge.

United used a long run incremental cost study for this service. The company believes this methodology to be appropriate because it uses current and forward-looking costs and investments, rather than historical. We believe this methodology is appropriate in this case.

United included several elements in calculating its SwitchLink costs. Standard line cards must be replaced with data-only line cards. Software must be installed in each SwitchLink-equipped central office. Remote access lines must have different data line cards and interoffice private line fiber must be allocated to the circuit. United's usage costs came from the SCIS usage study.

The company projects a total of 1281 lines of basic SwitchLink service to be in place at the end of the five year period. Projected revenues will be \$1,564,908.90 and five-year contribution is expected to total \$458,462.34.

Customers with data transport requirements will be able to use high-speed modems without investing in private line facilities. The company will realize a contribution from this service and its usage based rates will ensure that the general body of ratepayers do not subsidize the users of this product. For these reasons as well as the others outlined herein, we approve of United SwitchLink Service Tariff as filed.

Based on the foregoing, it is

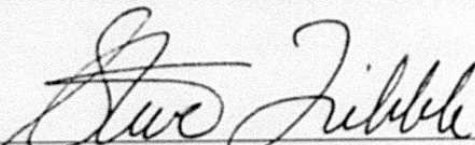
ORDERED that the proposed tariff filing by United Telephone Company of Florida, Inc. introducing SwitchLink data transport service is approved. It is further,

ORDERED that this docket should be closed.



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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission,  
this 19th day of SEPTEMBER, 1989.

  
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STEVE TRIBBLE, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

JSR

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or sewer utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.