

ORIGINAL

Agreement Between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Atrio Enterprises d/b/a Quick Connect Telecommunications Regarding The Sale of BellSouth Telecommunications Services to Atrio Enterprises d/b/a Quick Connect Telecommunications For The Purposes of Resale

THIS AGREEMENT is by and between **BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.**, ("BellSouth" or "Company"), a Georgia corporation, and **Atrio Enterprises d/b/a Quick Connect Telecommunications** ("Quick Connect"), a Louisiana corporation, and shall be deemed effective as of March 19, 1998.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, BellSouth is a local exchange telecommunications company authorized to provide telecommunications services in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Quick Connect is or seeks to become an alternative local exchange telecommunications company authorized to provide telecommunications services in the state(s) of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; and;

WHEREAS, Quick Connect desires to resell BellSouth's telecommunications services; and

WHEREAS, BellSouth has agreed to provide such services to Quick Connect for resale purposes and pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual premises and promises contained herein, BellSouth and Quick Connect do hereby agree as follows:

I. Term of the Agreement

- A. The term of this Agreement shall be two years beginning March 19, 1998 and shall apply to all of BellSouth's serving territory as of January 1, 1998 in the state(s) of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; and
- B. This Agreement shall be automatically renewed for two additional one year periods unless either party indicates its intent not to renew the Agreement. Notice of such intent must be provided, in writing, to the other party no later than 60 days prior to the end of the then-existing contract period. The terms of this Agreement shall remain in effect after the term of the existing agreement has expired and while a new agreement is being negotiated.

The rates pursuant by which Quick Connect is to purchase services from BellSouth for resale shall be at a discount rate off of the retail rate for the telecommunications service. The discount rates shall be as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. Such discount shall reflect the costs avoided by BellSouth when selling a service for wholesale purposes.

II. Definition of Terms

- A. **CUSTOMER OF RECORD** means the entity responsible for placing application for service; requesting additions, rearrangements, maintenance or discontinuance of service; payment in full of charges incurred such as non-recurring, monthly recurring, toll, directory assistance, etc.

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- B. DEPOSIT means assurance provided by a customer in the form of cash, surety bond or bank letter of credit to be held by the Company.
- C. END USER means the ultimate user of the telecommunications services.
- D. END USER CUSTOMER LOCATION means the physical location of the premises where an end user makes use of the telecommunications services.
- E. NEW SERVICES means functions, features or capabilities that are not currently offered by BellSouth. This includes packaging of existing services or combining a new function, feature or capability with an existing service.
- F. OTHER LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANY (OLEC) means a telephone company certificated by the public service commissions of the Company's franchised area to provide local exchange service within the Company's franchised area.
- G. RESALE means an activity wherein a certificated OLEC, such as Quick Connect subscribes to the telecommunications services of the Company and then reoffers those telecommunications services to the public (with or without "adding value").
- H. RESALE SERVICE AREA means the area, as defined in a public service commission approved certificate of operation, within which an OLEC, such as Quick Connect, may offer resold local exchange telecommunications service.

III. General Provisions

- A. Quick Connect may resell the tariffed local exchange and toll telecommunications services of BellSouth contained in the General Subscriber Service Tariff and Private Line Service Tariff subject to the terms, and conditions specifically set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the exclusions and limitations on services available for resale will be as set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

BellSouth shall make available telecommunications services for resale at the rates set forth in Exhibit A to this agreement and subject to the exclusions and limitations set forth in Exhibit B to this agreement. It does not however waive its rights to appeal or otherwise challenge any decision regarding resale that resulted in the discount rates contained in Exhibit A or the exclusions and limitations contained in Exhibit B. BellSouth reserves the right to pursue any and all legal and/or equitable remedies, including appeals of any decisions. If such appeals or challenges result in changes in the discount rates or exclusions and limitations, the parties agree that appropriate modifications to this Agreement will be made promptly to make its terms consistent with the outcome of the appeal.

- B. Quick Connect may purchase resale services from BellSouth for their own use in operating their business. The resale discount will apply to those services under the following conditions:
 - 1. Quick Connect must resell services to other end users.
 - 2. Quick Connect must order services through resale interfaces, i. e., the LCSC and/or appropriate Resale Account Teams.
 - 3. Quick Connect cannot be an alternative local exchange telecommunications company for the single purpose of selling to themselves.

2. Cause damage to their plant;
 3. Impair the privacy of any communications; or
 4. Create hazards to any employees or the public.
- Q. Quick Connect assumes the responsibility of notifying the Company regarding less than standard operations with respect to services provided by Quick Connect.
- R. Facilities and/or equipment utilized by BellSouth to provide service to Quick Connect remain the property of BellSouth.
- S. White page directory listings will be provided in accordance with regulations set forth in Section A6 of the General Subscriber Service Tariff and will be available for resale.
- T. BellSouth will provide customer record information to Quick Connect provided Quick Connect has the appropriate Letter(s) of Authorization. BellSouth may provide customer record information via one of the following methods: US mail, fax, or by electronic interface. BellSouth will provide customer record information via US mail or fax on an interim basis only.
1. Quick Connect agrees to compensate BellSouth for all BellSouth incurred expenditures associated with providing such information to Quick Connect. Quick Connect will adopt and adhere to the BellSouth guidelines associated with each method of providing customer record information.
 2. All costs incurred by BellSouth to develop and implement operational interfaces shall be recovered from Quick Connect who utilize the services.
- U. BellSouth will provide certain selected messaging services to Quick Connect for resale of messaging service without the wholesale discount.
- V. BellSouth's Inside Wire Maintenance Plans may be made available for resale at rates, terms and conditions as set forth by BellSouth and without the wholesale discount.
- W. All costs incurred by BellSouth for providing services to Quick Connect that are not covered in the BellSouth tariffs shall be recovered from the Quick Connect who utilizes those services.

IV. BellSouth's Provision of Services to Quick Connect

- A. Quick Connect agrees that its resale of BellSouth services shall be as follows:
1. The resale of telecommunications services shall be limited to users and uses conforming to the class of service restrictions.
 2. To the extent Quick Connect is a telecommunications carrier that serves greater than 5 percent of the Nation's presubscribed access lines, Quick Connect shall not jointly market its interLATA services with the telecommunications services purchased from BellSouth pursuant to this Agreement in any of the states covered under this Agreement. For the purposes of this subsection, to jointly market means any advertisement, marketing effort or billing in which the telecommunications services purchased from BellSouth for purposes of resale to customers and interLATA services offered by Quick Connect are packaged, tied, bundled, discounted or offered together in any way to the end user. Such efforts include, but are not limited to, sales referrals, resale arrangements, sales agencies or billing agreements. This subsection shall be void and of no effect for a particular state covered under this Agreement as of February 8, 1999 or on the date BellSouth is authorized to offer interLATA services in that state, whichever is earlier.

3. Hotel and Hospital PBX service are the only telecommunications services available for resale to Hotel/Motel and Hospital end users, respectively. Similarly, Access Line Service for Customer Provided Coin Telephones is the only local service available for resale to Independent Payphone Provider (IPP) customers. Shared Tenant Service customers can only be sold those telecommunications services available in the Company's A23 Shared Tenant Service Tariff.
 4. Quick Connect is prohibited from furnishing both flat and measured rate service on the same business premises to the same subscribers (end users) as stated in A2 of the Company's Tariff except for backup service as indicated in the applicable state tariff Section A3.
 5. If telephone service is established and it is subsequently determined that the class of service restriction has been violated, Quick Connect will be notified and billing for that service will be immediately changed to the appropriate class of service. Service charges for changes between class of service, back billing, and interest as described in this subsection shall apply at the Company's sole discretion. Interest at a rate as set forth in Section A2 of the General Subscriber Service Tariff and Section B2 of the Private Line Service Tariff for the applicable state, compounded daily for the number of days from the back billing date to and including the date that Quick Connect actually makes the payment to the Company may be assessed.
 6. The Company reserves the right to periodically audit services purchased by Quick Connect to establish authenticity of use. Such audit shall not occur more than once in a calendar year. Quick Connect shall make any and all records and data available to the Company or the Company's auditors on a reasonable basis. The Company shall bear the cost of said audit.
- B. Resold services can only be used in the same manner as specified in the Company's Tariff. Resold services are subject to the same terms and conditions as are specified for such services when furnished to an individual end user of the Company in the appropriate section of the Company's Tariffs. Specific tariff features, e.g. a usage allowance per month, shall not be aggregated across multiple resold services. Resold services cannot be used to aggregate traffic from more than one end user customer except as specified in Section A23. of the Company's Tariff referring to Shared Tenant Service.
- C. Quick Connect may resell services only within the specific resale service area as defined in its certificate.
- D. Telephone numbers transmitted via any resold service feature are intended solely for the use of the end user of the feature. Resale of this information is prohibited.
- E. No patent, copyright, trademark or other proprietary right is licensed, granted or otherwise transferred by this Agreement. Quick Connect is strictly prohibited from any use, including but not limited to sales, marketing or advertising, of any BellSouth name or trademark.

V. Maintenance of Services

- A. Quick Connect will adopt and adhere to the standards contained in the applicable BellSouth Work Center Interface Agreement regarding maintenance and installation of service.
- B. Services resold under the Company's Tariffs and facilities and equipment provided by the Company shall be maintained by the Company.
- C. Quick Connect or its end users may not rearrange, move, disconnect, remove or attempt to repair any facilities owned by the Company, other than by connection or disconnection to any interface means used, except with the written consent of the Company.

G. In order to safeguard its interest, the Company reserves the right to secure the account with a suitable form of security deposit, unless satisfactory credit has already been established.

1. Such security deposit shall take the form of an irrevocable Letter of Credit or other forms of security acceptable to the Company. Any such security deposit may be held during the continuance of the service as security for the payment of any and all amounts accruing for the service.
2. If a security deposit is required, such security deposit shall be made prior to the inauguration of service.
3. Such security deposit may not exceed two months' estimated billing.
4. The fact that a security deposit has been made in no way relieves Quick Connect from complying with the Company's regulations as to advance payments and the prompt payment of bills on presentation nor does it constitute a waiver or modification of the regular practices of the Company providing for the discontinuance of service for non-payment of any sums due the Company.
5. The Company reserves the right to increase the security deposit requirements when, in its sole judgment, circumstances so warrant and/or gross monthly billing has increased beyond the level initially used to determine the security deposit.
6. In the event that Quick Connect defaults on its account, service to Quick Connect will be terminated and any security deposits held will be applied to its account.
7. In the case of a cash deposit, interest at a rate as set forth in the appropriate BellSouth tariff shall be paid to Quick Connect during the continuance of the security deposit. Interest on a security deposit shall accrue annually and, if requested, shall be annually credited to Quick Connect by the accrual date.

VII. Payment And Billing Arrangements

- A. When the initial service is ordered by Quick Connect, the Company will establish an accounts receivable master account for Quick Connect.
- B. The Company shall bill Quick Connect on a current basis all applicable charges and credits.
- C. Payment of all charges will be the responsibility of Quick Connect. Quick Connect shall make payment to the Company for all services billed. The Company is not responsible for payments not received by Quick Connect from Quick Connect's customer. The Company will not become involved in billing disputes that may arise between Quick Connect and its customer. Payments made to the Company as payment on account will be credited to an accounts receivable master account and not to an end user's account.
- D. The Company will render bills each month on established bill days for each of Quick Connect's accounts.
- E. The Company will bill Quick Connect, in advance, charges for all services to be provided during the ensuing billing period except charges associated with service usage, which charges will be billed in arrears. Charges will be calculated on an individual end user account level, including, if applicable, any charges for usage or usage allowances. BellSouth will also bill all charges, including but not limited to 911 and E911 charges, telecommunications relay charges, and franchise fees, to Quick Connect.

2. At the request of Quick Connect, the Company will disconnect a Quick Connect end user customer.
3. All requests by Quick Connect for denial or disconnection of an end user for nonpayment must be in writing.
4. Quick Connect will be made solely responsible for notifying the end user of the proposed disconnection of the service.
5. The Company will continue to process calls made to the Annoyance Call Center and will advise Quick Connect when it is determined that annoyance calls are originated from one of their end user's locations. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by Quick Connect and/or the end user against any claim, loss or damage arising from providing this information to Quick Connect. It is the responsibility of Quick Connect to take the corrective action necessary with its customers who make annoying calls. Failure to do so will result in the Company's disconnecting the end user's service.

B. The procedures for discontinuing service to Quick Connect are as follows:

1. The Company reserves the right to suspend or terminate service for nonpayment or in the event of prohibited, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service, abuse of the facilities, or any other violation or noncompliance by Quick Connect of the rules and regulations of the Company's Tariffs.
2. If payment of account is not received by the bill day in the month after the original bill day, BellSouth may provide written notice to Quick Connect that additional applications for service will be refused and that any pending orders for service will not be completed if payment is not received by the fifteenth day following the date of the notice. In addition BellSouth may, at the same time, give thirty days notice to the person designated by Quick Connect to receive notices of noncompliance, discontinue the provision of existing services to Quick Connect at any time thereafter.
3. In the case of such discontinuance, all billed charges, as well as applicable termination charges, shall become due.
4. If BellSouth does not discontinue the provision of the services involved on the date specified in the thirty days notice and Quick Connect's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude BellSouth's right to discontinue the provision of the services to Quick Connect without further notice.
5. If payment is not received or arrangements made for payment by the date given in the written notification, Quick Connect's services will be discontinued. Upon discontinuance of service on a Quick Connect's account, service to Quick Connect's end users will be denied. The Company will also reestablish service at the request of the end user or Quick Connect's upon payment of the appropriate connection fee and subject to the Company's normal application procedures. Quick Connect's is solely responsible for notifying the end user of the proposed disconnection of the service.
6. If within fifteen days after an end user's service has been denied no contact has been made in reference to restoring service, the end user's service will be disconnected.

IX. Liability

of care to protect Information received as they would use to protect their own confidential and proprietary Information.

- B. Notwithstanding the foregoing, both parties agree that there will be no obligation to protect any portion of the Information that is either: 1) made publicly available by the owner of the Information or lawfully disclosed by a nonparty to this Agreement; 2) lawfully obtained from any source other than the owner of the Information; or 3) previously known to the receiving party without an obligation to keep it confidential.

XI. Resolution of Disputes

Except as otherwise stated in this Agreement, the parties agree that if any dispute arises as to the interpretation of any provision of this Agreement or as to the proper implementation of this Agreement, either Party may petition the Commission for a resolution of the dispute. However, each party reserves any rights it may have to seek judicial review of any ruling made by the Commission concerning this Agreement.

XII. Limitation of Use

The parties agree that this Agreement shall not be proffered by either party in another jurisdiction as evidence of any concession or as a waiver of any position taken by the other party in that jurisdiction or for any other purpose.

XIII. Waivers

A failure or delay of either Party to enforce any of the provisions hereof, to exercise any option which is herein provided, or to require performance of any of the provisions hereof shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions or options, and each Party, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter to insist upon the specific performance of any and all of the provisions of this Agreement.

XIV. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Georgia, without regard to its conflict of laws principles.

XV. Arm's Length Negotiations

This Agreement was executed after arm's length negotiations between the undersigned parties and reflects the conclusion of the undersigned that this Agreement is in the best interests of all parties.

XVI. Notices

- A. Every notice, consent, approval, or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person or given by postage prepaid mail, address to:

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

CLEC Account Team
3535 Colonnade Parkway
Room E4E1
Birmingham, AL 35243

Quick Connect Telecommunications

7809 Airline Drive, Suite 204
Metairie, LA 70003

or at such other address as the intended recipient previously shall have designated by written notice to the other party.

- B. Where specifically required, notices shall be by certified or registered mail. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, notice by mail shall be effective on the date it is officially recorded as delivered by return receipt or equivalent, and in the absence of such record of delivery, it shall be presumed to have been delivered the fifth day, or next business day after the fifth day, after it was deposited in the mails.

XVII. Amendments

This Agreement may be amended at any time upon written agreement of both parties.

XVIII. Entire Agreement

This Agreement sets forth the entire understanding and supersedes prior agreements between the parties relating to the subject matter contained herein and merges all prior discussions between them, and neither party shall be bound by any definition, condition, provision, representation, warranty, covenant or promise other than as expressly stated in this Agreement or as is contemporaneously or subsequently set forth in writing and executed by a duly authorized officer or representative of the party to be bound thereby.

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
BY: [Signature]
Signature
NAME: Jerry Hendrix
Printed Name
TITLE: Director
DATE: 3/20/98

Quick Connect Telecommunications
BY: [Signature]
Signature
NAME: Stefan Thierry
Printed Name
TITLE: President
DATE: 3-18-98

EXHIBIT B
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Type of Service	AL		FL		GA		KY		LA	
	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?
1 Grandfathered Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Contract Service Arrangements	Note 9	Note 9	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Note 5	Note 5
3 Promotions - > 90 Days	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4 Promotions - < 90 Days	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
5 Lifeline/Link Up Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
6 911/E911 Services (See Note 10)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
7 N11 Services (See Note 10)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
8 AdWatch SM Svc (See Note 8)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
9 MemoryCall [®] Service	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
10 Mobile Services	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
11 Federal Subscriber Line Charges	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
12 Non-Recurring Charges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Type of Service	MS		NC		SC		TN	
	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?	Resale?	Discount?
1 Grandfathered Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Contract Service Arrangements	Note 5	Note 5	Note 6	Note 6	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
3 Promotions - > 90 Days	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Note 3
4 Promotions - < 90 Days	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
5 Lifeline/Link Up Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Note 4
6 911/E911 Services (See Note 10)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7 N11 Services (See Note 10)	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8 AdWatch SM Svc (See Note 8)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
9 MemoryCall [®] Service	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
10 Mobile Services	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
11 Federal Subscriber Line Charges	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
12 Non-Recurring Charges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Applicable Notes:

- 1 Grandfathered services can be resold only to existing subscribers of the grandfathered service.
- 2 Where available for resale, **promotions** will be made available only to end users who would have qualified for the promotion had it been provided by BellSouth directly.
- 3 In Tennessee, long-term **promotions** (offered for more than ninety (90) days) may be obtained at one of the following rates:
 - (a) the stated tariff rate, less the wholesale discount;
 - (b) the promotional rate (the promotional rate offered by BellSouth will not be discounted further by the wholesale discount rate)
- 4 Lifeline/Link Up services may be offered only to those subscribers who meet the criteria that BellSouth currently applies to subscribers of these services. In Tennessee, Quick Connect shall purchase BellSouth's Message Rate Service at the stated tariff rate, less the wholesale discount. Quick Connect must further discount the wholesale Message Rate Service to LifeLine customers with a discount which is no less than the minimum discount that BellSouth now provides. Quick Connect is responsible for recovering the Subscriber Line Charge from the National Exchange Carriers Association interstate toll settlement pool just as BellSouth does today. The maximum rate that Quick Connect may charge for LifeLine Service shall be capped at the flat retail rate offered by BellSouth.
- 5 In Louisiana and Mississippi, all **Contract Service Arrangements** entered into by BellSouth or terminating after the effective date of the Commission Order (1/28/97 for LA and 3/10/97 for MS) will be subject to resale without the wholesale discount. All CSAs which are in place as of the effective date of the Commission order (1/28/97 for LA and 3/10/97 for MS) will not be eligible for resale.

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- 6 In North Carolina, **Contract Service Arrangements** entered into by BellSouth before April 15, 1997, shall be subject to resale at no discount, while BellSouth CSAs entered into after that date shall be subject to resale with the discount.
- 7 Some of BellSouth's local exchange and toll telecommunications services are not available in certain central offices and areas.
- 8 AdWatchSM Service is tariffed as BellSouth[®] AIN Virtual Number Call Detail Service
- 9 In Alabama, **Contract Service Arrangements** entered into prior to Feb. 6, 1997 are not available for resale. CSAs entered into between Feb. 6, 1997 and May 13, 1997 are available for resale without a discount to the same client to whom the CSA is applicable. CSAs entered into May 14, 1997 and later are available for resale with a discount to the same client to whom the CSA is applicable.
- 10 Exclusions for **N11/911/E911** are also applicable to equipment associated with this service