



BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc 850 224-7798
Suite 400 Fax 850 224-5073
150 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1556

Marshall M. Criser III
Regulatory Vice President

November 12, 1999

ORIGINAL

RECORDS AND
REPORTING

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Mrs. Blanca S. Bayo
Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

991706-TP

Re: Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and Business Telecom, Inc. (BTI) pursuant to Sections 251, 252 and 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dear Mrs. Bayo:

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, BellSouth and Business Telecom, Inc. (BTI) are submitting to the Florida Public Service Commission an amendment to their negotiated agreement for the interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements offered by BellSouth and the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services to Business Telecom, Inc. (BTI) The Commission approved the initial agreement between the companies in Order 98-0170 issued January 28, 1998 in Docket 971561-TP.

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Act, the Commission is charged with approving or rejecting the negotiated agreement between BellSouth and Business Telecom, Inc. (BTI) within 90 days of its submission. The Act provides that the Commission may only reject such an agreement if it finds that the agreement or any portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or the implementation of the agreement or any portion of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Both parties aver that neither of these reasons exist as to the agreement they have negotiated and therefore, are very hopeful that the Commission shall approve their agreement.

Very truly yours,

Marshall M. Criser III

Regulatory Vice President

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ATTACHMENT TO TRANSMITTAL LETTER

The Amendment dated October 11, 1999 to the Agreement entered into by and between Business Telecom, Inc. and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., dated January 2, 1997 for all nine states consists of the following:

ITEM	NO. PAGES
Amendment dated October 11, 1999	2
TOTAL	2

AMENDMENT
TO
THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
BUSINESS TELECOM, INC. AND
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
DATED JANUARY 2, 1997

Pursuant to this Agreement (the "Amendment"), Business Telecom, Inc. ("BTI") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", hereby agree to amend the Interconnection Agreement between the Parties dated January 2, 1997 ("Interconnection Agreement").

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. Attachment C-2 of the Interconnection Agreement is hereby amended to include the rates, terms and conditions for the provision of Unbundled Copper Loops as follows:

To the extent that it exists within the BellSouth network at given customer location, BellSouth shall make available an Unbundled Copper Loop (UCL). The UCL will be a copper twisted pair loop up to eighteen (18) kilofeet in length that is unencumbered by any intervening equipment (e.g., filters, load coils, range extenders, digital loop carrier, or repeaters). The UCL may contain up to 6,000 ft of bridge tap in addition to the loop itself.

The UCL Loop will be a designed circuit, provisioned with a test point and come standard with a DLR. Order Coordination (OC) will be offered as a chargeable option on all UCL loops. Order Coordination - Time Specific (OC-TS) will not be offered on UCLs.

The UCL Loop is a dry copper loop and is not intended to support any particular telecommunications service. BTI may use the UCL loop for a variety of services, including xDSL (e.g. ADSL and HDSL) services, by attaching appropriate terminal equipment of BTI's choosing. BTI will determine the type of service that will be provided over the loop.

Because the UCL loop shall be an unbundled loop offering that is separate and distinct from BellSouth's ADSL and HDSL capable loop offerings, CLEC agrees that BellSouth's UCL loop will not be held to the service level and performance obligations that apply to its ADSL and HDSL unbundled loop offerings. BellSouth shall only be obligated to maintain electrical continuity and provide balance relative to tip and ring on UCL loops.

The UCL loop shall be provided to BTI in accordance with BellSouth's Technical Reference 73600.

	AL	FL	GA	KY	LA	MS	NC	SC	TN
2-Wire Unbundled Copper Loop*									
Recurring	\$19.41	\$21.98	\$18.69	\$18.84	\$25.47	\$22.26	\$19.12	\$22.54	\$20.11
Non-Recurring									
Non-Recurring 1st	\$585.20	\$593.58	\$585.62	\$585.01	\$587.35	\$585.29	\$584.23	\$587.37	\$586.27
Non-Recurring Add'l	\$455.63	\$461.96	\$455.76	\$455.57	\$457.30	\$455.70	\$454.93	\$457.32	\$456.43
Manual Svc Ord -1st	\$46.62	\$47.54	\$46.90	\$46.48	\$46.79	\$46.63	\$46.46	\$46.79	\$46.75
Manual Svc Ord -Adl	\$20.56	\$20.96	\$20.68	\$20.50	\$20.63	\$20.56	\$20.49	\$20.63	\$20.61
Order Coordination 1 st & Add'l.	\$16.00	\$16.19	\$15.98	\$16.02	\$16.06	\$16.00	\$15.99	\$16.06	\$16.03

2. All of the other provisions of the Interconnection Agreement dated January 2, 1997 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect until the expiration date.

3. Either or both of the Parties is authorized to submit this Amendment to the appropriate regulatory agencies for approval subject to Section 252 (e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Amendment to be executed by their respective duly authorized representatives on the date indicated below.

Business Telecom, Inc.

By: 
Signature

Name: Anthony M. Copeland

Title: Executive Vice President / Title: Senior Director
General Counsel

Date: October 8, 1999

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

By: 
Signature

Name: Jerry D. Hendrix

Date: 10/11/99