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Embarq Corporation Mailstop: FLTLH00201 1313 Blair Stone Road Tallahassee, FL 32301 EMBARQ.COM

May 24, 2006

Ms. Blanca S. Bayó, Director Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Docket No. 000121B-TP

Dear Mrs. Bayó:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Embarq Florida, Inc. d/b/a Sprint Florida f/k/a Sprint-Florida, Incorporated is an original and 2 copies of Embarq's May 2006 Root Cause Analysis (RCA) report as required by Order Number PSC-03-0176-CO-TP in Docket 000121B-TP. This order required that any failure in three consecutive months to meet any performance for a given level of disaggregation shall require a RCA by Sprint, which shall then be published on a monthly basis. This report is for results for the period of January 2006 through March 2005 as published in the February, March and April reports.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please stamp it to indicate that the original was filed and return the copy to me. Copies have been served to the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

| CMP | Sincerely,                       |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| сом | Susan & Masterton                |
| CTR | Susan S. Masterton               |
| ECR | Enclosures                       |
| GCL | Zincrosur es                     |
| OPC | cc: David Rich Jerry Hallenstein |
| RCA | Tabitha Hunter                   |
| SCR | Lisa Harvey                      |
| SGA |                                  |
| SEC |                                  |

OTH

Susan S. Masterton
Counsel
Law & External Affairs-Regulatory
Voice: (850) 599 1560 MENT NUMBER - CATS
Fax: (850) 878-6777

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. mail to all known parties of record this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2006.

Felicia Banks Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

AT&T (GA) Virginia C. Tate/Lisa A. Riley 1200 Peachtree St., NE **Suite 8100** Atlanta, GA 30309

Florida Cable Telecommunications Assoc., Inc. Michael A. Gross 246 E. 6th Avenue, Suite 100 Tallahassee, FL 32303

AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc. Tracy Hatch 101 North Monroe Street, Suite 700 Tallahassee, FL 32301-1549

Pennington Law Firm Peter Dunbar/Karen Camechis P.O. Box 10095 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Time Warner Telecom of Florida, L.P. Ms. Carolyn Marek Time Warner Telecom 233 Bramerton Court Franklin, TN 37069-4002

Susan S. Masterton



## May 2006 Root Cause Analysis Report (reflects March 2006 data published April 20) Florida Public Service Commission

## **Background**

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If there is non-compliance at the aggregate level in three consecutive months for a given level of disaggregation, Embarq shall provide a report of root cause analysis on a monthly basis. Embarq's root cause analysis shall include a plan for corrective action with key activities and anticipated completion dates for implementation.

## Measure 2: Average FOC Notice Interval Sub measure 02.03.01: Electronic/Manual Mix - Residential POTS **Description of Issue** Projected **Estimated Improvement Plan** Start End Impact Date Improvement Date Embarq continues to experience an increase in order 10 2006 2Q 2006 85% Embarg developed a process model to systematically assign and volumes. Order volumes for March 2006 were 44% prioritize orders. The new process is currently implemented full higher than March 2005. time to assess the benefits. This process allows Embarq to determine the most efficient way to assign and work orders in a manner that will ensure meeting FOC and rejection notice timeframes, as well as call answer time.

| Measure 2: Average FOC Notice Interval Sub measure 02.03.02: Electronic/Manual Mix - Business POTS                         |               |                          |                     |             |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Description of Issue   | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement | Estimated<br>Impact | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan   |  |  |  |
| Embarq continues to experience an increase in order volumes. Order volumes for March 2006 were 44% higher than March 2005. | 4Q 2005       | 2Q 2006                  | 30-40%              |             | Embarq developed a process model to systematically assign and prioritize orders. The new process is currently implemented <i>full time</i> to assess the benefits. This process allows Embarq to determine the most efficient way to assign and work orders in a manner that will ensure meeting FOC and rejection notice timeframes, as well as call answer time. |  |  |  |

| ─ Measure 3: Average Reject Notice Interval  - Submeasure 3.03.02.01: Electronic/Manual Mix – Content Errors – Resale Orders                                  |               |  |                     |             |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|--|---------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Description of Issue  | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement   | Estimated<br>Impact | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan   |  |  |  |
| Due to increased order volumes, some orders are not assigned to a service center representative for investigation in time to meet the reject notice interval. | 2Q 2004       | 2Q 2006<br>4 <del>Q 2005</del><br>2 <del>Q 2005</del><br>3 <del>Q 2004</del> | 30-40% of orders    |             | Embarq developed a process model to systematically assign and prioritize orders. The new process is currently implemented <i>full time</i> to assess the benefits. This process allows Embarq to determine the most efficient way to assign and work orders in a manner that will ensure meeting FOC and rejection notice timeframes, as well as call answer time. |  |  |  |



Measure 7: Average Completed Interval Submeasure 7.01.02: Residential POTS – No Field Work **Description of Issue** Projected Estimated Improvement Plan Start End Improvement Date **Impact** Date Retail orders have a higher frequency of same day due 3Q 2003 3Q 2006 50% of Embarg has found that most CLEC orders do not meet the criteria dates compared to CLEC orders, which is primarily due <del>1Q 2006</del> for same day intervals. Embarq is investigating a change to the days to the types of orders submitted by retail and CLEC <del>1Q 2005</del> criteria for same day intervals which would allow more orders to 4<del>Q 200</del>4 complete on the day they are received, such as orders for feature customers. <del>20 2004</del> changes.

| Measure 7: Average Completed Interval<br>Submeasure 7.02.02: Business POTS - No Field Work   | <u> </u>      |                          |                     |             |   |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|
| Description of Issue   | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement | Estimated<br>Impact | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan  |
| Retail orders have a higher frequency of same day due dates compared to CLEC orders, which is primarily due to the types of orders submitted by retail and CLEC customers. | 1Q 2006       | 3Q 2006                  | 50% of<br>days      |             | Embarq has found that most CLEC orders do not meet the criteria for same day intervals. Embarq is investigating a change to the criteria for same day intervals which would allow more orders to complete on the day they are received, such as orders for feature changes. |

| Measure 11: Percent of Due Dates Missed<br>Submeasure 11.101.01: UNE Loops x-DSL Provisioned – Field Work  |               |  |   |             |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|--|---|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Description of Issue   | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement   | Estimated<br>Impact   | End<br>Date | Imprøvement Plan   |  |  |  |
| Embarq cannot currently identify UNE loops behind remote end offices prior to dispatch, which is causing extended intervals and double dispatches. | 1Q 2004       | 2Q 2006<br>4 <del>Q 2005</del><br>2 <del>Q 2005</del><br>1 <del>Q 2005</del><br>4 <del>Q 2004</del><br>2 <del>Q 2004</del> | 40-50% of<br>orders<br><del>20-30% of</del><br><del>orders</del><br><del>60-70% of</del><br><del>days</del> |             | During implementation of a process to identify UNE Loops behind remote end offices in September 2005, Embarq discovered that many of the indicators used to identify UNE Loops behind remote end offices were inaccurate. The data is now correct and the indicators are currently in use however positive results are not expected until 2Q 2006. Embarq is closely monitoring results to ensure the fix is sufficient to restore compliance. Follow up meeting will be held 5/26/06 to assess performance and enact any necessary changes. |  |  |  |
| Needless referrals by contractors caused missed due dates.   | 4Q 2005       | 1Q 2006  | 10-20% of<br>orders   |             | Embarq plans to hire more full-time technicians.   |  |  |  |

Measure 11: Percent of Due Dates Missed Submeasure 11.11.01: UNE Loops Non-Designed – Field Work



| Description of Issue   | Start   | Projected  | Estimated                                | End  | Improvement Plan   |
|--|---------|--|--|------|--|
|  | Date    | Improvement  | Impact                                   | Date |  |
| Embarq cannot currently identify UNE loops behind remote end offices prior to dispatch, which is causing extended intervals and double dispatches. | 1Q 2004 | 2Q 2006<br>4 <del>Q 2005</del><br>2 <del>Q 2005</del><br>1 <del>Q 2005</del><br>4 <del>Q 2004</del><br>2 <del>Q 2004</del> | 70-80% of<br>orders<br>60-70% of<br>days |      | During implementation of a process to identify UNE Loops behind remote end offices in September 2005, Embarq discovered that many of the indicators used to identify UNE Loops behind remote end offices were inaccurate. The data is now correct and the indicators are currently in use however positive results are not expected until 2Q 2006. Embarq is closely monitoring results to ensure the fix is sufficient to restore compliance. Follow up meeting will be held 5/26/06 to assess performance and enact any necessary changes. |

| Measure 17a: Percentage of Troubles within 5 days for New Orders Submeasure 17a.01: Residential POTS |               |  |                              |             |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|--|------------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Description of Issue   | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement                 | Estimated<br>Impact          | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan   |  |  |  |
| A disproportionate number of CLEC customers are reporting facilities issues than ILEC customers.     | 2Q 2005       | 2Q 2006<br>1Q 2006<br>4Q 2005<br>3Q 2005 | 96% of<br>trouble<br>tickets |             | Extensive analysis is underway to decrease the frequency of troubles in the first 5 days after order completion. Embarq continues to emphasize completion testing on service orders and is replacing outside plant cables that contribute to trouble tickets. Embarq is also reaching out to CLECs with high levels of troubles to further investigate the issue. Embarq is reviewing internal reporting procedures that may affect the way dispatched tickets are counted on the Embarq side. |  |  |  |

| Measure 17a: Percentage of Troubles within 5 days for New Orders Submeasure 17a.101: UNE Loops xDSL Provisioned |               |                               |                              |             |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Description of Issue  | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement      | Estimated<br>Impact          | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan   |  |  |  |
| A disproportionate number of CLEC customers are reporting facilities issues than ILEC customers.                | 4Q2005        | 2Q 2006<br><del>1Q 2006</del> | 96% of<br>trouble<br>tickets |             | Extensive analysis is underway to decrease the frequency of troubles in the first 5 days after order completion. Embarq continues to emphasize completion testing on service orders and is replacing outside plant cables that contribute to trouble tickets. Embarq is also reaching out to CLECs with high levels of troubles to further investigate the issue. Embarq is reviewing internal reporting procedures that may affect the way dispatched tickets are counted on the Embarq side. |  |  |  |
| A Embarq system erroneously defaults all UNE Loops xDSL order codes to "Other".                                 | 1Q 2006       | 4Q 2006                       | TBD                          |             | A corrective enhancement to the system has been identified and is scheduled to be implemented in 4Q 2006.  |  |  |  |



Measure 18: Average Completion Notice Interval

| Description of Issue                                   | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement | Estimated<br>Impact | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan  |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|
| Several Embarq systems are reporting longer completion | 2Q2005        | 2Q 2006                  | 80-90% of           |             | A system enhancement was implemented in October 2005 to           |
| notice intervals than customers actually experience.   |               | <del>1Q 2006</del>       | minutes             |             | allow Embarq to appropriately report the actual completion notice |
|  |               | <del>3Q-2005</del>       | 10-15% of           |             | intervals. Updates to another system are pending. Embarq          |
|  |               |                          | <del>orders</del>   |             | expects this issue to be resolved in 2Q 2006.                     |

Measure 18: Average Completion Notice Interval

Submeasure 18.03: Electronic/Manual Mix

| Description of Issue  | Start<br>Date | Projected<br>Improvement | Estimated<br>Impact               | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan   |
|---|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Service center representatives are not clearing errors within the objective. Orders are not completed by Embarq's order routing system if they contain a specific indicator. This also prevents downstream systems from | 4Q2005        | 2Q 2006                  | 60-70% of orders 30-40% of orders |             | The appropriate centers are evaluating examples of this situation for corrective action. Enhancements will be made to two systems in January to correct the issue. One system enhancement is |
| sending the orders back in a timely fashion.  |               |                          | <del>orucis</del>                 |             | pending.   |

Measure 19: Customer Trouble Report Rate
Submeasure 19:101: UNE Loops xDSL Provisioned

| Description of Issue   | Start<br>Date                  | Projected<br>Improvement       | Estimated<br>Impact          | End<br>Date | Improvement Plan  |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Data is being accumulated to identify actionable causes for troubles. A 3-month study indicates that tickets are excluded with a disposition code of CPE a higher percentage of the time for retail troubles (34% average) than CLEC troubles (17% average). Embarq is investigating the difference and impacts.  Tickets from the National Integrated Business System (NIBS) are mostly coded as "other" which does not adequately differentiate the cause of troubles. | 1Q 2006<br>4 <del>Q 2005</del> | 2Q 2006<br>1 <del>Q 2006</del> | 20% of<br>trouble<br>tickets |             | Embarq has completed an equipment replacement project designed to lessen customer troubles. In addition, Embarq is making several improvement measures to mitigate troubles.  • Load reduction - Continue to replace defective cable in areas with a high trouble rate  • Preventive maintenance - Check and repair faulty pairs in plant that can lead to trouble  Embarq is also reaching out to CLECs with high levels of troubles to further investigate the issue. |
| An Embarq system erroneously defaults all UNE Loops xDSL order codes to "Other".   | 1Q 2006                        | 4Q 2006                        | TBD                          |             | A corrective enhancement to the system has been identified and is scheduled to be implemented in 4Q 2006. The enhancement will allow for further refinement of reporting by breaking out the tickets coded as "other" to provide a clearer picture of what was worked on.   |

Measure 20: % of Customer Trouble Not Resolved within Estimated Time Submeasure 20.101.02: UNE Loops xDSL Provisioned - No Dispatch



| Description of Issue   | Start   | Projected   | Estimated           | End  | Improvement Plan  |
|--|---------|-------------|---------------------|------|---|
|  | Date    | Improvement | Impact              | Date |   |
| Technician errors caused the majority of missed commitment times. The process of coordinating testing and vendor meets are causing extended intervals. CLECs occasionally purchase xDSL capable loops and use ISDN equipment. Embarq technicians or contractors working the xDSL loops refer the trouble tickets to technicians with ISDN knowledge. This results in longer intervals for a CLEC that has installed ISDN on an xDSL loop than it does for a Embarq customer that has xDSL equipment on an xDSL loop. | 1Q 2006 | 2Q 2006     | 60-90% of<br>orders |      | Embarq is providing refresher training overviews with all Embarq technicians as well as contract companies on CLEC Methods & Procedures to help bring awareness, education and attention to these types of issues. CLEC tickets will be directed to Embarq employees to ensure the highest level of expertise. Embarq is also planning to hire more Embarq technicians.  This measure is compliant in March 2006. |
| An Embarq system erroneously defaults all UNE Loops xDSL order codes to "Other".   | 1Q 2006 | 4Q 2006     | TBD                 |      | A corrective enhancement to the system has been identified and is scheduled to be implemented in 4Q 2006. The enhancement will allow for further refinement of reporting by breaking out the tickets coded as "other" to provide a clearer picture of what was worked on.  This measure is compliant in March 2006.   |

| Measure 21: Average Time to Restore<br>Submeasure 21.101.01: UNE Loops xDSL Provisioned - Dispatch |         |             |           |      |  |  |
|--|---------|-------------|-----------|------|--|--|
| Description of Issue   | Start   | Projected   | Estimated | End  | Improvement Plan   |  |
|  | Date    | Improvement | Impact    | Date |  |  |
| Embarq technicians or contractors working the xDSL   | 1Q 2006 | 2Q 2006     | 60%       |      | Embarq is providing refresher training overviews with all Embarq   |  |
| loops refer the trouble tickets to technicians with ISDN   |         | Į           | Į l       |      | technicians as well as contract companies on CLEC Methods &        |  |
| knowledge. This results in longer intervals for a CLEC   |         |             |           |      | Procedures to help bring awareness, education and attention to     |  |
| that has installed ISDN on an xDSL loop than it does for   |         | <u> </u>    |           |      | these types of issues. CLEC tickets will be directed to Embarq     |  |
| a Embarq customer that has xDSL equipment on an  |         |             |           |      | employees to ensure the highest level of expertise. Embarq is also |  |
| xDSL loop.   |         | }           | ) i       |      | Inlanning to hire more Embara technicians                          |  |

| Measure 21: Average Time to Restore                            |         |             |           |      |  |  |  |
|--|---------|-------------|-----------|------|--|--|--|
| Submeasure 21.101.02: UNE Loops xDSL Provisioned - No Dispatch |         |             |           |      |  |  |  |
| Description of Issue   | Start   | Projected   | Estimated | End  | Improvement Plan   |  |  |
|  | Date    | Improvement | Impact    | Date |  |  |  |
| Technician errors caused the majority of missed                | 1Q 2006 | 2Q 2006     | 60-90% of |      | Embarq is providing refresher training overviews with all Embarq   |  |  |
| commitment times. The process of coordinating testing          |         |             | orders    |      | technicians as well as contract companies on CLEC Methods &        |  |  |
| and vendor meets are causing extended intervals.               |         |             |           |      | Procedures to help bring awareness, education and attention to     |  |  |
| CLECs occasionally purchase xDSL capable loops and             |         |             | [ [       |      | these types of issues. CLEC tickets will be directed to Embarq     |  |  |
| use ISDN equipment. Embarq technicians or                      |         |             |           |      | employees to ensure the highest level of expertise. Embarq is also |  |  |
| contractors working the xDSL loops refer the trouble           |         |             |           |      | planning to hire more Embarq technicians. This issue has been      |  |  |
| tickets to technicians with ISDN knowledge. This               |         |             |           |      | fixed and will be compliant in next months report.                 |  |  |



| results in longer intervals for a CLEC that has installed ISDN on an xDSL loop than it does for a Embarq customer that has xDSL equipment on an xDSL loop. |         |         |     |   |
|--|---------|---------|-----|---|
| An Embarq system erroneously defaults all UNE Loops xDSL order codes to "Other".   | 1Q 2006 | 4Q 2006 | TBD | A corrective enhancement to the system has been identified and is scheduled to be implemented in 4Q 2006. The enhancement will allow for further refinement of reporting by breaking out the tickets coded as "other" to provide a clearer picture of what was worked on. |

Measure 31: Usage Completeness
Submeasure 31.04: Facilities/Intel

| Submeasure 31.04: Facilities/Interconnection                |         |             |           |      |   |  |
|---|---------|-------------|-----------|------|---|--|
| Description of Issue  | Start   | Projected   | Estimated | End  | Improvement Plan  |  |
|   | Date    | Improvement | Impact    | Date |   |  |
| Embarq uncovered a billing issue with a large FL            | 1Q 2006 | 2Q 2006     | TBD       | TBD  | Embarq is coordinating between billing and the service centers to |  |
| CLEC/IXC where the appropriate Carrier Identification       |         |             |           |      | make the necessary billing account changes. The manual edit of    |  |
| Codes for Local CLEC traffic (vs. Interconnection) were     |         |             |           |      | usage has been rescheduled effective for April 2006. The billing  |  |
| not being used. Embarq also determined that additional      |         |             |           |      | account changes were completed prior to April billing and this    |  |
| billing account changes are needed to allow traffic to bill | :       |             |           |      | measure will be compliant for April.                              |  |
| appropriately without manual corrections. In addition, a    |         |             |           |      |   |  |
| recurring manual edit of usage for another large CLEC       |         |             |           |      |   |  |
| was scheduled improperly.                                   |         |             |           |      |   |  |