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TruOps Telecom Routing Administration (TRA)

Fair Share Plan

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Trademark Acknowledgments

- iconectiv is a registered trademark, and LERG and TPM are trademarks and the intellectual property of iconectiv, LLC.

For further information about this document, please contact:

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the TruOps Telecom Routing Administration's Fair Share Plan, which is the process by which companies perform data entry and ongoing maintenance of that data in Telecom Routing Administration's Business Integrated Routing & Rating Database System (BIRRDS).

The data being entered into BIRRDS consists of new Central Office Code (NXX) and Thousand Block (NXX-X) assignments and other related data elements that facilitate the completion and rating of telephone calls within the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). Companies with Central Office Code and Thousand Block assignments need to have their data entered into BIRRDS and published in the LERG™ Routing Guide in accordance with various industry guidelines. This function may be performed by the company itself or the company may enter into an agreement with another company to have this function performed on their behalf. In either case, a Fair Share Plan (FSP) agreement with Telecom Routing Administration (TRA) must be obtained by the company that is to perform the data entry function before access to the BIRRDS database will be granted.

- ❖ **Note**: BIRRDS access / data is not intended for use to perform network routing programming changes or for use in updating rating systems and should not be used in lieu of the LERG™ Routing Guide or the TPM™ Data Source. Utilizing BIRRDS data for network routing purposes and/or rating system updates by companies not having an active subscription to the corresponding TRA output product (i.e. LERG Routing Guide) is prohibited.

2. Telecom Routing Administration (TRA)

TRA is part of iconectiv, LLC (iconectiv). It supports the telecommunications industry by providing essential data services and products that support call completion. Since 1984, TRA has served as a central point for the inter-company exchange of routing and rating data and has been recognized by the industry as the source of routing and rating information products. By performing the information collection, validation, and data distribution processes for its clients, TRA satisfies the industry's need to share numbering and networking information concerning access to the local exchange environment in a cost effective, accurate, and timely manner.

TRA data products provide the most up-to-date snapshot of routing within the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). Several industry committees, associations, etc. provide regular input to the format and content of the TRA data products. These bodies represent a wide cross-section of companies and interests. Through this process, TRA data products reflect the ever-changing nature of the industry and its related data exchange needs. The TRA website, www.trainfo.com, provides information relating to specific data products that are available from TRA and permits downloading, at no charge, of sample products and a number of documents pertaining to TRA and various industry processes.

The TRA data collection process provides service providers (wireline, cellular, interconnect VoIP, etc.) with the ability to report data relating to Central Office Codes (also known as prefixes, exchanges, and NXXs), Thousands Blocks (NXX-X), switch-to-switch homing, switch services, operator-to-operator routing, and other routing data. It also provides an effective means to share data used in call rating, although actual rates are not provided. Rating data includes identification of the time zone a prefix is in, whether the area covered observes daylight savings time, the place (e.g., town and state) served by the prefix, Vertical and Horizontal (V&H) Coordinates and other data elements used in rating and billing processes.

The area defined by the NANP is currently comprised of the U.S. (including The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands), Canada, Bermuda, and 16 island countries in the Caribbean. All of these areas utilize a telephone number format comprised of a 3 digit Area Code + 3 digit Prefix + 4 digit Line Number, and all are administered under the umbrella of the NANP (Country Code 1).

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3. Business Integrated Routing & Rating Database System (BIRRDS)

The Business Integrated Routing & Rating Database System (BIRRDS) is a centralized database used to collect pertinent data that supports the routing and rating of local exchange calls. Output of BIRRDS includes the monthly *LERG™ Routing Guide* that serves as an accepted standard for common and consistent reporting of routing information to interexchange carriers and the telecommunications industry in general. A LERG One-Day Changes process is also available and provides an expedited means of identifying pertinent network changes. Output of BIRRDS also includes a monthly TPM™ Data Source product that serves as an accepted standard for common and consistent reporting of rating information.

The BIRRDS database supports an established intercompany notification process, used primarily within the telecommunications industry, which permits companies to share pertinent routing and rating data with the ever-changing number of companies that need such information. The majority of this data supports call origination and termination within the area covered by the NANP. There are over 5000 companies for which codes exist in the BIRRDS database. Each record is identified with an Operating Company Number (OCN). In most cases, this is the same value as the Company Code that was assigned by the National Exchange Carriers Association (NECA). Not all of the 5000 companies with codes in BIRRDS have the ability to input their codes directly into the database. In some cases, a company may perform data entry for itself, and also for other companies as a "line-of-business." In other cases, companies that are not telephone companies may perform the data entry process entirely for others.

TRA's responsibilities relative to BIRRDS include system maintenance, general logon administration, user support, data integrity, and BIRRDS processing and output. Ultimate responsibility for the timely and accurate reporting of data rests with code/block assignees, providers of supporting equipment (e.g. switching entity/POI (Point Of Interconnection)), etc.

4. Fair Share Plan

The Fair Share Plan (FSP) provides the framework for data providers to be able to input data into the BIRRDS database from which the above mentioned products are created, and to share associated fees based on each data provider's relative number of records in the database. Companies can elect to input their own data or hire another company to perform data entry services on their behalf.

The FSP includes the process by which TRA recovers certain costs associated with operating and maintaining the database, supporting users, etc. Cost equity among participants is based on a process that considers a given company's total number of FSP related records to the total number of FSP related records in the BIRRDS database. A sample FSP agreement (Sample Contract) is available from the TRA Customer Care Center at tra@iconectiv.com.

No unique software or hardware is required. To become a data provider i.e., have data entry access to the BIRRDS database, companies must enter into a Fair Share Plan agreement with TRA. Companies that wish to hire another company to perform their data input can also download a list of companies that perform such services from the TRA website at www.trainfo.com.

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5. AOCN Details

Companies that are able to perform data entry to the BIRRDS database are identified by, and referred to as, Administrative Operating Company Numbers (AOCNs). AOCNs can provide data entry for other companies based upon individual intercompany agreements that are outside the Fair Share Plan agreement. Beyond supporting a basic understanding that each AOCN must take reasonable measures to ensure that data is entered and maintained in a timely and accurate manner, TRA is not involved in such agreements (e.g. charges, scope of services, etc.).

This section contains AOCN requirements, responsibilities, fees, advantages, and details on how to become an AOCN.

Requirements

AOCNs should have knowledge in the following areas:

♦ General Telephony

♦ North American Numbering Plan (NANP)

♦ Networks / Routing

♦ Regulatory Bodies and Numbering Administration organizations (Federal Communications Commission (FCC), North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA), Pooling Administration, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), Canadian Steering Committee on Numbering (CSCN), Canadian Numbering Administration (CNA), Caribbean Telecom Regulatory Authorities, etc. as apply).

♦ Industry Standards and Guidelines published by:

- The Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS). Specifically, by the following ATIS groups:

  o ATIS – Industry Numbering Committee (INC)

  o ATIS – Next Generation Interconnection Interoperability Forum (NGIIF)

- The CSCN and/or the CNA

Responsibilities

AOCNs are responsible for:

♦ Timely data entry into BIRRDS per industry guidelines/standards, i.e. ATIS – INC, ATIS – NGIIF. Guidelines available at www.atis.org.

♦ Prompt attention to discrepancies identified in various monthly validation reports distributed by iconectiv.

In addition, Third Party/Non-Service Providers must have clients on board within 6 months of becoming an AOCN. Someone may need to act as an intermediary between clients and the industry and educate clients depending on their knowledge base.

Fees

There is a one-time administrative fee that is billed upon execution of the agreement. There is also a monthly charge for each FSP-related record in the BIRRDS database as of the close of business on the 15th calendar day of each month, which is billed annually. If the service has been suspended for non-use, there is a reactivation fee to be paid by credit card. For more information, see the Billing section of this document for details.

Advantages

Each AOCN automatically becomes a member of the Common Interest Group on Routing and Rating (CIGRR). This is a user group that meets several times a year. CIGRR reviews system changes and provides guidance to TRA in determining system priorities, identifying TRA procedural changes, etc.

BIRRDS database input training is scheduled twice per year (conducted based on registration of attendees) and is available to each AOCN free of charge. Training sessions are conducted via WebEx. If desired, company-specific training sessions can be arranged for a fee.

Process

Companies desiring to become an AOCN should contact:

TRA Customer Care Center

iconectiv - Telecom Routing Administration

100 Somerset Corporate Blvd., Room 6E-612A

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Voice: 732 699-6700

Email: TRA@iconectiv.com

Information required to begin the process includes:

♦ Full Legal Name of Company

♦ Name, Title, Telephone #, and Email Address of Person to Whom the Fair Share Plan Agreement Should Be Addressed

♦ Name, Title, Telephone #, and Email Address of Administrative Contact

♦ Name, Title, Telephone #, and Email Address of Billing Contact

A form is provided at the end of this document to enable companies that have become AOCNs to report that they will perform data entry services on behalf of others. (See Attachment A: AOCN Additional Contact Request Form).

The AOCN list is available on TRA's website at www.trainfo.com under the documents section.

6. Record Counts

Each record in the BIRRDS database contains an Operating Company Number (OCN), which identifies the company that "owns" the data represented by the record. OCNs are used in TRA output products and in various telecommunications processes primarily as a means to identify local service providers. In addition, each record contains an Administrative OCN (AOCN) that is assigned by TRA and identifies the company having data input responsibility for the record. AOCN values are assigned to companies who are participants in a Fair Share Plan agreement with TRA. For administrative and billing purposes, TRA considers the company identified by the AOCN value to be the data provider.

Fair Share Plan billing is based on a number of specific types of records in the BIRRDS database. These include all active codes (and those which will disconnect in the future) and all codes that are scheduled to be established in the future. The specific types of records that are currently counted are as follows:

- NXD Records (NPA/NXXs) reflecting a complete block of 10,000 active line numbers
- Block Records associated with 1000 Block Pooling
- Switch Records
- Special (Revenue Accounting Office (RAO-Based)) Calling Card Records

iconectiv reserves the right to periodically make changes to the types of records that are counted.

7. Billing

TRA fees for database utilization services are administered as stated below:

A. The data provider will be billed a one-time administrative fee upon execution of the FSP Agreement. The data provider will also be billed an estimated annual fee for BIRRDS database utilization. The estimated annual fee for the first year of the Agreement will be computed by multiplying the estimated number of the provider's records (see Record Counts above) in the BIRRDS database each month during the remainder of the first year times the estimated monthly price per record. Billing for subsequent years will be as stated below in Section D. In addition, the data provider will be billed a fee to be paid by credit card if access to the BIRRDS database needs to be reactivated after a suspension of service for non-use.

B. Each month TRA will compute each data provider's actual monthly fee for database utilization by identifying the number of records in the BIRRDS database as of the close of business on the 15th calendar day of the month and multiplying this record count by the current month's price per record. A TRA Services Usage Summary, which identifies the data provider's actual monthly and year-to-date database usage information, will be sent to the data provider each month. Monthly actual record counts and monthly and year-to-date actual usage fees will be shown for all active codes (and those which will disconnect in the future) and all codes that are scheduled to be established in the future.

C. At the end of each year there may be a difference between the estimated annual fee that was billed to the data provider for database utilization and the sum of the actual monthly amounts. This difference, which may be plus or minus, is referred to as the "true-up" adjustment and will be applied to the data provider's estimated annual bill for the following year.

D. In January of each year, TRA will determine the data provider's estimated annual fee for the - current calendar year based on the relative number of records in the BIRRDS database. This estimated annual fee will be computed by multiplying the actual number of records in the TRA database as of the close of business on the next-to-last workday of the previous year times the current years estimated Price Per Record. An invoice for this estimated annual fee and the aforementioned true-up adjustment applicable to the previous year will be sent to the data provider not later than March 15. Payment of all amounts invoiced shall be in accordance with the section of the Fair Share Plan Agreement titled "Payment of iconectiv Invoices."

E. There are no incremental charges for querying or updating records for users who have update capabilities.

8. Conflict of Language

In all cases where specific Fair Share Plan agreement language differs from the content of this overview document, such Fair Share Plan agreement language shall prevail.

For further questions or information, please call the TRA Customer Care Center on 732-699-6700 or send email to tra@iconectiv.com.

9. Legal Notice

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Attachment A: AOCN Additional Contact Request Form

Please select the paperclip icon to open the **AOCN Additional Contact Request Form**.

AOCN_Additional_Co
ntact_Request_Form.p

❖ **Important:** Before you complete the form, it is recommended that you select **File>Save As** (as shown below) before completing it so that the data you enter is saved.

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