

GLOSSARY

- ACCESS LINE (WATS) - A telephone line connected to the customer's premises to either establish or receive calls to or from a particular WATS Service Area.
- AMA (AUTOMATIC MESSAGE ACCOUNTING) - GSA furnished reports providing a tabulation of FTS calls, indicating the date, area code, telephone number called, time of day, and duration.
- ANALOG - As opposed to digital. Signals which make use of electrical analogies (e.g., varying voltages, frequencies) to produce a signal of a continuous nature rather than a pulse nature.
- ANSWERBACK (DATA) - A signal or tone sent by the receiving business machine or data set to the sending station for identification or to indicate it is ready to receive transmission.
- AREA CODE - The three-digit code used when dialing long distance calls from one Number-Plan Area (NPA) to another.
- ASCII - American Standard Code for Information Interchange. This is the code established as an American standard by the American Standard Association.
- ASR - Automatic Send and Receive.
- BROADCAST - The dissemination of information to a number of stations simultaneously.
- BUSY HOUR - The peak 60-minute period during a business day when the largest volume of communications traffic is handled.
- CARD DIALER - Automatic dialer and regular telephone combined in one desk-top unit. Phone numbers coded on plastic cards are inserted in the dialer slot for fast, accurate dialing or touch-tone entry of fixed data into a data processing system.
- CATHODE RAY TUBE (CRT) - A television-like picture tube used in visual display terminals.
- CCSA - Common Control Switching Arrangements; designed for customers having extensive private line communications requirements.
- CENTRAL OFFICE - The place where communications common carriers terminate customer lines and locate the equipment which interconnects those lines.
- CENTREX - A type of private branch exchange in which incoming calls can be dialed direct to any extension without operator's assistance. Outgoing and intercom calls are dialed direct by the extension users.

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CHARACTER - The actual or coded representation of a digit, letter, or special symbol.

CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT - Interface equipment required by telephone company when connecting privately-owned data and voice equipment into the public network.

CONTENTION - A condition on a multi-point communication channel when two or more locations try to transmit at the same time.

CROSSTALK - Voice communication in one circuit being overheard in another circuit.

CRYPTOGRAPHIC - pertaining to equipment or systems that code data to conceal its actual meaning.

CUSTOMER - Denotes the person, firm, or corporation which orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with Telephone Company regulations.

CUSTOMER-PROVIDED EQUIPMENT - Term applies to equipment owned by the customer or leased from vendors other than the Telephone Company.

DATA - Any representations, such as characters or analog quantities, to which meaning might be assigned.

DATA SET - A device which converts the signals of a business machine to signals that are suitable for transmission over communication lines. It may also perform other related functions.

DIAL-UP - The use of a dial or push-button telephone to initiate a station-to-station telephone call.

DIGITAL - As opposed to analog. Signals made up of pulses of discrete duration, amplitude, etc.

DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING - A telephone service which enables a user to dial directly telephones outside the user's local area without the aid of an operator.

DOUBLE-LINK DIAL INTERCOM - Permits up to 36 stations to use two talking paths to intercommunicate simultaneously.

DUPLEX - In communications, pertaining to a simultaneous two-way and independent transmission outside the user's local area without the aid of an operator.

ESS (ELECTRONIC SWITCHING SYSTEM) - A communications switching system which uses solid state devices and other computer-type equipment and principles. It operates in millionths of a second and gives customers many new services.

EXCHANGE - A defined area, served by the Telephone Company, within which the carrier furnishes service at the exchange rate under the regulations applicable in that area as prescribed in the carrier's filed tariffs.

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EXTENSION - A telephone associated with a main telephone station on the same premises but at a different location.

FACSIMILE (FAX) - Transmission of pictures, maps, diagrams, etc. The image is scanned at the transmitter, reconstructed at the receiving station and duplicated on some form of paper.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE SERVICE (FX) - A service which connects a customer's telephone to a remote exchange. This service provides the equivalent of local service from the distant exchange.

FREQUENCY MODULATION - A method of transmission whereby the frequency of the carrier wave is changed to correspond to similar changes in the signal wave.

FULL DUPLEX - See Duplex.

HALF-DUPLEX - Pertaining to an alternate, one-way-at-a-time, independent transmission (sometimes referred to as "single"). Contrast with Duplex.

HARD COPY - A printed copy of machine output in readable form for human beings; for example, reports, listings, documents, and summaries.

HERTZ - Cycles per second.

HOLDING TIME - The length of time a communication channel is in use for each transmission. Includes both message time and operating time.

INTERCOM - Communications between locations on a customer's premises.

JACK - A connecting device ordinarily used in a fixed location to make contact with a compatible receptacle -- a plug.

KEYBOARD DEVICES - Teleprinters and other devices that use a keyboard for manual entry of information.

KEY SET - Another name for push-button telephones, wherein the buttons are used for intercom, holding, signaling and/or pick-up of additional telephone lines.

KEY SYSTEM - A group of associated key sets connected to allow channel selection and intercommunication to a number of telephones interconnected on the system.

LEASED LINE - A private line that is at the exclusive disposal of a subscriber.

LINE DROP - A voltage drop between two points on a power or transmission line because of resistance or leakage in the line.

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LOCAL CENTRAL OFFICE - An office which serves as a termination point for leased trunks and can provide trunks to other central offices through which communicating channels can be established.

MANUAL SYSTEM - A system whereby telephone or other connections are established with the assistance of an attendant.

MESSAGE - A communication, prepared for information interchange, in a form suitable for passage through the interchange medium. It includes: 1. All portions of the communication, such as machine sensible controls; 2. An indication of the start of the message and the end of the message; and 3. A heading containing routing and other information, one or more texts containing the originator-to addressee communication(s), and the end of text indicator.

MESSAGE FORMAT - Rules for the placement of such portions of a message as message heading, address, text, and end of message.

MESSAGE SWITCHING - The switching technique of receiving message, storing it until the proper outgoing circuit and station are available, and then retransmitting it toward its destination.

MODEM - Contraction of modulator-demodulator. A device which modulates and demodulates signals transmitted over communication facilities.

MULTIPLE ADDRESS MESSAGE - A message to be delivered to more than one destination.

OCR (OPTICAL CHARACTER RECOGNITION) - The machine recognition of printed or written characters based on inputs from photoelectric transducers.

ONE-WAY CHANNEL (SIMPLEX) - A channel which permits transmission in one direction only.

OPERATING TIME - The time required for seizing the line, dialing the call, waiting for the connection to be established, and coordinating the forthcoming transaction with the personnel or equipment at the receiving end.

PABX-PBX - 1. Any of several pieces of equipment capable of

connecting a private network with outside trunks. 2. A switching system providing intra-premises common exchange service without having to access the public telephone exchange.

PICTUREPHONE - A registered service mark of the A. T. & T. Company to identify a telephone service that permits the user to see as well as talk with the person at the distant end.

POINT-TO-POINT COMMUNICATIONS - Communications between two fixed locations.

PUBLIC SWITCHED NETWORK - Any common-carrier network that provides circuit switching between public users, i.e., TELEX, TWX, and telephone.

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REAL TIME - 1. Pertaining to the actual time during which a physical process takes place. 2. Pertaining to the performance of a computation during a period short in comparison with the actual time that the related physical process takes place in order that results of the computations can be used in guiding the physical process.

ROTARY DIAL - A telephone that sends dial pulses to the telephone switching equipment to establish a connection.

ROTARY HUNT - An arrangement which allows calls placed to seek out the next idle line within a prearranged group of numbers.

SINGLE ADDRESS MESSAGE - A message to be delivered to only one destination.

STATION - One of the input or output points on a communications system.

SWITCHED MESSAGE NETWORK - A network of telephone lines and switching equipment normally used for dialed telephone or data transmission calls.

SYSTEM - A collection of operations and procedures united to accomplish a specific objective., i.e., a combination of two or more stations in such a way as to provide communications.

TARIFF - A schedule published by a communications common carrier and filed with a public service commission describing the services provided by the carrier, the rates and the conditions under which they are offered.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS - The reception and/or transmission of information of any nature by telephone, telegraph, radio, or other electromagnetic systems.

TELEPRINTER - Term used to refer to the equipment used in a printing telegraph system. A teletypewriter.

TELETYPE - A registered trademark of the Teletype Corporation. Usually refers to a series of different types of equipment; such as, transmitters, tape punches, page printers, utilized for communication systems.

TELETYPEWRITER (TTY) - A name used by the Bell System to refer specifically to telegraph page printers. The equipment transmits and/or receives typed records or perforated tapes at speeds from 60 to 150 words per minute.

TERMINAL - 1. A point at which information can enter or leave a communication network. 2. An input/output device designed to receive or send source data in an environment associated with the job to be performed and capable of transmitting entries to and obtaining output from the system of which it is a part.

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TEXT - That part of the message which contains the substantive information to be conveyed. Sometimes called "body" of the message.

TOLL RESTRICTION - An arrangement with the telephone company that denies or restricts toll calls from telephones within a system.

TOUCH TONE - A registered service mark of the A. T. & T. Company which identifies its push button dialing service.

TRANSCIVER - A device which is capable of transmitting and receiving.

UNATTENDED OPERATION - The automatic features of a station's operation which permit the transmission and reception of messages on an unattended basis.

VOICE CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT (VCA) - An interface arrangement provided by the telephone company to accommodate the connection of non-carrier provided voice terminal equipment to the Public Switched Telephone Network.

WIDE AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (WATS) - A service provided by Telephone Companies which permits a customer by use of an access line to make calls to or receive calls from telephones in a specific zone on a dial basis for a flat monthly charge.

WORD - 1. In telegraphy, six characters (five characters plus one space).
2. In computing, an ordered set of characters which is the

normal unit in which information may be stored,
transmitted, or operated upon within a computer.

ZULU TIME - The time at 0 degree meridian, or Greenwich standard
time.

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