INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

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STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
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SERIES D: GENERAL TARIFF PRINCIPLES

General tariff principles – Charging and accounting in the international telephone service

Tariff principles and accounting for the International Freephone Service (IFS)

ITU-T Recommendation D.115

(Previously CCITT Recommendation)

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ITU-T RECOMMENDATION D.115

TARIFF PRINCIPLES AND ACCOUNTING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FREEPHONE SERVICE (IFS)

Source

ITU-T Recommendation D.115 was revised by ITU-T Study Group 3 (1993-1996) and was approved by the WTSC (Geneva, October 9-18, 1996).

FOREWORD

ITU (International Telecommunication Union) is the United Nations Specialized Agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of the ITU. The ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Conference (WTSC), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T Study Groups which, in their turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of Recommendations by the Members of the ITU-T is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSC Resolution No. 1 (Helsinki, March 1-12, 1993).

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

CONTENTS

Recommendation D.115

TARIFF PRINCIPLES AND ACCOUNTING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FREEPHONE SERVICE (IFS)

(Melbourne, 1988; revised at Geneva, 1996)

Preamble

This Recommendation sets out the general principles for charging and international accounting to be applied by Administrations for the provision of the international freephone service which is described in Recommendation E.152.

With regard to tariff and accounting principles, the **International Freephone Service** (IFS) is a service where the subscriber can be allocated a special (freephone) number and the charges for all calls to this number are paid by the respective subscriber instead of by the originating caller[1].

1 Tariff structure

1.1 Tariff components

1.1.1 The tariff for the service should normally consist of two components:

– a network access component;

– a network utilization component.

1.1.2 The network access component, normally intended to cover the cost of making the service available, represents the cost of the service which is not dependent on network utilization.

It corresponds to what is generally known as the "network connection charges".

1.1.3 The network utilization component normally covers the costs which are dependent on network utilization.

1.2 Network access component

1.2.1 Access charges should be levied for each subscription and should normally be independent of network utilization. They may consist of:

a) an initial fee (non-recurring);

b) a subscription rental (payable at certain intervals, e.g. monthly or quarterly, until the subscription is terminated).

1.2.2 The access charges shall not be included in international accounts between Administrations and their establishment is strictly a national matter.

1.3 Network utilization component

1.3.1 These charges may vary by call duration and country origin and time of day.

[1] For technical or other reasons, some originating Administrations may apply a small utilization charge to the calling party.

1.3.2 Composition

Charges for network utilization may consist either of a communication charge or of a minimum charge/a minimum average charge per call.

2 Collection charges

2.1 Collection charges are a national matter, but the structure and level should encourage international cooperation for the development of the service.

2.2 Normally, chargeable time for calls begins and ends on the same basis as for the automatic international telephone service.

3 International accounting

3.1 IFS should be accounted for and settled using the same principles and methodologies used for other international telephone services and should be bilaterally agreed to by the two Administrations.

3.2 The terminating Administration, having the charging responsibility for IFS, is also responsible for the establishment of international accounts.

3.3 As an automatic service, IFS should be accounted at the same rate as the international telephone service. However, as international telephone accounting rates become cost orientated in accordance with Recommendation D.140, Administrations may bilaterally agree to apply when appropriate, different accounting arrangements which may be of a per call nature or duration related, to take account of the specific costs encountered in providing the service.

3.4 International accounts should identify usage associated with IFS separately.

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