

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

D.195

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General tariff principles – Service and privilege
telecommunications

**Time-scale for settlement of accounts for
international telecommunication services**

ITU-T Recommendation D.195

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ITU-T Recommendation D.195

Time-scale for settlement of accounts for international telecommunication services

Summary

This Recommendation sets out the general guideline on the time-scale to be adopted in the settlement of accounts for international telecommunication services.

Source

ITU-T Recommendation D.195 was approved on 27 June 2006 by ITU-T Study Group 3 (2005-2008) under the Resolution 1 procedure.

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. 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 Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

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.

Compliance with this Recommendation is voluntary. However, the Recommendation may contain certain mandatory provisions (to ensure e.g. interoperability or applicability) and compliance with the Recommendation is achieved when all of these mandatory provisions are met. The words "shall" or some other obligatory language such as "must" and the negative equivalents are used to express requirements. The use of such words does not suggest that compliance with the Recommendation is required of any party.

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As of the date of approval of this Recommendation, ITU had not received notice of intellectual property, protected by patents, which may be required to implement this Recommendation. However, implementors are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information and are therefore strongly urged to consult the TSB patent database.

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ITU-T Recommendation D.195

Time-scale for settlement of accounts for international telecommunication services

This Recommendation sets out the general guideline on the time-scale to be adopted in the settlement of accounts for international telecommunications services.

The ITU-T,

recognizing

- a) that in today's dynamic commercial environment the existing settlement period is too long and unrealistic for some parties and that it would be beneficial to many parties to modify the existing settlements process;
- b) that in order to improve the settlements process and shorten the time period for settlements, it would be more efficient and time-saving to establish generally acceptable procedures that can be used as a guideline for bilateral agreement,

recognizing further

- a) that administrations and ROAs may establish provisions for bilateral accounting and settlements in accordance with Article 1 of the ITRs, by mutual agreement;
- b) should there be any conflict regarding the time-scale in this Recommendation and those stated in Appendix 1 of the International Telecommunication Regulations, then the latter prevail,

considering

- a) that the current settlement period tends to be longer than some commercial transactions;
- b) that more well-balanced treatment could be brought about between debtor carriers and creditor carriers by shortening the settlement period,

recommends

- a) that monthly accounts for traffic on direct circuits and direct-settled transit¹ traffic shall be sent within 50 days following the end of the month to which they relate. If parties bilaterally agree, this period can be reduced;
- b) that questioning a monthly account shall be made within 50 days after the receipt of the account. If parties bilaterally agree, this period can be reduced;
- c) that payment of the balances of account on the undisputed amounts shall normally be paid within 40 days of its arrival of the settlement statement². To ensure prompt delivery, the creditor carrier shall send a statement by facsimile or by electronic means;

¹ Cascade settlement shall not be included.

² The arrival of the settlement statement can be ascertained by the following ways:

- In case of exchange of the settlement statement by EDI: automatically by the system;
- In case of exchange of the settlement statement by fax: by the request of a confirmation of receipt via return fax;
- In case of exchange of the settlement statement by mail: by return receipt request process.

Study Group 3 should review the time-scale set out in this Recommendation based on contributions.

- d) that when remitting payment, a statement indicating the service period, the type of service, the invoice number, the amount paid, the currency and its conversion factor, the dispute details, and the contact name and contact information shall accompany the payment;
- e) that beyond the period in c) above, the creditor carrier may, subject to prior notification in the form of the final demand for payment, and unless otherwise agreed, charge interest at a rate of 6% per annum on undisputed amounts, commencing from the day following the date of expiry of the said period;
- f) that any interest applicable for direct-settled transit traffic shall be borne by the originating administration.

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