INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

CCITT

THE INTERNATIONAL
TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Q.118
(11/1988)

SERIES Q: SWITCHING AND SIGNALLING

Clauses applicable to CCITT standard systems –
Abnormal conditions

SPECIAL RELEASE ARRANGEMENTS

Reedition of CCITT Recommendation Q.118 published in
the Blue Book, Fascicle VI.1 (1988)

NOTES

1   CCITT Recommendation Q118 was published in Fascicle VI.1 of the *Blue Book*. This file is an extract from the *Blue Book*. While the presentation and layout of the text might be slightly different from the *Blue Book* version, the contents of the file are identical to the *Blue Book* version and copyright conditions remain unchanged (see below).

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

Recommendation Q.118

4.3 SPECIAL RELEASE ARRANGEMENTS

4.3.1   *Answer signal not received by an outgoing exchange after receiving a number-received signal or number-received information (Systems No. 4 and R2) or after receiving an address complete signal (Systems No. 6 and No. 7) or after transmitting the ST signal (System No. 5)*

It is recommended that arrangements should be made either in the national network of the outgoing country or at the outgoing international exchange, for the connection to be released if an answer signal is not received within a delay period of 2 to 4 minutes as soon as it is known, or can be assumed, that the called subscriber's line has been reached.

If an Administration adopts a shorter delay period for this forced release condition, there will be a risk that the international connection will be released prematurely on calls not returning an answer signal. If the maximum delay of 4 minutes is exceeded, it will of course involve an unnecessary occupation of international circuits.

4.3.2   *Delay in clearing by the calling subscriber in automatic service (arrangements made in the outgoing country)*

In automatic working, arrangements must be made to clear the international connection and stop the charging if, between 1 and 2 minutes after receipt of the clear-back signal[1], the calling subscriber has not cleared. Clearing of the international connection should preferably be controlled from the point where the charging of the calling subscriber is carried out.

Such timed supervision may also be applied in semi-automatic service.

During the establishment of a connection to a PABX extension it is not appropriate to send a clear-back signal. However, if a PABX returns a clear back condition, the duration must be less than 10 seconds, so that it would not uninentionally clear the connection, especially on calls from networks with short time-out.[2]

4.3.3   *Clear-forward signal not received by the incoming exchange after sending a clear-back signal*[3]

The incoming circuits at the incoming international exchange should include an arrangement for releasing the national part of the connection if, after sending a clear-back signal, a clear-forward signal is not received within 2 to 3 minutes (provided that a similar arrangement is not already made in the national network of the incoming country). This arrangement avoids indefinite blocking of the national circuits of the country of destination or of the subscriber's line in the case of interruptions of the line or equipment faults.

Since the call may be a semi-automatic call not including the time-out of § 4.3.2 at the outgoing end, the expiry of the 2 to 3 minute time-out should not cause any alarm or blocking actions on the international circuit.

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[1] In the North American network the corresponding time-out is 10 to 32 seconds.

[2] For call where the charging is applied to called party (e.g., free phone service) the time-out may be reduced. The value to be chosen is for further study.

[3] These release arrangements may not be used within some regional networks.

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