

to interconnect with telephone company interstate switched transport services, telephone companies may charge rates for subelements of direct-trunked transport, tandem-switched transport, entrance facilities, and dedicated signalling transport that differ depending on the zone in which the service is offered, provided that the charge for any such service shall not be deaveraged within any such zone. Telephone companies may not, however, charge rates for the interconnection charge that differ depending on the zone in which the service is offered.

(1) A switched transport service subelement shall be deemed to be offered in the zone that contains the telephone company location from which the service is provided.

(2) A switched transport service subelement provided to a customer between telephone company locations shall be deemed to be offered in the highest priced zone that contains either of the locations between which the service is offered.

(e)(1) Telephone companies not subject to price cap regulation may charge a rate for each service in the highest priced zone that exceeds the rate for the same service in the lowest priced zone by no more than fifteen percent of the rate for the service in the lowest priced zone during the period from the date that the zones are initially established through the following June 30. The difference between the rates for any such service in the highest priced zone and the lowest priced zone in a study area, measured as a percentage of the rate for the service in the lowest priced zone, may increase by no more than an additional fifteen percentage points in each succeeding year, measured from the rate differential in effect on the last day of the preceding tariff year.

(2) Notwithstanding § 69.3(e)(7), incumbent local exchange carriers subject to price cap regulation may charge different rates for services in different zones pursuant to § 61.47(f) of this chapter, provided that the charges for any such service are not deaveraged within any such zone.

(f)(1) An incumbent local exchange carrier that establishes density pricing zones under this section must reallo-

cate additional amounts recovered under the interconnection charge prescribed in § 69.124 of this subpart to facilities-based transport rates, to reflect the higher costs of serving lower density areas. Each incumbent local exchange carrier must reallocate costs from the interexchange charge each time it increases the ratio between the prices in its lowest-cost zone and any other zone in that study area.

(2) Any incumbent local exchange carrier that has already deaveraged its rates on January 1, 1998 must reallocate an amount equivalent to that described in paragraph (f)(1) of this section from the interconnection charge prescribed in § 69.124 to its transport services.

(3) Price cap local exchange carriers shall reassign to direct-trunked transport and tandem-switched transport categories or subcategories interconnection charge amounts reallocated under paragraph (f)(1) or (f)(2) of this section in a manner that reflects the way density pricing zones are being implemented by the incumbent local exchange carrier.

[57 FR 54333, Nov. 18, 1992, as amended by 58 FR 48764, Sept. 17, 1993; 62 FR 31935, June 11, 1997; 64 FR 51267, Sept. 22, 1999]

#### § 69.124 Interconnection charge.

(a) Local exchange carriers not subject to price cap regulation shall assess an interconnection charge expressed in dollars and cents per access minute upon all interexchange carriers and upon all other persons using the telephone company switched access network.

(b) If the use made of the local exchange carrier's switched access network includes the local switch, but not local transport, the interconnection charge assessed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be computed by subtracting entrance facilities, tandem-switched transport, direct-trunked transport, and dedicated signalling transport revenues, as well as any interconnection charge revenues that the local exchange carrier anticipates will be reassigned to other, facilities-based rate elements in the future, from the part 69 transport revenue requirement, and dividing by the total interstate local switching minutes.

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(c) If the use made of the local exchange carrier's switched access network includes local transport, the interconnection charge to be assessed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be computed by dividing any interconnection charge revenues that the local exchange carrier anticipates will be reassigned to other, facilities-based rate elements in the future by the total interstate local transport minutes, and adding thereto the per minute amount calculated pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section.

[62 FR 66030, Dec. 17, 1997]

### § 69.125 Dedicated signalling transport.

(a) Dedicated signalling transport shall consist of two elements, a signalling link charge and a signalling transfer point (STP) port termination charge.

(b)(1) A flat-rated signalling link charge expressed in dollars and cents per unit of capacity shall be assessed upon all interexchange carriers and other persons that use facilities between an interexchange carrier or other person's common channel signalling network and a telephone company signalling transfer point or equivalent facilities offered by a telephone company. Signalling link charges may be distance-sensitive. Distance shall be measured as airline kilometers between the signalling point of interconnection of the interexchange carrier's or other person's common channel signalling network and the telephone company's signalling transfer point.

(2) Signalling link rates will generally be presumed reasonable if they are based on the interoffice charges for equivalent special access services. Telephone companies that have, before February 18, 1993, tariffed a signalling link service for signalling transport between the interexchange carrier's or other person's common channel signalling network and the telephone company's STP are permitted to use the rates that are in place.

(c) A flat-rated STP port termination charge expressed in dollars and cents per port shall be assessed upon all interexchange carriers and other per-

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sons that use dedicated signalling transport.

[57 FR 54721, Nov. 20, 1992, as amended at 58 FR 41191, Aug. 3, 1993; 58 FR 44950, Aug. 25, 1993; 62 FR 31935, June 11, 1997]

### § 69.126 Nonrecurring charges.

Incumbent local exchange carriers shall not assess any nonrecurring charges for service connection when an interexchange carrier converts trunks from tandem-switched transport to direct-trunked transport or when an interexchange carrier orders the disconnection of overprovisioned trunks, until six months after the effective date of the tariffs eliminating the unitary pricing option for tandem-switched transport.

[62 FR 31935, June 11, 1997]

### § 69.127 Transitional Equal Charge Rule.

The transport rate structure in effect August 1, 1991, shall be retained until the tariffs filed pursuant to the Report and Order in Transport Rate Structure and Pricing, CC Docket No. 91-213, FCC 92-442, 7 FCC Rcd 7006 (1992) become effective.

[57 FR 54722, Nov. 20, 1992]

### § 69.128 Billing name and address.

Appropriate subelements shall be established for the use of equipment or facilities that are associated with offerings of billing name and address.

[58 FR 36145, July 6, 1993]

### § 69.129 Signalling for tandem switching.

A charge that is expressed in dollars and cents shall be assessed upon the purchasing entity by a local telephone company for provision of signalling for tandem switching.

[59 FR 32930, June 27, 1994]

## Subpart C—Computation of Charges for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

SOURCE: 62 FR 31935, June 11, 1997, unless otherwise noted.