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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

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ITU-T Recommendation D.115

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

Summary

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 ITU-T Rec. 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.

Source

ITU-T Recommendation D.115 was approved on 4 June 2004 by ITU-T Study Group 3 (2001-2004) under the WTSA 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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Tariff principles and accounting for the International Freephone Service (IFS)

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.

1.3.2 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 ITU-T Rec. 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.

3.5 Where cost-orientated rates have been agreed, and where costs for traffic to the IFS service originating from mobile networks or payphones differ from those originating from fixed-line networks, a separate rate may be bilaterally agreed for traffic originating from mobile networks and/or payphones. In each case, rates for fixed, mobile, and payphone should be in accordance with ITU-T Recs D.93 and D.140 and other relevant ITU-T Recommendations.

In case where the above-mentioned paragraph applies, suitable technical means need to be established to enable the IFS Service provider to identify mobile-originated and payphone-originated traffic separately from fixed-line originated traffic for both charging and accounting purposes. It is recommended that either:

3.5.1 A separate routing number be assigned to calls originating from mobile networks from the routing number employed for calls originating from fixed-line networks; likewise, a separate routing number should be assigned for calls originating from payphones when a separate rate is applied to these calls; or

3.5.2 The assigned codepoints for payphone and mobile in the Calling Party Category parameter of SS7 ISUP (and the Bearer Independent Call Control (BICC) signalling protocol) should be used by the IFS Service access provider (originating administration) to indicate the different call types (as indicated in ITU-T Rec. Q.764).

The assigned access code (dial-digit code) should not be changed in order to employ more than one routing number for call-origination purposes.

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