

**AMENDMENT TO  
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
WISCONSIN BELL, INC. d/b/a SBC WISCONSIN  
AND  
SAGE TELECOM, INC.**

Wisconsin Bell, Inc.<sup>1</sup> d/b/a SBC Wisconsin, as the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier in Wisconsin, (hereafter, "ILEC") and Sage Telecom, Inc. as [ a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier ("CLEC"), an Independent Local Exchange Carrier ("Independent") or Commercial Mobile Radio Service ("CMRS") provider in Wisconsin,] (referred to as "CARRIER"), in order to amend, modify and supersede any affected provisions of their Interconnection Agreement with ILEC in Wisconsin ("Interconnection Agreement"), hereby execute this Reciprocal Compensation Amendment for ISP-Bound Traffic and Federal Telecommunications Act Section 251(b)(5) Traffic (Adopting FCC's Interim ISP Terminating Compensation Plan)("Amendment"). CLEC and Independent are also referred to as a "LEC."

1.0 Scope of Amendment

- 1.1 On or about May 9, 2003, ILEC made an offer to all telecommunications carriers in the state of Wisconsin (the "Offer") to exchange traffic on and after June 1, 2003 under Section 251(b)(5) of the Act pursuant to the terms and conditions of the FCC's interim ISP terminating compensation plan of the FCC's Order on Remand and Report and Order, In the Matter of Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic, FCC 01-131, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 99-68 (rel. April 27, 2001) ("FCC ISP Compensation Order") which was remanded but not vacated in *WorldCom, Inc. v. FCC*, No. 01-1218 (D.C. Cir. 2002).
- 1.2 The purpose of this Amendment is to include in CARRIER's Interconnection Agreement the rates, terms and conditions of the FCC's interim ISP terminating compensation plan for the exchange of ISP-bound traffic lawfully compensable under the FCC ISP Compensation Order ("ISP-bound Traffic") and traffic lawfully compensable under Section 251(b)(5) ("Section 251(b)(5) Traffic").
- 1.3 This Amendment is intended to supercede any and all contract sections, appendices, attachments, rate schedules, or other portions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement that set forth rates, terms and conditions for the terminating compensation for ISP-bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic exchanged between ILEC and CARRIER. Any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Amendment and provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement shall be governed by the provisions of this Amendment.

2.0 Rates, Terms and Conditions of FCC's Interim Terminating Compensation Plan for ISP-Bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic

- 2.1 ILEC and CARRIER hereby agree that the following rates, terms and conditions shall apply to all ISP-bound Traffic and all Section 251(b)(5) Traffic exchanged between the Parties on and after the date this Amendment becomes effective pursuant to Section 4.1 of this Amendment.
- 2.2 Reciprocal Compensation Rate Schedule for ISP-bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic:
  - 2.2.1 The rates, terms, conditions in this section apply only to the termination of ISP-bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic, and ISP-bound Traffic is subject to the growth caps and new local market restrictions stated in Sections 2.3 and 2.4 below. Notwithstanding anything contrary in this Amendment, the growth caps in Section 2.3 and the rebuttable presumption in Section 2.6 only apply to LECs.

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<sup>1</sup> Wisconsin Bell, Inc. ("Wisconsin Bell"), a Wisconsin corporation, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ameritech Corporation, which owns the former Bell operating companies in the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. Wisconsin Bell offers telecommunications services and operates under the names "SBC Wisconsin" and "SBC Ameritech Wisconsin", pursuant to assumed name filings with the State of Wisconsin. Ameritech Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of SBC Communications, Inc.

2.2.2 The Parties agree to compensate each other for such ISP-bound Traffic and Section 251(b)(5) Traffic on a minute of use basis, according to the following rate schedule:

June 1, 2003 – June 14, 2003: .0010 per minute

June 15, 2003 and thereafter: .0007 per minute

2.2.3 Payment of Reciprocal Compensation will not vary according to whether the traffic is routed through a tandem switch or directly to an end office switch. Where the terminating party utilizes a hierarchical or two-tier switching network, the Parties agree that the payment of these rates in no way modifies, alters, or otherwise affects any requirements to establish Direct End Office Trunking, or otherwise avoids the applicable provisions of the Interconnection Agreement and industry standards for interconnection, trunking, Calling Party Number (CPN) signaling, call transport, and switch usage recordation.

## 2.3 ISP-bound Traffic Minutes Growth Cap

2.3.1 On a calendar year basis, as set forth below, LEC and ILEC agree to cap overall compensable Wisconsin ISP-bound Traffic minutes of use in the future based upon the 1st Quarter 2001 ISP-bound Traffic minutes for which LEC was entitled to compensation under its Wisconsin Interconnection Agreement(s) in existence for the 1st Quarter of 2001, on the following schedule.

Calendar Year 2001 1st Quarter 2001 compensable ISP-bound minutes, times 4, times 1.10

Calendar Year 2002 Year 2001 compensable ISP-bound minutes, times 1.10

Calendar Year 2003 Year 2002 compensable ISP-bound minutes

Calendar Year 2004 and on Year 2002 compensable ISP-bound minutes

Notwithstanding anything contrary herein, in Calendar Year 2003, LEC and ILEC agree that ISP-bound Traffic exchanged between LEC and ILEC during the entire period from January 1, 2003 until December 31, 2003 shall be counted towards determining whether LEC has exceeded the growth caps for Calendar Year 2003.

2.3.2 ISP-bound Traffic minutes that exceed the applied growth cap will be Bill and Keep. "Bill and Keep" refers to an arrangement in which neither of two interconnecting Parties charges the other for terminating traffic that originates on the other network; instead, each Party recovers from its end-users the cost of both originating traffic that it delivers to the other Party and terminating traffic that it receives from the other Party.

## 2.4 Bill and Keep for ISP-bound Traffic in New Markets

2.4.1 In the event CARRIER and ILEC have not previously exchanged ISP-bound Traffic in any one or more Wisconsin LATAs prior to April 18, 2001, Bill and Keep will be the reciprocal compensation arrangement for all ISP-bound Traffic between CARRIER and ILEC for the remaining term of this Agreement in any such Wisconsin LATAs.

2.4.2 In the event CARRIER and ILEC have previously exchanged traffic in an Wisconsin LATA prior to April 18, 2001, the Parties agree that they shall only compensate each other for completing ISP-bound Traffic exchanged in that Wisconsin LATA, and that any ISP-bound Traffic in other Wisconsin LATAs shall be Bill and Keep for the remaining term of this Agreement.

2.4.3 Wherever Bill and Keep is the traffic termination arrangement between CARRIER and ILEC, both Parties shall segregate the Bill and Keep traffic from other compensable local traffic either (a) by excluding the Bill and Keep minutes of use from other compensable minutes of use in the monthly billing invoices, or (b) by any other means mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

2.5 The Growth Cap and New Market Bill and Keep arrangement applies only to ISP-bound Traffic, and does not include Transit traffic, Optional Calling Area traffic, IntraLATA Interexchange traffic, or InterLATA Interexchange traffic.

## 2.6 ISP-bound Traffic Rebuttable Presumption

In accordance with Paragraph 79 of the FCC's ISP Compensation Order, LEC and ILEC agree that there is a rebuttable presumption that any of the combined Section 251(b)(5) Traffic and ISP-bound Traffic exchanged between LEC and ILEC exceeding a 3:1 terminating to originating ratio is presumed to be ISP-bound Traffic subject to the compensation and growth cap terms in this Section 2.0. Either party has the right to rebut the 3:1 ISP presumption by identifying the actual ISP-bound Traffic by any means mutually agreed by the Parties, or by any method approved by the Commission. If a Party seeking to rebut the presumption takes appropriate action at the Commission pursuant to section 252 of the Act and the Commission agrees that such Party has rebutted the presumption, the methodology and/or means approved by the Commission for use in determining the ratio shall be utilized by the Parties as of the date of the Commission approval and, in addition, shall be utilized to determine the appropriate true-up as described below. During the pendency of any such proceedings to rebut the presumption, LEC and SBC Wisconsin will remain obligated to pay the presumptive rates (reciprocal compensation rates for traffic below a 3:1 ratio, the rates set forth in Section 2.2.2 for traffic above the ratio) subject to a true-up upon the conclusion of such proceedings. Such true-up shall be retroactive back to the date a Party first sought appropriate relief from the Commission.

## 3.0 Reservation of Rights

3.1 ILEC and CARRIER agree that nothing in this Amendment is meant to affect or determine the appropriate treatment of Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) traffic under this or future Interconnection Agreements. The Parties further agree that this Amendment shall not be construed against either party as a "meeting of the minds" that VOIP traffic is or is not local traffic subject to reciprocal compensation. By entering into the Amendment, both Parties reserve the right to advocate their respective positions before state or federal commissions whether in bilateral complaint dockets, arbitrations under Section 252 of the Act, commission established rulemaking dockets, or before any judicial or legislative body.

## 4.0 Miscellaneous

- 4.1 This Amendment will become effective ten (10) days following the date such Amendment is approved or is deemed to have been approved by the applicable state commission.
- 4.2 This Amendment is coterminous with the underlying Interconnection Agreement and does not extend the term or change the termination provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement.
- 4.3 EXCEPT AS MODIFIED HEREIN, ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE UNDERLYING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED AND IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.
- 4.4 Every rate, term and condition of this Amendment is legitimately related to the other rates, terms and conditions in this Amendment. Without limiting the general applicability of the foregoing, the change of law provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement, including but not limited to the "Intervening Law" or "Change of Law" or "Regulatory Change" section of the General Terms and Conditions of the Interconnection Agreement and as modified in this Amendment, are specifically agreed by the Parties to be legitimately related to, and inextricably intertwined with this the other rates, terms and conditions of this Amendment.
- 4.5 In entering into this Amendment and carrying out the provisions herein, neither Party waives, but instead expressly reserves, all of its rights, remedies and arguments with respect to any orders, decisions, legislation or proceedings and any remands thereof and any other federal or state regulatory, legislative or judicial action(s), including, without limitation, its intervening law rights relating to the following actions, which the Parties have not yet fully incorporated into this Agreement or which may be the subject of further government review: the United States Supreme Court's opinion in Verizon v. FCC, et al, 535 U.S. 467 (2002); the D.C. Circuit's decision in United States Telecom Association, et. al v. FCC, 290 F.3d 415 (D.C. Cir. 2002) ("USTA decision"); the FCC's Triennial Review Order, released on August 21, 2003, In the Matter of Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, CC Docket No. 01-338, Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket No. 96-98, Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability, CC Docket No. 98-147 (FCC 03-36) and the FCC's Biennial Review Proceeding which the FCC announced, in its Triennial Review Order, is scheduled to

commence in 2004; the FCC's Supplemental Order Clarification (FCC 00-183) (rel. June 2, 2000), in CC Docket 96-98; the FCC's Order on Remand and Report and Order in CC Dockets No. 96-98 and 99-68, 16 FCC Rcd 9151 (2001), (rel. April 27, 2001) ("ISP Compensation Order"), which was remanded in *WorldCom, Inc. v. FCC*, 288 F.3d 429 (D.C. Cir. 2002), and as to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the topic of Intercarrier Compensation generally, issued in the Matter of Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, in CC Docket 01-92 (Order No. 01-132), on April 27, 2001; and the Public Utilities Act of Illinois, which was amended on May 9, 2003 to add Sections 13-408 and 13-409, 220 ILCS 5/13-408 and 13-409, and enacted into law ("Illinois Law") (collectively "Government Actions"). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement (including this and any other amendments to the Agreement), **SBC-13STATE** shall have no obligation to provide UNEs, combinations of UNEs, combinations of UNE(s) and CLEC's own elements or UNEs in commingled arrangements beyond those required by the Act, including the lawful and effective FCC rules and associated FCC and judicial orders. The preceding includes without limitation that **SBC-13STATE** shall not be obligated to provide combinations (whether considered new or existing) or commingled arrangements involving **SBC-13STATE** network elements that do not constitute required UNEs under 47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(3) (including those network elements no longer required to be so unbundled), or where UNEs are not requested for permissible purposes. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Agreement and this Amendment and except to the extent that **SBC-13STATE** has adopted the FCC ISP terminating compensation plan ("FCC Plan") in an **SBC-13STATE** state in which this Agreement is effective, and the Parties have incorporated rates, terms and conditions associated with the FCC Plan into this Agreement, these rights also include but are not limited to **SBC-13STATE**'s right to exercise its option at any time to adopt on a date specified by **SBC-13STATE** the FCC Plan, after which date ISP-bound traffic will be subject to the FCC Plan's prescribed terminating compensation rates, and other terms and conditions, and seek conforming modifications to this Agreement. If any action by any state or federal regulatory or legislative body or court of competent jurisdiction invalidates, modifies, or stays the enforcement of laws or regulations that were the basis or rationale for any rate(s), term(s) and/or condition(s) ("Provisions") of the Agreement and this Amendment and/or otherwise affects the rights or obligations of either Party that are addressed by the Agreement and this Amendment, specifically including but not limited to those arising with respect to the Government Actions, the affected Provision(s) shall be immediately invalidated, modified or stayed consistent with the action of the regulatory or legislative body or court of competent jurisdiction upon the written request of either Party ("Written Notice"). With respect to any Written Notices hereunder, the Parties shall have sixty (60) days from the Written Notice to attempt to negotiate and arrive at an agreement on the appropriate conforming modifications to the Agreement. If the Parties are unable to agree upon the conforming modifications required within sixty (60) days from the Written Notice, any disputes between the Parties concerning the interpretation of the actions required or the provisions affected by such order shall be resolved pursuant to the dispute resolution process provided for in this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Reciprocal Compensation Amendment for ISP-Bound Traffic and Federal Telecommunications Act Section 251(b)(5) Traffic (Adopting FCC Interim Terminating Compensation Plan) to the Interconnection Agreement was exchanged in triplicate on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003, by SBC Wisconsin, signing by and through its duly authorized representative, and CARRIER, signing by and through its duly authorized representative.

**Sage Telecom, Inc.**

**Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a SBC Wisconsin by SBC Telecommunications, Inc., its authorized agent**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print or Type)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print or Type)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print or Type)

Title: *For/* President - Industry Markets

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITIES-BASED OCN # \_\_\_\_\_**

**ACNA \_\_\_\_\_**