

2.3. Public Telecommunication Network

The telecommunication infrastructure of Chile is made up of what generally is called the public telecommunications network. This term does not refer to the ownership of the physical means that compose the network.

The public telecommunications network is used mainly to provide the basic telephone service and to provide the necessary support for the introduction of new and varied services that the present technological evolution offers to users.

2.3.1 Structure of the Public Network

The structure of the public network is technically regulated through the PTF (Planes Técnicos Fundamentales) or Technical Fundamental Plans which are defined by SUBTEL. As a reference, some of the main ones are listed as follows:

- Transmission : Law Decree 45 of 1968
- Signalling : Law Decree 50 of 1988
- Numbering : Law Decree 232 of 1985

2.3.2. Technical Regulations Classification

For purposes of technical regulations, there are several differentiated areas in the national network:

(a) Local Area

This corresponds to the commutation center to which all subscribers are directly connected and to the associated transmission network (Local Network). The local commutation center accomplishes the function of being an entry door to the network.