

Appendix C

Glossary of Terms

Administration. A term used throughout this guide to refer to a telecommunications utility or telephone operating company that is responsible for providing telephone services; includes government agencies (such as Post, Telephone and Telegraph Departments) as well as private operating companies that have been mandated to provide service.

Busy Hour. The busy hour refers to the 60 consecutive minutes when the traffic volume or number of call attempts is highest at an exchange or on a circuit group. Generally it is based on an average of a certain number of the busiest days of the year, but excluding unusual peaks caused by disasters, some holidays, and the like.

Call Attempt. A single successful or unsuccessful bid by a caller or device to establish a telephone call to another subscriber.

Call Holding Time. The time interval between seizure and release of a circuit or switching equipment.

Dimensioning. The process of optimizing the size of a facility, taking into consideration the forecasted traffic requirements and the grade-of-service objectives.

Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN). An integrated digital network in which the same digital switches and digital paths are used to establish connections for different services: for example, voice, data, etc. Essentially it is based on achieving a fully digital path from subscriber to subscriber. The CCITT has established standards governing interfaces and transmission quality.

Iterative. The term relates to a computational procedure in which replication of a cycle of operations produces results which with each cycle approach the desired result more and more closely.

Junction Network. A network of circuits interconnecting local exchanges, including local transit exchanges.

Local Exchange. An exchange in which subscriber's lines are terminated.

Local Network. A network of lines connecting subscriber premises to a local exchange.

Local Transit Exchange. An exchange used as a switching point for traffic between local exchanges within a multi-exchange area.

Long-Distance Network. That part of the network beyond the local exchange, which connects different local areas.

Present Worth. Present worth refers all economic events, income and expenditures to the same point of time, using an appropriate discounting rate and expresses them in the form of a single value. Present worth is sometimes known as present value in other manuals. The terms are synonymous.

Provisioning Period. The period of time a given extension of plant will provide for anticipated increases in demand.

Reference Equivalent. A method of measuring attenuation which involves the use of reference circuits with which real circuits are compared.

Subscriber Network. A network of lines connecting subscriber premises to a local exchange. The term is synonymous with local network.