

## NECA Test Call Project – April 2009

Sponsored by:

NECA's Demand Assurance & Network Analysis Group (DANA)

### Project Purpose

1. Determine how interstate calls originated with various technologies are routed to NECA member exchanges;
2. Determine if these calls generate terminating access revenue (i.e. if the messages carry sufficient call detail to bill access charges to the responsible carrier).

### Originating Technologies Used in this Study

- Cable phone service (or other fixed VoIP service, such as Qwest VoIP)
- Traditional ILEC service
- Wireless service

**Test Call Period:** *Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10*

### Member Company Volunteer Requirements

We're looking for NECA member companies to receive test calls between April 6 and April 10. Test lines at more than one switch at the same company are encouraged. Each company will be asked to:

- Match corresponding call details records (CDRs) to each test call.
- Provide all available matching CDRs to NECA.
  - a. At a minimum an AMA or EMI record is required.
  - b. Both AMA and EMI records are preferred, if available.
  - c. SS7 recordings, where available, are also helpful.
- Enter key fields from the CDRs on the test call log (provided by NECA).
- Confirm with your CABS department or vendor if each call resulted in access billing.

### NECA Will Provide

- Assistance with CDR analysis.
- A summary of the results and findings from all test calls.
- Your company's individual information will remain strictly confidential.

### Test Line Requirements

- Each test line should be:
  - a. Available to receive calls at any time between April 6 and April 10.
  - b. Set up with a voice mail greeting allowing calls to be completed at any hour of the day.
  - c. Test lines with little to no other call activity are best.
- Switch recording capabilities must be turned on.

### To Participate

- Contact Mark Novy at 303-893-4410 or [mnovy@neca.org](mailto:mnovy@neca.org) by **March 30**.
- Procedures for matching CDRs and completing the call log are described on the next page.

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### Procedures for Matching CDRs to Test Calls

NECA will provide a log of all calls placed to your test lines. Please insert the matching call detail records (CDRs) and enter the key fields into this log. Some guidelines for this process are outlined below:

1. Retrieve all AMA, EMI, and SS7 files that cover the test period.
  - a. Identify the records from each file that match the test calls.
    - i. If the test lines received no other calls during the test period it this will be a simple process.
    - ii. If the test line did receive other calls during the test period it may be difficult to separate the test call records from the other call records. Try to match the time of each call and the calling party number (CPN).
    - iii. Times recorded by the callers may not match the times recorded by the switch. We asked all of our callers to use the same web-based clock, so the call times should at least be consistent. You may be able to calculate the interval between our web clock and the switch clock. This could help the matching process.
    - iv. If the calling party number (CPN) is properly shown in the CDRs the records will be easy to match. If they are missing or incorrect, the records will have to be matched based on call time only.
    - v. Your central office staff may be able to provide some assistance with this process.
  - b. Copy each record into the corresponding call row on the log. In all cases, parsed records (records that have been separated into multiple columns for each data field) are preferred. Column descriptions, if available, should be copied into row 7.
    - i. AMA records should be inserted starting at column AA.
    - ii. EMI records should be inserted to the right of the AMA records.
    - iii. SS7 records should be inserted to the right of the EMI records.
2. Complete the log by entering the requested data in the blue shaded areas.
3. Send the completed log to [mnovy@neca.org](mailto:mnovy@neca.org).

If you have questions please contact Mark Novy at 303-893-4410 or [mnovy@neca.org](mailto:mnovy@neca.org).