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Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1506

A. M. Lombardo  
Regulatory Vice President

**March 11, 1997**

**990302-TP**

**Mrs. Blanca S. Bayo  
Director, Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399**

**Re: Approval of the Resale Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and East Florida Communications pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996**

**Dear Mrs. Bayo:**

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, BellSouth and East Florida Communications are submitting to the Florida Public Service Commission their negotiated agreement for the purchase of BellSouth's telecommunications services for the purpose of resale to end users by East Florida Communications.

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Act, the Commission is charged with approving or rejecting the negotiated agreement between BellSouth and East Florida Communications within 90 days of its submission. The Act provides that the Commission may only reject such an agreement if it finds that the agreement or any portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or the implementation of the agreement or any portion of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Both parties aver that neither of these reasons exist as to the agreement they have negotiated and therefore, are very hopeful that the Commission shall approve their agreement.

**Very truly yours,**

*A. M. Lombardo*  
*Regulatory Vice President*

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FEB 12 1997  
A. M. LOMBARDO  
REGULATORY VICE PRESIDENT

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**Agreement Between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and East Florida Communications  
Regarding The Sale of BSC's Telecommunications Services to Sunbelt For The Purpose of Resale**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth or Company"), a Georgia corporation, and East Florida Communications ("Sunbelt"), a Florida Corporation, and shall be deemed effective as of February 19, 1997.

**WITNESSETH**

**WHEREAS**, BellSouth is a local exchange telecommunications company authorized to provide telecommunications services in the state of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, Sunbelt is an alternative local exchange telecommunications company authorized to provide telecommunications services in the state of Florida;

**WHEREAS**, Sunbelt desires to resell BellSouth's telecommunications services; and

**WHEREAS**, BellSouth has agreed to provide such services to Sunbelt for resale purposes and pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual promises and promises contained herein, BellSouth and Sunbelt do hereby agree as follows:

**I. Term of the Agreement**

- A. The term of this Agreement shall be two years beginning February 19, 1997 and shall apply to all of BellSouth's serving territory as of January 1, 1996, in the state(s) of Florida.
- B. This Agreement shall be automatically renewed for two additional one year periods unless either party notifies the other not to renew the Agreement. Notice of such intent must be provided, in writing, to the other party no later than 60 days prior to the end of the then-existing contract period. The terms of this Agreement shall remain in effect after the term of the existing agreement has expired and while a new agreement is being negotiated.
- C. The rates pursuant by which Sunbelt is to purchase services from BellSouth for resale shall be at a discount rate off of the retail rate for the telecommunications service. The discount rates shall be as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. Such discounts shall reflect the costs avoided by BellSouth when selling a service for wholesale purposes.

**II. Definitions of Terms**

- A. **CUSTOMER OF RECORD** means the entity responsible for placing application for service; requesting addition, modification, continuation or discontinuation of service; payment in full of charges incurred such as toll, directory assistance, etc.
- B. **DEPOSIT** means amounts provided by a customer in the form of cash, money order or bank letter of credit to be held by the Company.

- C. **END USER** means the ultimate user of the telecommunications services.
- D. **END USER CUSTOMER LOCATION** means the physical location of the premises where an end user makes use of the telecommunications services.
- E. **NEW SERVICES** means functions, features or capabilities that are not currently offered by BellSouth. This includes packaging of existing services or combining a new function, feature or capability with an existing service.
- F. **OTHER LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANY (OLEC)** means a telephone company certified by the public service commission of the Company's franchised area to provide local exchange service within the Company's franchised area.
- G. **RESELL** means an activity where a certified OLEC, such as RenuTel, subscribes to the telecommunications services of the Company and then resells these telecommunications services to the public (with or without "adding value").
- H. **RESELL SERVICE AREA** means the area, as defined in a public service commission approved certificate of operation, within which an OLEC, such as RenuTel, may offer local exchange telecommunications services.

## **III. General Provisions**

- A. RenuTel may resell the certified local exchange and toll telecommunications services of BellSouth subject to the terms, and conditions specifically set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following are not available for purchase: Governmental services; promotional and trial retail services offering; mobile and listing services; customer service arrangements; instant bill splitting options; 911 and 8911 services; interconnection services for mobile service providers; legislatively or administratively mandated operational elements (e.g., alternate jurisdiction diameter) and discounted services to non-competitive situations.
- B. The provision of services by the Company to RenuTel does not constitute a joint undertaking for the furnishing of any service.
- C. RenuTel will be the consumer of record for all services purchased from BellSouth. Except as specified herein, the Company will take orders from, bill and expect payment from RenuTel for all services.
- D. RenuTel will be the Company's single point of contact for all services purchased pursuant to this Agreement. The Company shall have no contact with the end user except to the extent provided for herein.
- E. The Company will continue to bill the end user for any services that the end user specifies it wishes to receive directly from the Company.
- F. The Company maintains the right to serve directly any end user within the service area of RenuTel. The Company will continue to directly market its own telecommunications products and services and in doing so may establish independent relationships with end users of RenuTel.

C. Renter shall not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the Company.

D. Telephone numbers are the property of the Company and are assigned to the service furnished. Renter has no property right to the telephone number or any other call number designation associated with services furnished by the Company, and no right to the continuation of service through any particular called office. The Company reserves the right to change such number, or the called office designation associated with such number, or both, whenever the Company deems it necessary to do so in the conduct of its business.

E. The Company may provide any service or facility for which a charge is not established herein, as long as it is offered on the same terms to Renter.

F. Service is furnished subject to the condition that it will not be used for any unlawful purpose.

G. Service will be discontinued if any law enforcement agency advises that the service being used is in violation of the law.

H. The Company can refuse service when it has grounds to believe that service will be used in violation of the law.

I. The Company accepts no responsibility to any person for any unlawful act committed by Renter or his and hers as part of providing service to Renter for purposes of rents or otherwise.

J. The Company will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies with subpoenas and court orders for assistance with the Company's customers. Law enforcement agency subpoenas and court orders regarding and cases of Renter will be directed to Renter. The Company will bill Renter for implementing any requests by law enforcement agencies regarding Renter and ours.

K. The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment provided by other than the Company shall not:

1. Interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the Company, its affiliates, or its connecting and connecting carriers involved in its service;
2. Cause damage to their plant;
3. Impair the privacy of any communication; or

4. Create hazards to any employees or the public.
- B. Frontier assumes the responsibility of notifying the Company regarding less than standard operations with respect to services provided by it.
- C. Facilities and/or equipment utilized by Battlitech to provide service to Frontier remain the property of Battlitech.
- D. White page directory listings will be provided in accordance with regulations set forth in Section A6 of the General Subscriber Service Tariff and will be available for resale.

#### **IV. Battlitech's Provision of Services to Frontier**

- A. Frontier agrees that its needs of Battlitech services shall be as follows:

  1. The needs of telecommunications services shall be limited to wire and wire conforming to the class of service regulations.
  2. To the extent Frontier is a telecommunications carrier that serves greater than 5 percent of the Nation's gross-dialed access lines, Frontier shall not jointly market its interLATA services with the telecommunications services purchased from Battlitech pursuant to this Agreement in any of the states covered under this Agreement. For the purposes of this subsection, to jointly market means any advertisement, marketing effort or billing in which the telecommunications services purchased from Battlitech for purposes of resale to customers and interLATA services offered by Frontier are packaged, tied, bundled, discounted or offered together in any way to the end user. Such efforts include, but are not limited to, sales rebates, resale arrangements, wire agencies or billing agreements. This subsection shall be void and of no effect for a particular state covered under this Agreement as of February 8, 1999 or on the date Battlitech is authorized to offer interLATA services in that state, whichever is earlier.
  3. Local and Municipal PEX services are the only telecommunications services available for resale to Municipal and Municipal end users, respectively. Similarly, Access Line Services for Customer Provided Oral Telephones is the only local service available for resale to COCOTS customers. Shared Tenant Service customers can only be sold those telecommunications services available in the Company's A23 Shared Tenant Service Tariff.
  4. Frontier is prohibited from furnishing both flat and measured rate service on the same business premises to the same subscriber (end user) as stated in A3 of the Company's Tariff except for listing service as indicated in the applicable state tariff Section A3.
  5. If telephone service is established and it is subsequently determined that the class of service regulation has been violated, Frontier will be notified and billing for that service will be immediately changed to the appropriate class of service. Service charges for changes between class of service, local billing, and internet as described in this subsection shall apply as the Company's rate determines. Interest at the rate of 8 percent per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the last billing due to and including the date that Frontier actually makes the payment to the Company may be assessed.

- 6.** The Company reserves the right to periodically audit services purchased by Reseller to establish authenticity of use. Such audit shall not occur more than once in a calendar year. Reseller shall make any and all records and data available to the Company or the Company's auditor's on a reasonable basis. The Company shall bear the cost of said audits.
- B.** Resold services can only be used in the same manner as specified in the Company's Tariff. Resold services are subject to the same terms and conditions as are specified for such services when furnished to an individual end user of the Company in the appropriate section of the Company's Tariff. Specific tariff features, e.g. a usage allowance per month, shall not be aggregated across multiple resold services. Resold services cannot be used to aggregate traffic from more than one end user customer source as specified in Section A23. of the Company's Tariff relating to Shared Tenant Services.
- C.** Reseller may resell services only within the specific resale services area as defined in its certificate.
- D.** Telephone numbers transmitted via any resold service feature are intended solely for the use of the end user of the feature. Resale of this information is prohibited.
- E.** No patent, copyright, trademark or other proprietary right is licensed, granted or otherwise transferred by this Agreement. Reseller is entirely prohibited from any use, including but not limited to sales, marketing or advertising, of any BellSouth name or trademark.

#### **V. Maintenance of Services**

- A.** Services resold under the Company's Tariffs and facilities and equipment provided by the Company shall be maintained by the Company.
- B.** Reseller or its end users may not dismantle, move, disassemble, remove or attempt to repair any facilities owned by the Company, other than by connection or disconnection to any interface access used, except with the written consent of the Company.
- C.** Reseller accepts responsibility to notify the Company of situations that arise that may result in a service problem.
- D.** Reseller will be the Company's single point of contact for all repair calls on behalf of Reseller's end users.
- E.** Reseller will assume the appropriate repair charges in accordance with procedures established by the Company.
- F.** For all repair requests, Reseller accepts responsibility for adhering to the Company's pre-troubling guidelines prior to referring the trouble to the Company.
- G.** The Company will bill Reseller for handling troubles that are found out to be in the Company's account pursuant to its standard time and material charges. The standard time and material charges will be no more than what BellSouth charges to its retail customers for the same services.

- H. The Company reserves the right to contact RenuTel's customers, if deemed necessary, for information purposes.

## VI. Establishment of Service

A. After receiving certification as a local exchange company from the appropriate regulatory agency, RenuTel will provide the appropriate Company service center the necessary documentation to enable the Company to establish a master account for RenuTel. Such documentation shall include the Application for Master Account, proof of authority to provide telecommunications services, an Operating Company Number ("OCN") assigned by the National Exchange Carriers Association ("NECA") and a tax exemption certificate, if applicable. When necessary deposit requirements are met, the Company will begin taking orders for the needs of service.

- B. Service orders will be in a standard format designated by the Company.
- C. When notification is received from RenuTel that a current customer of the Company will subscribe to RenuTel's service, standard service order intervals for the appropriate class of service will apply.
- D. The Company will not require end user confirmation prior to establishing service for RenuTel's end user customer. RenuTel must, however, be able to demonstrate end user authorization upon request.
- E. RenuTel will be the single point of contact with the Company for all subsequent ordering activity relating to additions or changes to stand services except that the Company will accept a request directly from the end user for conversion of the end user's service from RenuTel to the Company or will accept a request from another LEC for conversion of the end user's service from the RenuTel to the other LEC. The Company will notify RenuTel that such a request has been presented.
- F. If the Company determines that an unauthorized change in local service to RenuTel has occurred, the Company will negotiate service with the appropriate local service provider and will assess RenuTel as the QLSC (initiating the unauthorized change), an unauthorized change charge similar to that described in P.C.C. Tariff No. 1, Section 13.3.3. Appropriate nonrecovering charges, as set forth in Section A4. of the General Subscriber Service Tariff, will also be assessed to RenuTel.

These charges can be adjusted if RenuTel provides satisfactory proof of authorization.

	Nonrecovering Charge
(a) each Residential or Business Line	\$19.01

- G. The Company will, in order to safeguard its interests, require RenuTel to make a deposit to be held by the Company as a guarantee of the payment of any and charges, unless satisfactory credit has already been established. Any such deposit may be held during the continuation of the service as security for the payment of any and all amounts owing for the service.

- H. Such deposit may not exceed two months' estimated billing.

E. The fact that a deposit has been made is no way relieves Renuiter from complying with the Company's regulations as to advance payments and the prompt payment of bills on presentation nor does it constitute a waiver or modification of the regular practices of the Company providing for the discontinuance of service for non-payment of any sums due the Company.

F. The Company reserves the right to increase the deposit requirements when, in its sole judgment, the conditions justify such action.

G. In the event that Renuiter debits on its account, service to Renuiter will be terminated and any deposits held will be applied to its account.

H. In the case of a cash deposit, interest at the rate of six percent per annum shall be paid to Renuiter during the continuance of the deposit. Interest on a deposit shall accrue annually and, if requested, shall be annually credited to Renuiter by the account date.

#### VII. Payment And Billing Arrangements

A. When the initial service is ordered by Renuiter, the Company will establish an accounts receivable master account for Renuiter.

B. The Company shall bill Renuiter on a current basis all applicable charges and credits.

C. Payment of all charges will be the responsibility of Renuiter. Renuiter shall make payment to the Company for all services billed. The Company is not responsible for payments not received by Renuiter from Renuiter's customer. The Company will not become involved in billing disputes that may arise between Renuiter and its customer. Payment made to the Company as payment on account will be credited to an accounts receivable master account and not to an end user's account.

D. The Company will render bills each month on established bill days for each of Renuiter's accounts.

E. The Company will bill Renuiter, in advance, charges for all services to be provided during the ensuing billing period except charges associated with service usage, which charges will be billed in arrears. Charges will be calculated on an individual and user account level, including, if applicable, any charges for usage or usage allowances. Renuiter will also bill all charges, including but not limited to 911 and E911 charges, telecommunications relay charges, and franchise fees, on an individual and user account level.

F. The payment will be due by the next bill date (i.e., same date in the following month as the bill date) and is payable in immediately available funds. Payment is considered to have been made when received by the Company.

If the payment due date falls on a Sunday or on a Holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment due date shall be the first non-Holiday day following such Sunday or Holiday. If the payment due date falls on a Saturday or on a Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, the payment due date shall be the last non-Holiday day preceding such Saturday or Holiday. If payment is not received by the payment due date, a late payment penalty, as set forth in I. following, shall apply.

C. Upon proof of tax exempt certification from RenuTel, the total amount billed to RenuTel will not include any taxes due from the end user. RenuTel will be solely responsible for the computation, tracking, reporting and payment of all Federal, state and/or local jurisdictions taxes associated with the services provided to the end user.

D. As the customer of record, RenuTel will be responsible for, and remit to the Company, all charges applicable to its retail services for emergency services (911) and Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) as well as any other charges of a similar nature.

E. If any portion of the payment is received by the Company after the payment due date as set forth preceding, or if any portion of the payment is remitted by the Company in funds that are not immediately available to the Company, then a late payment penalty shall be due to the Company. The late payment penalty shall be the portion of the payment not received by the payment due date times a late factor. The late factor shall be as set forth in Section A2 of the General Subscriber Service Tariff and Section B2 of the Private Line Service Tariff.

F. Any additional access charges associated with interexchange carrier access to the retail local exchange lines will be billed by, and due to, the Company. No additional charges are to be assessed to RenuTel.

G. The Company will not perform billing and collection services for RenuTel as a result of the execution of this Agreement. All requests for billing services should be referred to the appropriate entity or operational group within the Company.

H. Pursuant to 47 CFR Section 31.617, the Company will bill the charges shown below which are allocated to the BUCL rates billed by BSC to its end users.

	Monthly Rate
1. Residential	
(a) Each Individual Line or Trunk	\$3.00
2. Single Line Business	
(a) Each Individual Line or Trunk	\$3.00
3. Multi-line Business	
(a) Each Individual Line or Trunk	\$6.00

I. In general, the Company will not become involved in disputes between RenuTel and RenuTel's end user customers over retail services. If a dispute does arise that cannot be settled without the involvement of the Company, RenuTel shall contact the designated Service Center for resolution. The Company will make every effort to assist in the resolution of the dispute and will work with RenuTel to resolve the matter in as timely a manner as possible. RenuTel may be required to submit documentation to substantiate the claim.

## VIII. Discontinuance of Service

### A. The procedures for discontinuing service to an end user are as follows:

1. Where possible, the Company will deny service to Renuiter's end user on behalf of, and at the request of, Renuiter. Upon restoration of the end user's service, normal charges will apply and will be the responsibility of Renuiter.
2. At the request of Renuiter, the Company will disconnect a Renuiter end user customer.
3. All requests by Renuiter for denial or discontinuation of an end user for nonpayment must be in writing.
4. Renuiter will be made solely responsible for notifying the end user of the proposed discontinuation of the service.
5. The Company will continue to process calls made to the Anonymous Call Center and will advise Renuiter when it is determined that anonymous calls are originated from one of their end user's locations. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by Renuiter under the end user against any claim, loss or damage arising from providing this information to Renuiter. It is the responsibility of Renuiter to take the corrective action necessary with its customers who make anonymous calls. Failure to do so will result in the Company's discontinuing the end user's service.

### B. The procedures for discontinuing service to Renuiter are as follows:

1. The Company reserves the right to suspend or terminate service for nonpayment or in the event of prohibited, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service, abuse of the facilities, or any other violation or noncompliance by Renuiter of the rules and regulations of the Company's Tariff.
2. If payment of amount is not received by the bill day in the month after the original bill day, the Company may provide written notice to Renuiter, that additional applications for service will be refused and that any pending orders for service will not be completed if payment is not received by the fifteenth day following the date of the notice. If the Company does not refuse additional applications for service on the date specified in the notice, and Renuiter's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Company's right to refuse additional applications for service without further notice.
3. If payment of amount is not received, or noncompliance made, by the bill day in the second consecutive month, the account will be considered in default and will be subject to denial or discontinuation, or both.
4. If Renuiter fails to comply with the provisions of this Agreement, including any payments to be made by it on the dates and times herein specified, the Company may, on thirty days written notice to the person designated by Renuiter to receive notices of discontinuance, discontinue the provision of existing services to Renuiter at any time thereafter. In the case of such discontinuance, all billed charges, as well as applicable termination charges, shall become due. If the Company does not

discontinues the provision of the services involved on the date specified in the thirty days notice, and Reseller's non-compliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Company's right to discontinue the provision of the services to Reseller without further notice.

5. If payment is not received or arrangements made for payment by the date given in the written notification, Reseller's services will be discontinued. Upon discontinuance of service on a Reseller's account, service to Reseller's end user will be denied. The Company will also re-establish service at the request of the end user or Reseller upon payment of the appropriate connection fee and subject to the Company's normal application procedures.
6. If within fifteen days after an end user's service has been denied no contact has been made in reference to restoring service, the end user's service will be discontinued.

## **IX. Liability**

- A. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of malpractice, omission, interruption, disconnection, damage, errors or defects in transmission, or failures or defects in facilities furnished by the Company, occurring in the course of furnishing services or other facilities and not caused by the negligence of Reseller, or of the Company in failing to maintain proper standards of maintenance and operation and to exercise reasonable supervision shall in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to Reseller for the period of service during which such malpractice, omission, interruption, disconnection, damage, error or defect in transmission or defect or failure in facilities occur. The Company shall not be liable for damage arising out of malpractice, omission, interruption, disconnection, damage, errors or defects in transmission or other injury, including but not limited to injuries to persons or property from voltages or currents transmitted over the service of the Company, (1) caused by customer-provided equipment (except where a contributing cause is the malfunctioning of a Company-provided connecting equipment), in which event the liability of the Company shall not exceed an amount equal to a proportional amount of the Company billing for the period of service during which such malpractice, omission, interruption, disconnection, damage, error, defect in transmission or injury occurs, or (2) not generated by customer-provided equipment but which would have been generated had Company-provided equipment been used.
- B. The Company shall be indemnified and saved harmless by Reseller against any and all claims, actions, causes of action, damages, liabilities, or demands (including the costs, expenses and reasonable attorney's fees, on account thereof) of whatever kind or nature that may be made by any third party as a result of the Company's furnishing of services to Reseller.
- C. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by Reseller under the end user against any claim, loss or damage arising from the use of services offered for resale involving:
  1. Claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from Reseller's or end user's own communication.
  2. Claims for patent infringement arising from acts combining or using Company services in conjunction with facilities or equipment furnished by the end user or Reseller.
  3. All other claims arising out of an act or omission of Reseller or its end user in the course of using services.

B. Neither party's responsibility for providing access for maintenance purposes of any service would under the provisions of this Tariff. The Company shall not be responsible for any failure on the part of RenuTel with respect to any and all use of RenuTel.

#### X. Treatment of Proprietary and Confidential Information

A. Both parties agree that it may be necessary to provide each other during the term of this Agreement with certain confidential information, including trade secret information, including but not limited to, technical and business plans, technical information, proposals, specifications, drawings, procedures, customer account data and like information (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Information"). Both parties agree that all Information shall either be in writing or other tangible format and clearly marked with a confidential, private or proprietary legend; or, when the Information is communicated orally, it shall also be communicated that the Information is confidential, private or proprietary. The Information will be returned to the owner within a reasonable time. Both parties agree that the Information shall not be copied or reproduced in any form. Both parties agree to review such Information and not disclose such Information. Both parties agree to protect the Information received from distribution, disclosure or dissemination to anyone except employees of the parties with a need to know such Information and which employee agrees to be bound by the terms of this Section. Both parties will use the same standard of care to protect Information received as they would use to protect their own confidential and proprietary Information.

B. Notwithstanding the foregoing, both parties agree that there will be no obligation to protect any portion of the Information that is either: 1) made publicly available by the owner of the Information or lawfully disclosed by a party to this Agreement; 2) lawfully obtained from any source other than the owner of the Information; or 3) previously known to the receiving party without an obligation to keep it confidential.

#### XI. Resolution of Disputes

Except as otherwise stated in this Agreement, the parties agree that if any dispute arises as to the interpretation of any provision of this Agreement or as to the proper implementation of this Agreement, the parties will petition the applicable state Public Service Commission for a resolution of the dispute. However, each party reserves any rights it may have to seek judicial review of any ruling made by that Public Service Commission concerning this Agreement.

#### XII. Limitation of Liability

The parties agree that this Agreement shall not be construed by either party in another jurisdiction as evidence of any admission or as a waiver of any position taken by the other party in that jurisdiction or for any other purpose.

#### XIII. Waivers

Any failure by either party to insist upon the strict performance by the other party of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement, and each party, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter to insist upon the specific performance of any and all of the provisions of this Agreement.

#### XIV. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Georgia, without regard to its conflict of laws principles.

#### XV. Arm's Length Negotiations

This Agreement was entered after arm's length negotiations between the undersigned parties and reflects the conclusion of the undersigned that this Agreement is in the best interests of all parties.

#### XVI. More Favorable Provisions

##### A. The parties agree that if —

1. the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") or the Commission finds that the terms of this Agreement are inconsistent in one or more material respects with any of its or their respective decisions, rules or regulations, or

2. the FCC or the Commission pronounces the effect of this Agreement, then, in either case, upon such pronouncement final and no longer subject to administrative or judicial review, the parties shall immediately commence good faith negotiations to conform this Agreement to the requirements of any such decision, rule, regulation or pronouncement. The revised agreement shall have an effective date that coincides with the effective date of the original FCC or Commission action giving rise to such negotiations. The parties agree that the rules, terms and conditions of any new agreement shall not be applied retroactively to any period prior to such effective date except to the extent that such retroactive effect is expressly required by such FCC or Commission decision, rule, regulation or pronouncement.

B. In the event that Battlmark, either before or after the effective date of this Agreement, enters into an agreement with any other telecommunications carrier (an "Other Rateable Agreement") which provides for the provision within the state(s) of Florida of any of the components covered by this Agreement upon rates, terms or conditions that differ in any material respect from the rates, terms and conditions for such components set forth in this Agreement ("Other Terms"), Battlmark shall be deemed thereby to have offered such Other Rateable Agreement to Renuiter in its entirety. In the event that Renuiter accepts such offer within thirty (30) days after the Commission approves such Other Rateable Agreement pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252, or within thirty (30) days after Renuiter acquires actual knowledge of an Other Rateable Agreement and requiring the approval of the Commission pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252, as the case may be, such Other Terms shall be effective between Battlmark and Renuiter as of the effective date of such Other Rateable Agreement. In the event that Renuiter accepts such offer more than thirty (30) days after the Commission approves such Other Rateable Agreement pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252, or more than thirty (30) days after acquiring actual knowledge of an Other Rateable Agreement and requiring the approval of the Commission pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252, as the case may be, such Other Terms shall be effective between Battlmark and Renuiter as of the date on which Renuiter accepts such offer.

C. In the event that after the effective date of this Agreement the FCC or the Commission enters an order (a "Rateable Order") requiring Battlmark to provide within the state(s) of Florida any of the components covered by this agreement upon Other Terms, then upon such Rateable Order becoming final and no longer subject to further administrative or judicial review, Battlmark shall be deemed to have offered such arrangements to Renuiter upon such Other Terms, in their entirety, which Renuiter may only accept in their

entity, as provided in Section XVI.B. In the event that Renuiter accepts such offer within thirty (30) days after the date on which such Florida Order becomes final and not subject to further administrative or judicial review, such Other Terms shall be effective between BellSouth and Renuiter as of the effective date of such Florida Order. In the event that Renuiter accepts such offer more than thirty (30) days after the date on which such Florida Order becomes final and not subject to further administrative or judicial review, such Other Terms shall be effective between BellSouth and Renuiter as of the date on which Renuiter accepts such offer.

B. In the event that after the effective date of this Agreement BellSouth files and subsequently receives approval for one or more franchises with (such, a "Florida Tariff"), offering to provide within the state of Florida any of the services covered by this Agreement upon Other Terms, then upon such Florida Tariff becoming effective, BellSouth shall be deemed thereby to have offered such consequences to Renuiter upon such Other Terms, which Renuiter may accept as provided in Section XVI.E. In the event that Renuiter accepts such offer within thirty (30) days after the date on which such Florida Tariff becomes effective, such Other Terms shall be effective between BellSouth and Renuiter as of the effective date of such Florida Tariff. In the event that Renuiter accepts such offer more than thirty (30) days after the date on which such Florida Tariff becomes effective, such Other Terms shall be effective between BellSouth and Renuiter as of the date on which Renuiter accepts such offer.

C. The terms of this Agreement, other than those affected by the Other Terms accepted by Renuiter, shall remain in full force and effect.

D. **Consecutive Payment.** In the event that -

1. BellSouth and Renuiter revise this Agreement pursuant to Section XVI.A, or
2. Renuiter accepts a demand offer of an Other Florida Agreement or Other Terms, then BellSouth or Renuiter, as applicable, shall make a consecutive payment to the other party to cover for the difference between the rate on such basis and the rate in such revised agreement or Other Terms for substantially similar service for the period from the effective date of such revised agreement or Other Terms until the date that the parties accept such revised agreement or Renuiter accepts such Other Terms, plus simple interest at a rate equal to the thirty (30) day commercial paper rate for high-grade, unsecured notes sold through dealers by major corporations in multiples of \$1,000.00 as regularly published in *The Wall Street Journal*.

**XVII. Notices**

A. Every notice, consent, approval, or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person or given by postage prepaid mail, addressed to:

**BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.**  
GLBC Account Team  
2320 Columbia Parkway  
Suite 5021  
Birmingham, Alabama 35243

**Renuiter**  
J. Gordon Whaley  
West Florida Communications  
231 S. Ridgewood Avenue  
Daytona, Florida 32114

or at such other address as the intended recipient previously shall have designated by written notice to the other party.

B. Where specifically required, notices shall be by certified or registered mail. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, notice by mail shall be effective on the date it is officially recorded as delivered by return receipt or equivalent, and in the absence of such record of delivery, it shall be presumed to have been delivered the fifth day, or next business day after the fifth day, after it was deposited in the mails.

#### XVIII. Amendments

This Agreement may be amended at any time upon written agreement of both parties.

#### XIX. Entire Agreement

This Agreement sets forth the entire understanding and supersedes prior agreements between the parties relating to the subject matter contained herein and merges all prior discussions between them, and neither party shall be bound by any statement, condition, provision, representation, warranty, covenant or promise other than as expressly stated in this Agreement or as is contemporaneously or subsequently set forth in writing and executed by a duly authorized officer or representative of the party to be bound thereto.

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

BY: Jerry D. Hendry

Signature

NAME: Jerry D. Hendry

Printed Name

TITLE: Director

Shawnee

BY: Mark Whitley

Signature

NAME: Mark Whitley

Printed Name

TITLE: Pres.

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**APPLICABLE DISCOUNTS**

The telecommunications services available for purchase by BellSouth for the purpose of resale to BellSouth end users shall be available at the following discount off of the retail rate.

STATE	DISCOUNT	DISCOUNT
ALABAMA	10%	10%
FLORIDA	10%	12%
GEORGIA	20.3%	17.3%
KENTUCKY	10%	8%
LOUISIANA*	20.72%	20.72%
MISSISSIPPI	9%	9%
NORTH CAROLINA	12%	9%
SOUTH CAROLINA	10%	9%
TEXAS**	10%	10%

- Effective as of the Commission's Order in Louisiana Docket No. U-22039 dated November 12, 1996.
- The Wholesale Discount is set as a percentage off the modified rates. If OCLBC provides its own operator services and directory services, the discount shall be 821.90%. These rates are effective as of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's Order in Tennessee Docket No. 95-01331 dated January 17, 1997.