



NEWS

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See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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FCC's WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU HOSTS NUMBERING SYMPOSIUM

Forum Will Examine Impact of VoIP, New Services on Numbering System

Washington, D.C. –The impact of emerging technologies on the nation's telephone numbering system will be explored in a symposium to be hosted on Thursday, Nov. 4 by the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau.

In the face of increased demand for numbers for cell phones, fax machines and new local competitors, the FCC since 2000 has implemented policies designed to extend the life of the numbering system. By working with state commissions and the telecommunications industry, the FCC substantially increased the estimated life of the system, known as the North American Numbering Plan.

But emerging new technologies such as Voice Over Internet Protocol, or VoIP, raise new demand for numbers and new challenges. Among those challenges are "portable" VoIP services that use the same number no matter where the customer is located geographically.

The symposium is entitled "The Future of Numbering: Will New Technologies, Innovations and Services Affect Number Administration and Optimization." Questions for the panels can be e-mailed in advance or during the symposium to FutureOfNumbering@fcc.gov.

When: Thursday, Nov. 4, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: FCC Headquarters, 445 12th St. SW, Commission Meeting Room.

Moderators: Robert Atkinson, Chairman of the North American Numbering Council (NANC), and Sanford Williams, FCC, designated federal officer to the NANC.

Panels:

- Status of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP), with John Manning, NANP administrator and Amy Putnam, Pooling Administrator.
- Is there a likelihood of exhausting numbers under the NANP in the foreseeable future? John Manning and Amy Putnam.
- New number sources and substitutes for NANP numbers, with Scott Marcus, FCC Office of Strategic Planning.

- New technologies/services that may require numbering resources, with Mike Altschul, Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association; Penn Pfautz, AT&T; Hank Hultquist, SBC, and Todd Daubert, VON Coalition.
- Numbering resource optimization, with Adam Newman, Telcordia; Ken Havens, ATIS Industry Numbering Committee; Elliott Smith, Commissioner, Iowa Utilities Board; Helen Mickiewicz, California Public Utilities Commission, and David Bench, Nortel Networks.

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