

I. Test Results: TAG Documentation Evaluation (O&P-9)

1.0 Description

The Telecommunications Access Gateway (TAG) Documentation Evaluation was an operational review of the documentation developed by BellSouth to support Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) requiring Operational Support Systems (OSS) information, or having questions or issues related to carrying out the business processes of ordering.

This test was a high-level review to determine the degree to which documentation prepared and distributed by BellSouth was subject to acceptable management and business practices, as defined in the evaluation criteria. The evaluation was not a comprehensive review of the content accuracy of all BellSouth OSS-related documentation. Rather, it focused primarily on the ordering business rules.

2.0 Ordering Documentation Analysis

BellSouth provides the business rules for both the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and TAG interfaces in *Local Exchange Ordering (LEO) Guide Volume 1*. These rules provide the definition of field formats and requirements, including length, alpha/numeric characters, and usage requirements. The business rules contained in *LEO Guide Volume 1* were used by KCI in executing the EDI Functional Test (O&P-1) and TAG Functional Test (O&P-2).

In addition to the *LEO Guide*, BellSouth provides other TAG-related documentation, including the *TAG API Guide*, the *TAG Programmer's Job Aid*, and the *TAG Training Binder*. The primary purpose of these documents is to facilitate CLEC development of a TAG interface.

Interface development, and the documentation supporting this process, was not part of the evaluation scope outlined by the Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) in its May 20, 1999 *Petition for Third Party Testing*.

As a result, the only TAG-related documentation evaluated by KCI as part of the BellSouth - Georgia OSS Evaluation is the *LEO Guide*.

The *LEO Guide* has been examined as part of the EDI Documentation Evaluation (O&P-8). Please refer to this test section for specifics on the Evaluation Methodology and Test Results.