

DOD FTS2001 Transition Bulletin #11

May 11, 2000

Transition Order Completion Alert

We are nearing the date by which all FTS2000 services that are transitioning to FTS2001 must be on-order. Accordingly, DOD elements are requested to ensure that all FTS2001 transition requirements are identified, site surveys are completed, and all Site Specific Transition Plans (SSTP) are reviewed, approved, and returned to Team Scott as soon as possible.

The current extension of the FTS2000 contract will expire on December 6, 2000. Sites that fail to transition by the expiration date will incur one of the following consequences: 1) loss of service, 2) increased cost of service, or 3) no immediate change. In a letter to the DOD's Transition Manager, the General Services Administration (GSA) Assistant Commissioner for Service Delivery stated that "there are no contract provisions for an extension of the FTS2000 Extension of Services (Bridge) Contract beyond December 6, 2000. Requests from customers to continue 'FTS2000' service after December 6, 2000 will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will be problematic, at best. Since any service continuations would not be negotiated from a position of strength by the GSA, the cost for continued 'FTS2000' services will likely increase significantly. This situation was demonstrated when a short extension of the AT&T Packet Switched Service Network was negotiated in September 1999." In that instance, some DOD elements lost service when the contract expired and the X.25 network was shut down.

While transition of all services must be completed by the above date (voice, video, data, point-to-point circuits) of particular concern is the transition of Circuit Switched Services (CSS) sites with dedicated access. Transitioning CSS is nominally a 180-day process, requiring approximately 60 days from site survey to order approval, and up to 120 days from order approval to cutover. As the current contract nears expiration, a last minute transition service order "log jam" is anticipated between October 1 and December 6, 2000. The result may be much longer than normal lead times. In an effort to provide a margin of safety, DOD has established September 30, 2000 as the target for completion for all CSS transitions.

As a result, all CSS service orders must be placed by June 1, 2000 in order to meet the September 30, 2000 transition completion target. Sites that have not been scheduled for a site survey and SSTP by June 1, 2000 and that have not ordered service by August 1, 2000 may not complete transition by December 6, 2000 and will risk the loss of service.

Once orders have been placed with MCIWorldcom and/or Sprint, it is essential that a mutually acceptable cutover date be established and that every effort be made to ensure that the site is ready and that the cutover occurs as scheduled. Failure to make this phase of the transition a priority will lead to postponements, cancellations, and the risk of lost service.

The DOD Transition Management Organization (TMO) will do everything possible to ensure a timely and successful cutover to FTS2001 for all elements of the Department. It is essential that DOD Services and Agencies cooperate to the fullest extent to facilitate a successful team approach. Should there be any questions and/or concerns regarding the above, the primary TMO functional service points of contact are as follows:

Functional Service Category:	Point of Contact:	Telephone
Number:		
Circuit Switched Services (CSS)	Mr. Bruce Jarvis	703-607-6732
Frame Relay Services	Mr. Richard Johnson	703-607-6646
Dedicated Transmission Services	Ms. Joan Luna	618-229-8995
Distributed Learning/Satellite	Mr. Jose Finn	703-607-6692
	Alt: Mr. Matt Arnold	703-607-6756

It is imperative that DOD Services and Agencies review all orders in process and ensure that no sites have been overlooked. Any DOD site that has not been surveyed must be identified to MCI WorldCom, Sprint or the DOD TMO immediately. The primary MCI WorldCom point of contact for transition is Mr. Maynard Crum (703) 905-5350, E-mail maynard.crum@wcom.com. The primary Sprint point of contact for transition is Mr. Michael Munson (703) 904-2006, E-mail michael.k.munson@mail.sprint.com. The DOD TMO points of contact at Team Scott are Ms. Terri Teeple, (618) 229-8993, E-mail teeplet@scott.disa.mil, or Ms. Sandy Bakarich, (618) 229-8980, E-mail bakarics@scott.disa.mil.