

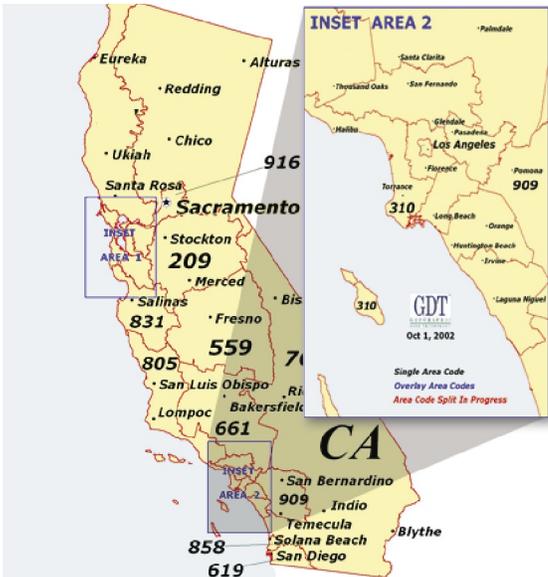
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Provided by the North American Numbering Plan Administration

Activity in California 310 and 909 NPAs

The 310 and 909 numbering plan areas (NPAs), both of which have already undergone area code relief planning, are nearing exhaust of their numbering resources and the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) has recently initiated action to address these situations.



In the case of the 909 NPA, which encompasses portions of San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and Riverside counties, the CPUC is taking steps to adopt a contingency plan to provide for the possibility of an area code change. In 2000, the CPUC suspended plans to change the 909 NPA and in June 2002, at the request of the CPUC, NANPA filed with the CPUC an industry proposal for a new area code in the 909 NPA that involved two possible alternatives, a geographic split or an all-services overlay. To obtain feedback on these relief alternatives, the CPUC will conduct five public meetings and two local jurisdiction meetings between July 11 and July 17, 2003. Carriers will provide written notice of the times and locations of each of the public meetings to all customers in the 909 area code no later than June 25, 2003.

Activity in CA continued on page 2

2002 NANPA performance evaluation

At the May meeting of the North American Numbering Council (NANC), the NANPA Oversight Working Group (NOWG) presented its evaluation of NANPA's 2002 performance. NOWG judged NeuStar's performance as the NANPA as having "more than met," indicating that NANPA's work met and often exceeded the requirements established by the industry and the FCC. The NOWG's report was accepted by the NANC and forwarded to the FCC. A copy of this report can be found on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com).

The basis for the evaluation was the NOWG's in-depth review of NANPA activities and survey responses received from 150 telecommunications companies and 30 state regulators. NOWG summarized the content of these survey responses as follows:

"The NOWG believes the high level of client satisfaction revealed in the survey results is due to the perseverance, outstanding professionalism, and expertise exhibited by NANPA personnel while performing their NANPA duties ... NANPA has displayed leadership, initiative, and expertise as the custodian of numbering resource goals in every aspect of their involvement."

The evaluation noted that with every service, there might be a customer from time to time that misunderstands the code assignment/relief process or has a bad experience. However, the report stated the NOWG had no reason to believe that any other organization would not have experienced the same situations or that there would be any guarantee that another organization would have handled the situations any better than how it was handled by the existing NANPA personnel.

Performance evaluation continued on page 3

NPA exhaust projections available

The results of the Numbering Resource Utilization and Forecast (NRUF) and NPA Exhaust Analysis have been published and are now available on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com). This report provides an NPA-by-NPA exhaust projection for all geographic area codes in the U.S. and Canada. The Canadian Numbering Administrator provided the information used to develop the exhaust projections for NPAs in Canada.

Last year, NANPA had to base its projections on the April 24, 2002 national thousands-block pooling rollout schedule. Although the schedule provided an indication as to when pooling would be implemented for wireline carriers, NANPA had to estimate the impact of pooling on NXX demand. Further, the NPA exhaust analysis did not attempt to reflect the impact of wireless pooling because of the absence of data from which to project the potential impact of wireless pooling on wireless CO code demand.

NPA exhaust continued on page 3

NANC 2004 meeting schedule

Tuesday – January 13, 2004
Tuesday – March 16, 2004
Tuesday – May 18, 2004
Tuesday – July 13, 2004
Tuesday – September 14, 2004
Tuesday – November 9, 2004

NRUF reporting due August 1, 2003

NANPA is preparing for the August 1, 2003 NRUF submission cycle. A notice was sent, via email in June, to all carriers that had previously submitted an NRUF to NANPA that the next submission deadline of utilization and forecast data was August 1, 2003.

The August 1, 2003 submission will be accepted no earlier than July 1, 2002. Utilization data should cover the period of January 1 through June 30, 2003. Forecast data is a four and a half-year forecast for the August 1 submission. Year 1 on all forecast forms refers to additional resources needed in 2003. Form 502 and associated instructions for completing and submitting it can be downloaded from the NANPA website at <http://www.nanpa.com>.

NANPA is also conducting a review session on completing and submitting the NRUF Form 502. Topics include methods for populating the Form 502, preventing and correcting errors, the process for updating service provider utilization and forecast information between submission cycles, and user questions. The review session will be held four times; twice on June 12, 2003 and twice on June 20, 2003. Please contact Beth Sprague at beth.sprague@neustar.biz for more information.

The NRUF Job Aid has also been updated. Service providers are strongly encouraged to read the Job Aid before completing the Form 502. Doing so will lower the potential for errors that require follow-up by NANPA and service providers. ■

New utilization requirement effective June 30, 2003

As required by the FCC's second Numbering Resource Optimization (NRO) Order, effective June 30, 2003, service providers will need to meet a utilization requirement of at least 70% before NANPA can assign additional codes to that service provider in the rate center in which the service provider is requesting resources. This requirement is in addition to the months-to-exhaust requirement that has been in place for receiving growth codes.

The FCC has established that utilization for a given geographic area (rate center or NPA) must be calculated by dividing all assigned numbers by the total number of resources assigned to that carrier in that geographic area and multiplying the result by 100. NANPA will deny applications that fail to meet this utilization requirement.

State commissions with delegated authority that currently require utilization in excess of 70% may continue to do so as long as the required utilization level does not exceed the FCC's established ceiling of 75%. States exercising this authority are required to use the FCC utilization calculation; that is, only assigned numbers were to be included in the numerator. ■

NANPA and NeuStar salute Ron Conners



These last five years have been singularly rewarding. The people who make up NANPA have been wonderful, and our accomplishments have come from their dedication and hard work. NeuStar never lost sight of the importance of this work to the industry, and supported us completely through good and difficult times. With John Manning's able leadership, NANPA will serve the industry even better than we have in the past.

Ron Conners, 2003

Activity in CA *continued from page 1*

For the 310 NPA, the CPUC will consider two draft proposals for the implementation of a back-up geographic split previously approved by the CPUC. Both proposals say that the northern portion of the 310 NPA, which includes Culver City, Marina del Rey, Santa Monica, Beverley Hills, West Los Angeles and Malibu, would retain the 310 NPA. The southern portion (including El Segundo, Hawthorne, Compton, Redondo Beach, and San Pedro) would split off to form a new 424 NPA. For implementation, the first proposal calls for permissive dialing to commence on September 5, 2003, and for mandatory dialing to begin on December 22, 2003. The second proposal suggests that the CPUC closely monitor the need for numbers over the next six months in order to determine the impact of wireless portability, scheduled to start in November 2003. Further, it advocates other number conservation proposals before the FCC. ■

NANP exhaust projection

NANPA intends to present its NANP exhaust projection at the July 15, 2003 NANC meeting. The methodology and results will be posted to the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com).

Connecticut receives authorization for specialized overlay

On May 16, 2003, for the first time in the U.S., the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conditionally granted the Connecticut Department of Public Utility and Control (DPUC) delegated authority to implement a single transitional specialized overlay (SO) for both the 203 and 860 NPAs. Prior to implementation of the SO, the DPUC must determine the specific non-geographic services that will be included in the SO and submit its implementation plan for review and approval by the FCC. Duration of the SO will be limited to three years after its implementation, at which time the SO will transition to an all-services overlay. Other conditions of approval to the DPUC for the SO include the following: the requisite 10-digit dialing for overlays will be waived for a six-month period, CO code rationing will not be necessary in the SO or the underlying NPAs, thousands-block number pooling should be implemented in the SO as in the underlying NPAs, and take-backs of wireless numbering resources will be limited to unopened blocks. The DPUC proposes to conduct public workshops to help identify which services should be included in the SO and how they will be implemented. ■

Performance evaluation *continued from page 1*

As in prior years, NANPA has prepared a formal performance improvement program (PIP) addressing items that the NOWG would like NANPA to address. NANPA has already starting working on most of these items, and progress is reviewed each month by the NOWG.

NANPA would like to thank all of those entities that took time out to provide their input in this important matter. Your feedback on NANPA's performance is extremely important in our never-ending efforts to meet our customer's requirements. Thanks again for your participation. ■

NPA exhaust *continued from page 1*

This year, wireline and wireless carriers participating in pooling provided block forecasts for pooling rate centers in their NRUF data submitted earlier this year. This data, along with information submitted by the National Pooling Administrator, provided an excellent look into the future and the impact of number pooling on resource requirements.

A few important issues impacted the NPA exhaust projections. First, the overall economic situation continued to dampen the demand for central office (CO) code demand. Second, nearly all NPAs were impacted in some degree by the return of central office codes. In some instances, the quantity of codes available for assignment as of April 1, 2003 was nearly the same as codes available a year ago. These factors, combined with the implementation of number pooling, resulted in a number of NPA exhaust projections moving out as compared with last year's projections. ■

Maintaining assignment data integrity

Central office code assignment data is maintained in three different databases – NANPA's Code Administration System (CAS), the Telcordia™ Business Integrated Routing and Rating Database System (BIRRDs), and the Numbering Resource Utilization & Forecast (NRUF) database. Service providers are responsible for keeping the data in all of these databases up-to-date and synchronized.

In 2002 NANPA undertook an effort to identify and resolve discrepancies among these three different data repositories. Initially, approximately 8,000 discrepancies were found, and the number continued to grow. With the cooperation of service providers, more than 2,000 discrepancies have been resolved, but nearly 5,500 remain, and resolving them is a very labor-intensive process.

Analysis shows that a large number of these discrepancies arise when service providers make changes to the key assignment parameters in BIRRDs without filing a Part 1 with NANPA to update CAS. The guidelines require service providers to submit a Part 1 to NANPA prior to entering changes into BIRRDs.

It is in service providers' best interests to follow the guidelines to ensure that the assignment data in CAS is correct. For example, if CAS does not reflect the correct numbering resources assigned, service providers' applications for additional resources may be denied because the applications appear not to meet the FCC's utilization requirements.

For more information on this NANPA initiative, please contact Tom Foley at (407) 389-8929 or thomas.foley@neustar.biz. ■



46000 Center Oak Plaza
Sterling, Va 20166
www.neustar.biz

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NeuStar, Inc.
Managing editor
Barbara Blackwell

Contributing writers
Ron Conners
John Manning

Design layout
Tara Gloss

Copy editor
Corina Henriques

NeuStar, Inc.
Chairman and CEO
Jeff Ganek

Chief Operating Officer
Michael Lach

Senior Vice President, Operations
Joe Franklin

Vice President, Numbering Services
Greg Roberts

Vice President, Operations
Chris Walker

Director, NANPA
John Manning

How to reach NANPA News:
If you would like to be added or
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please visit www.nanpa.com.

NeuStar, Inc.
46000 Center Oak Plaza
Sterling, Va 20166

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NANPA introduces CATs

NANPA has introduced a new tool to help applicants in applying for central office codes. CATs (Code Administration Tips) was created by the Code Administration team as a tool to assist in educating and informing service providers of:

- Changes to the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines;
- Changes in FCC requirements;
- Tips on using the CAS (Code Administration System) and information regarding changes to CAS;
- Changes to and useful information regarding code administration processing;
- Time saving tips for code requests; and
- Tips on completing forms used to make code requests.

Some of the current CATs include how to address negative numbers on the Months-to-Exhaust Worksheet, re-submitting a Part 1 that was cancelled due to an error, and the processing of code transfers and new LERG assignee changes due to ported telephone numbers. CATs can be found on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) under Central Office Code (Prefixes).

NANPA strives to add a new tip at least once each month. To date, NANPA's Code Administration team has received very positive feedback from service providers, indicating that they have found CATs to be very informative and useful. If you would like to suggest a tip, please contact Jan Connally at jan.connally@neustar.biz. ■

Central office code activity report

The following table is a summary of the Central Office (CO) code activity for the period of January - April 2003.

Month 2003	Requests	Assignments	Changes	Denials	Cancel	Disconnects	Reservations
January	1,348	354	587	193	30	184	0
February	1,491	261	748	194	79	209	0
March	1,875	282	1,190	201	62	140	0
April	2,024	407	1,052	335	51	179	0