



news

Fourth Quarter 2004

Provided by the North American Numbering Plan Administration

Publications on the NANPA Website

The NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) is a wealth of information. One specific area that provides a variety of information about NANPA and NANP operations can be found under “Publications”.

NANPA posts to its website all of its Planning Letters. A Planning Letter is the primary tool used by NANPA to publish information about area code relief. Planning Letters are listed on the website according to the particular year the letter was published. All of the NANPA Planning Letters to date can be found on the website. In addition, NANPA has collected a large number of Information Letters concerning area code relief and posted these to the NANPA website as well. These letters go back as far as 1987.

Another category of Publications is Press Releases. NANPA has posted to its website press releases dating back as 1998. Most of these releases deal with the introduction of a new area code and changes in dialing plans.

NANPA publishes quarterly Newsletters that contain articles about current numbering activities. These Newsletters often provide helpful information about using the NANP Administration System (NAS) and announcements about new administration requirements (e.g., Red Light Rule, utilization requirements).

Whenever an area code is in jeopardy of exhausting, NANPA works with the industry and state regulators to develop special procedures that govern the assignment of central office codes. These jeopardy procedures are posted to the NANPA website under Publications, “Jeopardy Procedures.” The website also provides information concerning when the NPA was placed in jeopardy and the NANPA Code Administrator responsible for code assignments in the area code. ■

October 2004 NPA and NANP exhaust analysis

Under the new NANPA contract, NANPA is now required to forecast NPA and NANP exhaust twice yearly. NANPA recently completed its analysis which can be found on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) under Reports, NRUF.

The NPA exhaust report provides an NPA-by-NPA exhaust projection for all geographic area codes in the United States.

Historical central office code assignments, along with data submitted by service providers via the Number Resource Utilization and Forecast (NRUF)

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CICs for switchless resellers

Per a directive from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), NANPA assigns Feature Group D (FGD) Carrier Identification Codes (CICs) to “switchless resellers” without the requirement for switchless resellers to first purchase direct FGD trunk access before applying for a CIC.

To facilitate the application process for “switchless resellers,” CIC applicants must submit a fully completed CIC application form to NANPA via NAS. In order for this application to be processed, all appropriate fields on the application form must be populated. (Note: a valid ACNA assignment must be provided.) The applicant will complete all required fields on the CIC application form to the best of his/her knowledge.

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Mark your calendar!

NRUF submission due

February 1, 2005

INC 2005 calendar

February 1-4, 2005 – Maitland, FL

April 5-8, 2005 – Location TBD

June 14-17, 2005 – Location TBD

August 2-5, 2005 – Location TBD

October 24-28, 2005 – Las Vegas, NV

NANC 2005 calendar

January 19, 2005

March 15, 2005

May 17, 2005

July 19, 2005

September 20, 2005

November 30, 2005

NANPA 2004 performance survey

The North American Numbering Council (NANC) will be distributing the 2004 NANPA Performance Survey in January 2005. This is an annual survey that seeks both service provider and regulator input on the NANPA's performance. The evaluation period is January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

Areas covered in the survey include CO Code Administration, NPA Relief Planning, Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) reporting, Other NANP Resources (e.g., Carrier Identification Codes, 500 and 900 NXXs) and an overall assessment of NANPA. Submission deadline is March 4, 2005.

The survey will be available on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) and the NANC Chair website (www.NANC-Chair.org) in late January 2005. ■

NANPA conducts NAS survey

NANPA recently conducted a survey of NAS users to obtain their feedback concerning the NAS central office code administration functionality. Over 80% of the respondents were satisfied or extremely satisfied with NAS.

The survey was distributed to over 370 external NAS users who had used the central office (CO) code functionality. The survey addressed the following areas: NAS CO code functionality, ease of use, ease of navigation through the NAS menus, downloading reports, the NAS User guide and the need for personal assistance. Respondents were requested to provide both the importance of a specific NAS functional area and their level of satisfaction. Comments were also invited on what features the respondent found most useful as well as most difficult to use.

Of interest was the frequency of NAS use reported in the survey. Fifty percent of the respondents indicated that they used NAS one to four times in a month while nearly 25% reported that they rarely used NAS at all. Only 23% of the respondents used NAS on a regular basis (up to four times a week). The vast majority of respondents used NAS to submit Part 1s and Part 4s.

Nearly all the respondents found the NAS was easy to use and navigation through the menus was simple. Also, most were pleased with the NAS User Guide as well as the personal assistance they received from NANPA CO code personnel in using the system. The survey did indicate that additional education and support was needed in downloading NAS CO code reports.

Based upon the survey results, NANPA intends to focus on three primary areas. First, ensuring accurate and complete NAS data. Some of the issues identified in the survey related to the NAS user profile while others had to do with information associated with a central office code. Second, additional education is needed on how to fully use the system's capabilities, including accessing certain features and functionality of NAS. And third, highlighting the capabilities of the system as it relates to CO code reports and the data available to the user. ■

More news...

Updated area code exhaust projections are now available on the NANPA website (under Reports, NRUF).

Service providers must submit an updated NRUF Form 502 on or before February 1, 2005. Utilization data should be as of December 31, 2004. Forecast data is a five-year forecast with Year 1 on all forecast forms referring to resources needed in 2005.

The INC Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines have been revised to state that reservation requests must be submitted directly to the Pooling Administrator if the requested central office code is in a mandatory pooling rate center.

In accordance with Section 6.3.1 of the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines, code holders are reminded to send a Part 1 to NANPA when changes to code assignment data are made.

Service providers are reminded to periodically check the Part 3 Disconnect report on the NANPA website to see if it has ported telephone numbers from a code scheduled to be disconnected. If so, they can take immediate action to have the disconnecting code assigned to them. The Part 3 Disconnect report provides a daily listing of central office codes with a pending disconnect date.

The Nebraska and West Virginia Public Service Commissions have petitioned the FCC for delegated authority to implement additional numbering resource optimization measures in the 402 and 304 NPAs. Comments are due December 30, 2004. Reply Comments are due January 14, 2005.

On October 18, 2004, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission petitioned the FCC for delegated authority to implement mandatory thousands-block number pooling in LNP-capable rate centers in the 580 NPA. Comments were due December 14, 2004.

On December 7, 2004, NANPA declared the Georgia 706 NPA in jeopardy. Interim jeopardy procedures for code assignment are posted on the NANPA website. Finalized jeopardy procedures will be established in January 2005.



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NANPA News
published quarterly by
NeuStar, Inc.

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October 2004 NPA and NANPA exhaust analysis *continued from page 1*

process, served as the basis for the projections. The analysis showed that the forecasted exhaust date for the majority of area codes did not change from the April 2004 projections.

The results of the NANP exhaust study indicated NANP exhaust beyond 2035.

The assumptions underlying this year’s study are the same assumptions used in the April 2004 study. A complete list of assumptions is available in the full NANPA report, which can be found on the NANPA website, under Reports, NRUF.

As recognized in previous NANP exhaust analysis, the NANP exhaust forecast model is sensitive to the yearly CO code demand rate. Using the monthly CO code demand for each NPA as calculated in the October 2004 NPA Exhaust Analysis, and straight-lining this demand beyond the five-year time frame included in NRUF submissions, creates an average yearly demand rate of nearly 7,200 CO codes/year. This yearly demand rate was compared with demand rates in 2001, 2002 and 2003.

Year	Annual Gross CO Code Demand	Annual Net CO Code Demand
2001	10,400	4,400
2002	7,200	3,600
2003	3,200	1,400
2004 (projected)	3,200	2,300

In order to provide a NANP exhaust analysis more reflective of the current industry trend in terms of yearly CO code demand, NANPA selected a base case of 6,500 average annual CO code demand. This represents a 10% reduction in the annual demand created using the October 2004 NPA Exhaust Analysis. Although this number is higher than the 2004 projected gross CO code demand rate, it remains to be seen whether the CO code demand rates will continue at current levels or will eventually rebound to higher levels over the remaining 30 years of the projected NANP life. Further, as expected, the quantity of returned codes is decreasing as the industry adjusts to the optimization measures put in place with the FCC’s NRO Order and the local exchange market begins to stabilize. It is envisioned that annual net demand will become more in line with gross demand as carriers only obtain resources when truly needed.

Using an average CO code demand rate of 6,500 codes assigned per year, the projected NANP exhaust date is beyond 2035, assuming the quantity of NPAs available is 685.

Due to the results of the base model, the only sensitivity analysis performed was an increase in the average annual CO code demand on the results. For comparison purposes, NANPA performed a sensitivity analysis using 7,200 annual CO code demand, which represented the gross demand as calculated from the October 2004 NPA Exhaust Analysis. This resulted in a projected exhaust of 2035. ■

CICs for switchless resellers *continued from page 1*

Effective November 26, 2004, a switchless reseller must also provide documentation to NANPA that validates “switchless reseller” status. The state public utilities commission certification is required unless the state does not issue switchless reseller certification. If the state does not issue such a certification, a written statement by an officer of the applicant’s company will be accepted to verify “switchless reseller” status.

State certification is required in the following states: Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin. ■