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Provided by the North American Numbering Plan Administration

New utilization requirement effective June 30, 2002

As required by the FCC 2nd NRO Order, effective June 30, 2002, service providers requesting resources will need to meet a utilization requirement of at least 65% on resources already assigned in the rate center before NANPA can assign additional codes to that service provider. 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 resources assigned to that carrier in that geographic area and multiplying the result by 100. NANPA will deny code applications that fail to meet this utilization requirement.

State commissions that are using a utilization threshold that exceeds 65% pursuant to delegated authority are permitted to continue to use their utilization threshold in those areas as long as it did not exceed the Commission'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.

A reminder of the new requirement has been placed on the NANPA web site and distributed to the code-admin mailing list. ■

2001 NANPA performance evaluation complete

At the May 21, 2002 North American Numbering Council (NANC) meeting, the NANPA Oversight Working Group (NOWG) presented its evaluation of NANPA's 2001 performance. Of significant note is the quantity of service providers and regulators that provided their valuable input to this process. Nearly 170 responses were provided with 137 coming from service providers and 27 from state commissions. This was an increase of almost 400% over the 2000 results, and is more than double any other year for which a survey was conducted.

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NPA exhaust projections available

The results of the Number Resources Utilization and Forecast (NRUF) and NPA Exhaust Analysis have been published and are now available on the NANPA web site (www.nanpa.com). Look under "frequently visited pages" and click on "NRUF 2002 Results." This report provides an exhaust projection for each geographic area code in the U.S. and Canada. The Canadian Number Administrator provided the information used to develop the exhaust projections for NPAs in Canada.

Publication of the national pooling rollout schedule on April 24, 2002 made it possible for NANPA to include the impact of wireline pooling on NPA exhaust. For those NPAs where a specific start date for pooling was not available, NANPA used the mid-point of the scheduled quarter as the start date.

The NPA exhaust analysis did not reflect the impact of wireless pooling, presently scheduled to begin in November 2002. Lacking any actual data on which to base projections, NANPA did not develop and incorporate any generic assumptions concerning the impact of wireless pooling into the individual NPA exhaust projections.

A few important issues influenced the NPA exhaust projections. First, the overall economic downturn decreased central office code demand. Second, carriers returned a large number of codes. In many area codes, the number of codes available for assignment on April 1, 2002 was the same or greater than the number of codes available at the same time last year. Further, combining these factors with the implementation of thousand block number pooling, the vast majority of area code exhaust projections were moved out as compared with last year's projections.

In projecting NPA exhaust, NANPA grouped the area codes into three primary categories: 1) NPAs without pooling, 2) NPAs with pooling prior to December 31, 2001 and 3) NPAs with pooling ordered to start after December 31, 2001. NANPA used a separate forecast methodology for each category.

For NPAs without pooling, the forecast methodology was similar to the methodology used last year. This methodology included using the forecast data submitted by the service providers as well as historical CO code demand by industry segment over past three years, the number of service providers and expansion of footprint over the same time period, recent NPA relief activity and CO code rationing. Using this information, NANPA developed a projected CO code demand rate for the NPA.

For each NPA where pooling was started before December 31, 2000, the Pooling Administrator (PA) provided a forecast of the number of NXXs that will be needed from NANPA to fulfill the needs of the pooling service providers over the next five years. This information was combined with forecast data from non-pooling entities to develop the exhaust projection. It should be noted that in developing its exhaust projections for NPAs where codes had been set aside for pooling, NANPA assumed that a State Commission would return codes set aside for pooling to the inventory of

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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 its never-ending efforts to meet customer requirements. Thanks again for your participation. ■

NRUF reporting due August 1, 2002

The next deadline for submission of NRUF utilization and forecast data is August 1, 2002. An email notice to that effect has been sent to all carriers that previously submitted Form 502.

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

The NRUF Job Aid has also been updated and posted on the NANPA web site. 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. ■

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codes available to non-pooling service providers in an effort to ensure that pooling and non-pooling codes exhaust at the same time.

For NPAs where pooling was ordered to start after December 31, 2001, pooling service providers were not required to forecast their code requirements separate from non-pooling service providers. Therefore, even if the PA was able to provide a forecast, it could not be used because the portion of the forecasted demand it replaces is unknown. As a result, a different method was used to estimate the reduction in demand for NXXs due to the effects of pooling.

NANPA has observed that wireline service provider demand falls off significantly when pooling is first introduced, since most wireline service provider requirements can be satisfied either using their inventory of numbers and/or donated blocks. As the donated blocks are consumed in popular rate centers, the requirement for codes to meet the needs of wireline service providers rises. This continues until the excess inventory of blocks due to block donations has been consumed. At this point, the wireline demand for codes from NANPA levels off at a rate below what the code demand was prior to pooling.

Based on data from the pooling trials, NANPA used the following estimate to reflect the impact of wireline pooling on NXX demand. In the first year after pooling begins, the demand for codes falls to 30% of the CO code requirements without pooling (assuming no rationing is in place). In the second year after pooling starts, the wireline demand rises to 40% of the code requirements without pooling. Finally, in the third and subsequent years after pooling starts, the requirements for NXXs from NANPA for wireline service providers level off at 50% of the requirements without pooling.

Both the NPA Relief Planning and CO Code Administration groups within NANPA reviewed the new projections prior to publication. Appropriate adjustments were made during this review to account for other important aspects unique to an NPA that could impact CO code demand. ■

Central office code activity report

The following table is a summary of the Central Office (CO) code activity for the January through May 2002 period.

	Totals	Assignments	Changes	Denials	Cancelled	Disconnect	Reservations
January	3,132	491	1,254	630	102	655	0
February	2,821	557	1,593	462	77	132	0
March	3,180	683	1,388	587	110	412	0
April	6,047	896	3,570	731	181	669	0
May	3,121	792	1,495	414	74	346	0



1120 Vermont Avenue, NW Suite 400
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NeuStar, Inc.
Managing editor
Barbara Blackwell

Contributing writers
Ron Conners
John Manning

Graphic designer
Brad Windham

Copy editor
Corina Henriques

NeuStar, Inc.
Chairman and CEO
Jeff Ganek

Chief Operating Officer
Michael Lach

Senior Vice President, Operations
Joe Franlin

Vice President, Numbering Services
Greg Roberts

Vice President, Operations
Chris Walker

Director, NANPA
Ron Conners

Director, Numbering Services
John Manning

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New process for handling returned codes with ported numbers

NANPA continues to receive a large quantity of NXX codes being returned by code holders. Many of these codes are marked as portable codes and as such, may have ported telephone numbers (TNs). To assist in finding new code holders for these codes, a new interim process has been developed.

When NANPA receives a code return, and that code has ported TNs, NANPA will contact all the service providers with ported TNs at the same time. Service providers will have up to ten days to respond as to whether they wish to become the new code holder.

To become the new code holder, the service provider must respond with Part 1 within ten days. A lack of response means the service provider does not want to become the new code holder. NANPA will act on received Part 1s on a first-come, first-served basis. If no service provider with ported TNs becomes the new code holder,

the code will be disconnected. If porting occurs after NANPA issues a Part 3 Disconnect, the service provider with the ports can become the new code holder. Finally, appropriate regulatory direction/involvement is necessary on abandoned central office codes.

This process is designed to shorten the time interval for finding a new code holder, clearly define an appropriate response from a service provider, eliminate steps that delay the process and prevent a service provider from disconnecting service and get regulators involved in the final disposition of abandoned codes. The ultimate goal of this new process is to develop a balanced approach that addresses the needs of service providers with ported TNs with the desire of the service provider returning the code for a speedy resolution to their request.

The new interim procedures can be found on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) under Number Assignments and the link "Central Office Codes." ■