



Fourth Quarter 2008

Provided by the North American Numbering Plan Administration

Reduction in CO Code Processing Time

Effective November 17, 2008, the timeframe NANPA uses for processing central office code applications, to include Part 1 and Part 4 submissions, was reduced from ten business days to five business days. The time interval now used by NANPA for processing applications matches the processing time frame for one thousand block applications.

The introduction of the NAS/PAS interface in June 2008 automated the process of forwarding central office code requests in pooled rate centers submitted to the Pooling Administrator via PAS to NAS. This change eliminated the manual entry by NANPA for Part 1 applications and Part 4 submissions received from the PA. As a result, the reduction in processing days did not impact NANPA operational staffing requirements.

In addition to the reduction in processing days, a new checkbox was added to the Part 1 application. This new box allows the applicant to request the earliest possible effective date that NANPA may grant for a NON-EXPEDITED request. If the applicant marks the new checkbox for earliest effective date and leaves the default effective date, then the NANPA Code Administrator will grant an effective date of 52 calendar days from the date of processing the application for a new code request and for a code disconnect request, and 37 calendar days from the date of processing the application for code change request. ■

NANPA and Neutrality

The Federal Communications Commission requires NANPA to be a non-governmental entity that is impartial and not aligned with any particular telecommunication industry segment. Under FCC rules and orders establishing the qualifications and obligations of the NANPA, NeuStar is required to comply with neutrality regulations and policies.

Under these neutrality standards, NeuStar is required to administer the numbering plan in a neutral and impartial manner, which means that NeuStar cannot favor any particular service provider, telecommunications industry segment or technology or group of telecommunications consumers over any other service provider, industry segment, technology or group of consumers in the conduct of those businesses. NeuStar is examined periodically on its compliance with these requirements by independent third parties.

Each quarter, an independent auditor examines the activities of the NANPA to ensure compliance with industry established procedures. Focus is centered on the processing of central office code (NPA-NXX) and Carrier Identification

2008 NANPA Performance Evaluation

The North American Numbering Council (NANC) is seeking input on NANPA's performance in 2008. The NANPA Performance Evaluation Survey has been posted to the NANPA website. Survey responses are due January 31, 2009.

Each year, the NANC conducts a survey of regulators, service providers and any interested party that interacts with the NANPA. The survey focuses on four primary areas: central office code administration, NPA relief planning, Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) reporting and the administration of other NANP resources (e.g., Carrier Identification Codes, 5YY and 900 NPA). Respondents may also provide an overall assessment of NANPA performance and provide comments. The NANC uses these surveys as input into their overall assessment of NANPA's performance for the year. ■

Mark Your Calendar!

INC Calendar

- INC 104: February 3-5, 2009
Alpharetta, GA
- INC 105: April 20-24, 2009
Indian Wells, CA
- INC106: June 22-26, 2009
Overland Park, KS
- INC107: August 10-14, 2009
Location: TBD
- INC108: October 12-16, 2009
Sterling, VA
- INC109: December 7-11, 2009
Miami, FL

News Brief

NANPA recently completed and published at the end of October its analysis of area code and NANP exhaust. The results can be found on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) under Reports, NRUF. The results of the NANP exhaust study indicated NANP exhaust beyond 2038.

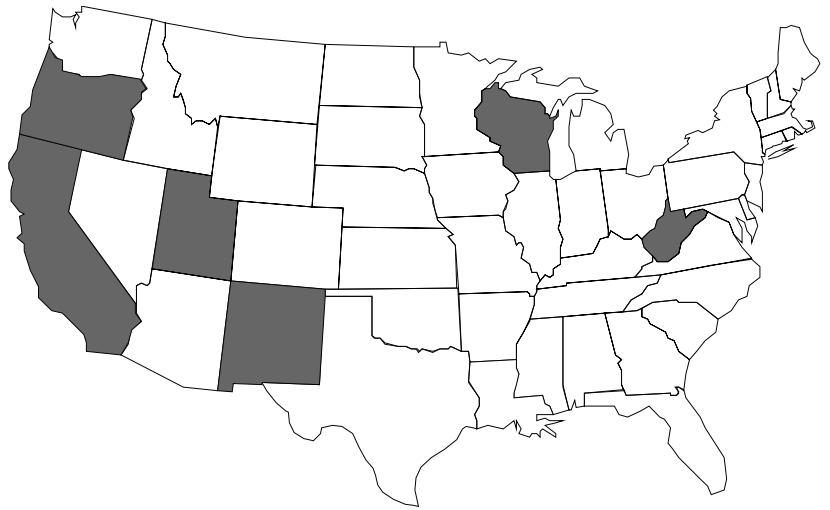
On November 3, 2008, NANPA issued Planning Letter 382, which contained a status on the NPA 500 resource. The 500 resource is presently projected to exhaust in 2Q09. The Planning Letter can be found on the NANPA website under "Publications," "Planning Letters."

Effective November 12, 2008, the ALMELUND rate center in NPA 651, the APPLE VALLEY rate center in NPAs 651 and 952, the BELLE PLAINE + JORDAN rate center in NPA 952, the MOUND rate center in NPAs 763 and 952 and the WYOMING rate center in NPA 651 were consolidated into the TWINCITIES center.

Effective November 14, 2008, when transferring a CO code from one service provider to another, the receiving service provider must submit a Part 1 and include proof of certification and facility readiness if it does not already have an NXX or NXX-X assigned to it in the rate center associated with the code.

Effective January 2, 2009, the Toqup rate center in Nevada NPA 775 was created. No central office code assignments are impacted since this rate center serves a previously unserved area.

NANPA has updated numerous NAS training guides, which are posted on the NANPA website under "Tools," "NAS Training Guides." The training resources cover the following NAS topics: Registration, CO Code Administration, NRUF, NNS and Other NANP Resources. ■



Area Code Relief Activity

West Virginia 304/681 Overlay nears completion – The West Virginia Public Service Commission approved an overlay for the 304 NPA on February 13, 2008, permissive seven or ten digit dialing started on July 26, 2008 and mandatory ten-digit dialing will begin on February 28, 2009. All customers who currently have 304 area code phone numbers will keep the 304 area code; however, beginning February 28, 2009 they must use the 10-digit dialing procedure for all local calls or the call will not be completed. (See PL-375)

California 760 NPA – On October 16, 2008 the California Public Utilities Commission vacated the previous geographic split order and approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 760 NPA. The new 442 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 760 NPA. Permissive seven-digit or one plus ten-digit dialing begins May 2, 2009 and mandatory one plus ten-digit dialing starts October 24, 2009. (See PL- 381).

California 818 NPA – On April 24, 2008 the California Public Utilities Commission approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 818 NPA. The new 747 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 818 NPA. Permissive seven-digit or one plus ten-digit dialing began October 11, 2008 and mandatory one plus ten-digit dialing starts April 18, 2009. (See PL-378).

New Mexico 505 NPA Split reaches completion – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission approved a geographic split of the 505 NPA. Three fourths of the state changed to the new 575 NPA. Mandatory dialing began October 5, 2008. The end of the recorded announcement period is January 11, 2009. (See PL-358).

Oregon 541 NPA – On October 21, 2008 the Oregon Public Utilities Commission approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 541 NPA. The new 458 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 541 NPA. Permissive seven-digit or ten-digit dialing will begin July 12, 2009 and mandatory ten-digit dialing starts January 10, 2010. (See PL-383).

Utah 801 NPA – On July 12, 2007 the Public Service Commission of Utah vacated their previous order for a geographic split and approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 801 NPA. The new 385 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 801 NPA. Permissive seven-digit or ten-digit dialing began June 1, 2008 and mandatory dialing starts March 1, 2009. (See PL-366).

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February 1, 2009 NRUF Reminder

NANPA reminds service providers that their NRUF Form 502 is due on or before close of business on Monday, February 2, 2009. Carriers are reminded to report utilization data as of December 31, 2008 and forecast data for the next 5 years, with Year 1 on all forecast forms referring to resources needed for 2009.

If a carrier needs to update the August 1, 2008 forecast between January 1 and January 31, the carrier must submit the February 1, 2009 NRUF. If the carrier has not yet finished the utilization reporting at that time, the carrier can submit the new NRUF for February 1, and then update the NRUF to include the utilization portion(s) on or before February 1, 2009.

Please see the NANPA website, www.nanpa.com, through “Services” then “NRUF Data Collection & Analysis” for directions regarding methods of submission and to download the NRUF 502 Geographic Job Aid and/or the Non-Geographic Job Aid documents which have recently been updated.

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Common Errors in Completing NRUF Form 502

Issue	Solution
When submitting an NRUF forecast for an overlay complex (e.g., 304/681 in WV), the Service Provider (SP) submits a forecast for all NPAs in the overlay complex.	Per the Geographic Job Aid document, if the forecast portion of the NRUF includes overlay areas, the carrier is directed to enter only one of the NPAs in the overlay complex.
When providing a forecast for a particular rate center, the wrong form is selected resulting in an excessively large forecast.	When providing a forecast for a particular rate center, be aware of the difference in the quantity of telephone numbers between the F1 series (for Pooling Carriers) and the F2 series (for Non-Pooling Carriers in Pooling Areas.) Quantities entered correspond to blocks (e.g., 1=1,000 telephone numbers) and codes (e.g., 1=10,000 telephone numbers), respectively.
When forecasting a need for numbers in a new state in which an SP expects to provide service, a forecast is provided for all NPAs and all rate centers in that state.	SPs should only provide a forecast for those rate centers where there is a reasonable expectation that numbers will be requested.
“Email address present in company information is invalid”	The contact person listed on the company information page within the NRUF Form 502 is not a registered user or, if they are registered, their password has expired. Registrations may be re-enabled by contacting the Help Desk at (866) 623-2282 or login@neustar.biz .
“Service Provider OCN field does not belong to the user”	The applicable Operating Company Number must be added to the user’s NAS profile.
“Field Rate Center is invalid for the NPA given”	SPs may refer to the rate center abbreviation list under “Services,” then “NRUF Data Collection & Analysis” for assistance in listing the correct rate center abbreviation.
“Utilization/Forecast reported multiple times”	SPs cannot duplicate the listing of a block (NPA-NXX-X) or code (NPA-NXX) for utilization forms, or a particular NPA and/or rate center for forecast forms.
“Field Assignee/Assignor is Missing”	If an SP is reporting intermediate numbers on U1 or U2, the SP must report the name of the SP(s) to which numbers were given in the Notes/Assignee column of Form 502. If an SP is reporting on the U3 or U4 forms, the SP must list the name of the SP from which numbers were received in the Notes/Assignee column.
“Please complete the appropriate forecast in order to proceed”	Re-submit the NRUF with the appropriate forecast form.
“Field Donated Block has too many used numbers [value] on form U1”	If the field “Donated to Pool?” is checked on U1, the total numbers reported in the usage columns (Assigned, etc.) cannot exceed 100 (10%) per block.

Area Code Relief Activity

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Wisconsin 715 NPA and 920 NPA – On November 6, 2008 the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin approved two all-service overlays as the relief methods for the 715 NPA and the 920 NPA. The new 534 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 715 NPA. Permissive seven-digit or ten-digit dialing begins October 17, 2009 and mandatory ten-digit dialing starts July 17, 2010 (See PL-384). The new 274 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 920 NPA. Permissive seven-digit or ten-digit dialing begins May 14, 2011 and mandatory ten-digit dialing starts February 11, 2012 (See PL-385). ■

NRUF Service Provider Training

Service provider NRUF refresher training was held October 29 and November 6, 2008. Over 55 individuals from 49 different companies participated. The training was held via audio conference and directed primarily towards first-time users of FCC Form 502.

The training addressed the various aspects of completing and filing an NRUF submission. This included a review of the submission methods (i.e., email, secure FTP and on-line) as well as NRUF filing requirements and usage fields on the Form 502. A particular focus of this year's training was on the common errors NANPA sees with each submission cycle and the appropriate fixes (see "Common Errors in Completing NRUF Form 502" matrix included with this newsletter). Participants were also reminded of the various training resources and job aids available to assist in completing their NRUF.

Prior to the training, participants were asked to download a copy of the Geographic NRUF Form 502 available under "NRUF Data Collection and Analysis" on the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com). The Geographic NRUF Form 502 was used in the training to explain the overall NRUF reporting process, including completion of company information and the utilization and forecast worksheets within the Form 502. In addition, the job aid serves as a reference resource for the treatment of ported numbers, an explanation of an intermediate carrier, the definition and reporting requirements of a rural carrier, and how to report on donated blocks. Other sources of information were also reviewed, to include the availability of rate center abbreviation lists, block reports and training guides. ■

Reset Your NAS Password

Passwords, per the Federal Government security directives, are system generated. They do look very intimidating with all those special characters (*, &, ^, \$, @, etc.). They are "strong" passwords and are there for the protection of your data in NAS.

The most common issue is that a NAS user's password has expired. NAS passwords expire every 180 days. NAS automatically sends each user an email notice that their password is about to expire. However, a problem arises sometimes with this email if it is flagged by the user's spam filters and is subsequently deleted. Unfortunately, with the proliferation of "real" spam and the settings of the spam filters, more and more valid emails, like this reminder email, get flagged.

You can reset your password more often than 180 days; you don't need to wait for the reminder email to change the password; you can always reset it early.

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CICs Report Due

NANPA reminds all Access Providers, FGB and FGD CIC assignees, Switchless Resellers and Billing & Collections Clearinghouse providers that semi-annual CIC reports for 2H08 are due by no later than January 31, 2009. These reports will capture CIC activity from July 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

All companies submitting semi-annual CIC reports are strongly urged to verify/validate the accuracy of data contained in these reports since it is considered to be certified information. The information contained in semi-annual CIC reports is the only tool used by NANPA to determine whether or not CICs are being used in accordance with industry-developed assignment guidelines, and accordingly, this tool is the basis for determining if a CIC is subject to reclamation.

A soft copy of the semi-annual CIC reporting forms can be downloaded from the CIC Assignment Guidelines (www.atis.org). Reports are to be submitted to Nancy Fears as email attachments (nancy.fears@neustar.biz) or via fax to 208-694-5329 by the deadline of January 31, 2009. There is no provision that allows for late submission of the semi-annual CIC reports to NANPA. ■

NANPA and Neutrality

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Code (CIC) assignment applications. Specifically, the auditor examines assignment applications processed during the audit period to identify any applications that were not processed within the prescribed interval as defined in industry guidelines. NANPA is required to provide a written explanation in those instances where it failed to respond in the required interval. The purpose of this examination is to determine if NANPA is disadvantaging a particular service provider, group of service providers or industry segment by failing to respond in the required time interval.

A quarterly report that summarizes the findings of the independent auditor is provided to the NeuStar Board of Directors, the FCC, the North American Numbering Council and the North American Portability Management LLC. Since 2000, over 30 audits have occurred and with each audit, NeuStar received a positive report from the auditor on its neutrality. ■



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NeuStar, Inc.

Managing editor and
contributing writer
John Manning

Contributing writers
Al Cipparone
Joe Cocke
Nancy Fears
Tom Foley
John Manning
Wayne Milby
LaShanda Tomlinson

Design layout
Brad Windham

NeuStar, Inc.
Chairman and CEO
Jeff Ganek

Chief Operating Officer
Lisa Hook

Senior Vice President,
Customer Relations
Michael O'Connor

Director, NANPA
John Manning

NeuStar, Inc.
Corporate Headquarters
46000 Center Oak Plaza
Sterling, VA 20166 USA

www.neustar.biz
www.nanpa.com

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Reset Your NAS Password

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NANPA used to recommend that you do it with the “time change” but now that daylight saving time is more than six months long, that won’t work. How about a simple recurring reminder in your PDA or calendar program or on a holiday such as Christmas, Easter or July 4th? If you are not sure when your password will expire, reset it.

To reset your password, log into NAS, select User Profile, then Reset Password. With the upcoming NRUF season, now would be a good time to reset your password... just for the NRUF of it. And, like with other passwords you may have, if you believe the password has been compromised, change it immediately. Protect access to your sensitive NAS information from unauthorized persons.

If you have any questions or need assistance with password issues or need to have a password reset, just call the NAS Help Desk at 1-866-623-2282. Passwords cannot be mailed and must be given directly to users. ■

February 1, 2009 NRUF Reminder

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As a reminder, if you have not already registered to be a user of NAS, you must do so prior to submitting your NRUF. This applies to all reporting carriers who intend to submit NRUF information. Also, please be sure your NAS registration is still active (i.e. your NAS password has not expired). For assistance with NAS registration and password issues, please contact the NAS Help Desk at 1-866-623-2282 or login@neustar.biz.

NRUF-specific questions regarding this notification should be directed to 571-434-5789 or 301-885-2428. ■