

NANPA Numbering News



In This Issue:

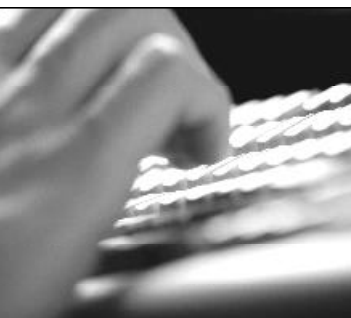
1999 Performance Summary 3

Profile on Relief Planners 4

NANPA Adds New Staff 4

NANPA Map By Region 6

By the Way 8



February/March 2000

NEU STAR

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Provided by the North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA)

Additional State Commissions Petition FCC *Number Pooling Trials to Start in 6 States*

Since the last issue of *NANPA Numbering News*, state commissions in Georgia, Washington, Arizona, Pennsylvania and Colorado have petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for delegated authority regarding numbering optimization issues. These five states join 18 others that have previously petitioned the FCC for similar authority, of which 10 have been granted: New York, Florida, Massachusetts, California, Maine, Texas, Connecticut, Wisconsin, Ohio and New Hampshire.

The following is a brief summary of activity in those states where authority has been granted:

California—The California Public Utilities Commission has ordered pooling in NPA 310 by March 18; NPA 415 by July 29; and NPA 714 by November 4. Number pooling was also extended to the 415 and 714 NPAs by Order on January 31.

New York—The New York Public Service Commission has ordered an April 1 start date for pooling in NPA 716.

Florida—On February 17, the Florida Public Service Commission staff issued its recommendation that pooling to be implemented in three area codes: in NPA 954 on May 1; NPA 561 on July 1; and NPA 904 on October 1. The Full Commission met February 29 and approved the staff's recommendation, with some changes. An order is forthcoming.

Maine—Maine Public Utilities Commission is scheduled to begin pooling in NPA 207 on June 1. A Hearing Examiners report, released on

(Continued on page 7)

INC Tackles Numbering Issues

The Industry Numbering Committee (INC) was formed in July 1993 under the auspices of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) to promote the discussion and resolution of numbering issues. The mission of the INC is to “provide an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with the planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of

(Continued on page 2)

NANPA Reports on 1999 CO Code Assignments

At the February meeting of the North American Numbering Council (NANC), NANPA reported on the central office (CO) code assignments made for 1999. From Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 1999, 15,121 NXX codes were assigned, which represents the total number of CO codes assigned less any CO codes reclaimed by the NANPA. For the 4Q99, 545 codes were reclaimed.

The actual number of CO code assignments made in 1999 is in line with what was projected in April 1999 NANP Exhaust Study (i.e., 15,889 codes).

	1Q99	2Q99	3Q99	4Q99	Total
CLEC	1,983	2,316	2,392	1,891	8,582
CMRS	1,101	942	884	705	3,632
ILEC	419	427	325	350	1,521
Paging	312	402	433	239	1,386
Total	3,815	4,087	4,034	3,185	15,121

1999 CO Code Growth Summary (1/1/99 - 12/31/99)

CO Code Statistics for December 1999 and January 2000

	# of Codes Assigned	# of Changes	Suspensions	Denials	Canceled or Withdrawn	Disconnected	# of Reserved	Lottery Denial	Total # of Requests
December '99	1,460	908	150	282	61	163	14	615	3,768
January '00	3,372	849	187	247	49	179	0	507	3,372

INC Tackles Numbering Issues

(continued from cover)

numbering resources and related dialing considerations for public telecommunications within the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) area.” Information about INC can be found on the ATIS web site at www.atis.org.

Participation in the INC is open to any interested party to participate in the consensus process towards resolution of issues. The INC incorporates these resolutions into industry guidelines addressing number resource use and allocation. These agreements, which may be in the form of new industry practices and procedures are incorporated into finalized industry guidelines which are maintained by the INC on the INC Documents page located at the following website: <http://www.atis.org/atis/clc/inc/Incdocs.htm>.

At present, the INC is working on over 25 open issues within several different workshops. Typically, INC will form a workshop to address similar type issues, such as those concerning the assignment and administration of central office codes. INC is also a contribution driven organization, which means that to fully develop issue understanding and resolution, industry participants provide written recommendations, suggestions, viewpoints, ideas, etc. which are reviewed and discussed at INC meetings using an ATIS consensus process.

Listed below are some of the important issues and associated workshops that INC is presently tackling.

- The INC CO/NXX Workshop is developing Industry Guidelines for New Hybrid Central Office Utilization and Forecast Survey. At

the direction of the North American Numbering Council (NANC), the INC’s goal is to draft the new Guidelines by late June. In addition, this workshop is addressing a host of issues concerning central office code expedites, initial CO code activation, CO code reclamation and the assignment of CO codes in jeopardy NPA situations. This workshop is also examining large CO code volume requests and what information service providers should provide to substantiate such requests.

- The INC NPA Workshop is currently updating the NPA Relief Planning and Allocation Guidelines to more accurately reflect industry practices. The group is also addressing the potential assignment of NPA codes for non-geographic, technology-specific applications as well as the possible reallocation of NPA codes to provide additional resources for geographic NPA applications.
- The LNPA Workshop has developed the Thousand Block (NXX-X) Pooling Administration Guidelines and continues to modify them as new issues are identified. They are presently studying the technical alternatives for unassigned number porting (UNP) and how numbers would be administered for UNP in a service provider portability environment.
- The INC has recently formed the Audits Workshop, which is addressing a NANC request to adopt NANC recommendations for audit procedures into the INC Guidelines. The INC’s goal is to draft the new Guidelines by the end of June.
- The INC NANP Expansion Workshop is examining technical alternatives for the expansion of the 10-digit NANP number format. **NeuStar**



NANPA Issues 1999 Annual Report

NANPA delivered its 1999 Annual Report to the North American Numbering Council (NANC) during its February meeting. The annual report – NANPA’s second – highlights NANPA’s 1999 performance, including a description of NANPA and its responsibilities, a discussion of 1999 focus areas and accomplishments, as well as quantity and quality measurements. The annual report can be downloaded from the NANPA website, www.nanpa.com. **NeuStar**

NANPA 1999 Performance Summary

NANPA succeeded in significantly improving performance in 1999 and reaching a consistently high performance level. NANPA uses performance measurements and industry feedback to track its performance. Monthly results are shared with the NANPA oversight group. Additional performance improvements are planned for 2000.

NPA Relief Planning

NANPA is committed to meeting 10 performance goals regarding NPA relief planning. These range from notifying industry participants of initial relief planning meetings within six weeks, to requesting the assignment of the new NPA relief code within one week after a state regulatory authority has formally approved a relief plan. The timeframes are either specified in the guidelines or established by NANPA when the guidelines are not specific.

In meeting those commitments, the NPA relief planners got off to a fine start in the first half of 1999, reaching an average of 87.2% of performance targets. However, NANPA was not satisfied and took additional steps to significantly improve procedures and administrative tools, resulting in 97.6% of performance targets being met from June through December.

The improvement shown by NANPA's performance measurements are confirmed by industry feedback. To further measure and improve its performance, NANPA requested that NPA Relief Planning meeting participants complete a 10-question evaluation form rating such items as timely notification, facilitation skills, value of information, knowledge, preparedness, overall satisfaction with the meeting, etc. The results show that although the scores varied

throughout the year, there was a marked trend toward improvement. In addition, NANPA met periodically with customers, individually and in groups, to obtain direct feedback on areas of quality improvement.

As shown in the chart below, overall customer satisfaction with NPA relief services significantly improved throughout 1999, rising to 4.75 out of 5 by the end of the year.

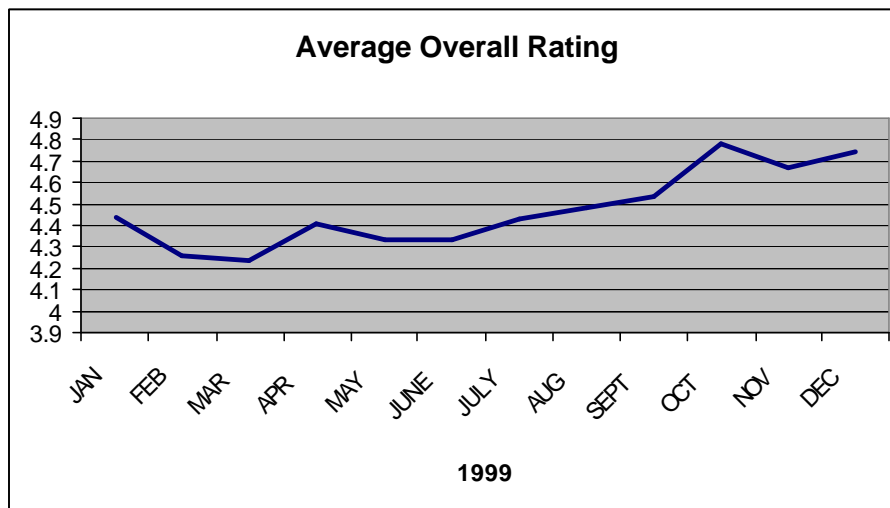
NANPA's high level of performance has continued into 2000—meeting 97.4% of performance targets to date, while maintaining an overall customer survey score of 4.73 out of 5.0.

Code Administration

There were seven primary performance commitments for 1999 (two of which are no longer applicable) that NANPA made to the industry. They ranged from processing central office code applications within 10 business days to entering routing and rating data within five working days for customers who have chosen NANPA as their AOCN. In summary, with the exception of one performance measure¹, the quality of NANPA's work improved from an

average of 97.1% in the 1st half of 1999, to an average of 99.7% in the 2nd half. The good performance has continued into 2000. As of January 2000, all five active performance measurements are at 99% or above.

A comprehensive discussion, including anomaly causes and corrective actions, of our quality assurance and performance measurements can be found in NeuStar's Activity and Quality Report for Code Administration and NPA Relief Planning on the NANPA web site at www.nanpa.com. **NeuStar**



NPA Relief Planning

¹ When service providers do not put the CO codes assigned to them by NANPA into service in a timely fashion, it becomes NANPA's responsibility to reclaim those codes to make them available for re-assignment. In 1999, the industry directed NANPA to verify that 4,599 code assignments made by previous administrators had been put in service. This additional work caused a drop in performance in following up on the assignments NANPA had made. A comprehensive improvement plan was developed and implemented, which included hiring temporary staff and partly automating the reclamation process. Performance improved in the 4Q 1999 and is projected to stabilize at a high level in the 1Q 2000.

NANPA Adds Staff Members

Beth Sprague

Beth Sprague has joined the NANPA team as NPA Administrator. Beth comes to NANPA from ATIS, where she served as Senior Committee Administrator responsible for a number of industry forums and committees. Beth will be responsible for coordinating NANPA's participation and representation in the Industry Numbering Committee (INC), as well as supporting NANPA's COCUS efforts. Beth can be reached at 202-533-2654 or beth.sprague@nanpa.com.

Rebecca Beaton

Rebecca Beaton, a former Program Manager/Consultant at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC), will join NANPA in April as an NPA Relief Planner for the Western Region. At the WUTC, Rebecca was responsible for area code resources and utilization, number portability, universal service, competitive market entry, service quality, network efficiency, and public and press relations. She also worked at US WEST and AT&T Technologies/Western Electric in varied technical assignments. Rebecca can be reached at 360-664-1287 or rebecca.beaton@nanpa.com.

Profile on NPA Relief Planners

NANPA's area code relief planners learn early in their career not to discuss their jobs with people seated next to them on an airplane. To do so inevitably leads to the question, "So you're the person responsible for changing my area code?" Most people don't realize that relief planners really don't make the decisions on splits and overlays, or even if relief will be implemented at all. This responsibility rests with state regulators granted this authority by the FCC through the Telecomm Act of 1996.

In order to clarify some of the responsibilities of the NPA Relief Planners, this issue of *NANPA Numbering News* profiles NANPA's relief planners and the work that they do.

For relief planning purposes, the U.S is divided into three regions (Western, Central, and Eastern). These regions were established to balance the workload and to correspond with NANPA's CO code administration regions for continuity.


NANPA's 13 relief planners, who work from virtual offices across the country, oversee the relief planning process in the U.S. Relief planners come to NANPA from a broad cross-section of the telecommunications industry, and all have extensive experience in numbering, and an understanding of the regions that they represent. NANPA relief planners bring with them backgrounds and perspectives from the ILEC, CLEC, cable and wireless industry segments, as well as state regulatory agencies. The table on page 5 lists, by region, NANPA's relief planners, their locations, and the corresponding states and/or countries:

As neutral administrators, relief planners adhere to industry-developed NPA relief planning guidelines. The relief planning process begins with the identification of area codes that will run out of prefixes within the next 30 months, and the average time period required from start to finish of a project. The process ends with NANPA assigning the new area code, the successful implementation of a relief plan and the availability of a new supply of numbers.

During the process, relief planners have multiple responsibilities, including:

- Setting up and facilitating industry and/or public meetings
- Publishing meeting minutes
- Working closely with NANPA CO code administration in assessing the ongoing status of the area code (for possible jeopardy status)
- Submitting industry recommendations to state regulators
- Responding to state regulatory requests for participation in various public meetings and other hearings
- Working with the industry in implementing the approved relief plan.

In 1999, NANPA relief planners began 52 new area code relief projects throughout the country. With strong support from NANPA code administration, the relief planners conducted 89 face-to-face meetings and 156 conference calls, covering a variety of topics (e.g., relief plan selection, jeopardy procedures, implementation meetings, minutes review). Forty-one relief plan recommendations were filed with state regulators in 1999.

To reach the NPA relief planners via e-mail, their email address follows the pattern firstname.lastname@nanpa.com. On Page 6, a map of the U.S is divided by the three regions and lists the names and phone numbers of the relief planners and code administrators serving that region. That information can also be found on www.nanpa.com. 

NPA Relief Planning Organization

Jim Deak, Regional Director, NPA Relief Planning Morristown, NJ

Eastern Region: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands

Wayne Milby	Senior Relief planner	Richmond, VA
Pamela Kenworthy	Relief planner	Brookside, NJ
Frank Colaco	Relief planner	Livingston, NJ
Tom Foley	Relief planner	Longwood, FL

Central Region: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas

Sandy Tokarek	Senior Relief planner	W. Warwick, RI
Ben Childers	Relief planner	Columbia, MO
Linda Hymans	Relief planner	Cedar Park, TX

Western Region: Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii

Joe Cocke	Senior Relief planner	Thousand Oaks, CA
Dan Burcham	Relief planner	Long Beach, CA
Tim Booth	Relief planner	Simi Valley, CA
Craig Wiseman	Relief planner	Parker, CO
Rebecca Beaton	Relief planner	Olympia, WA

2000 COCUS Due March 1, 2000

If you haven't done so already, you need to submit your 2000 Central Office Code Utilization Survey (COCUS) right away. The deadline for receiving COCUS input was March 1, 2000. And beginning March 15, 2000, NANPA CO Code Administration will be checking to see if a COCUS has been filed by the service provider in an NPA prior to processing the code application.

Service providers are requested to provide the number of CO codes assigned to them as of January 1, 2000, and a forecast of the number of additional codes required over the next five years. In addition, the COCUS form requests you to provide utilization data; i.e., the total number of active telephone numbers within the central office codes assigned to your company.

In January 2000, the Central Office Code/NXX Assignment Guidelines were modified by ATIS' Industry Numbering Committee (INC) to require service providers to submit a COCUS prior to receiving NXX in an area code. Specifically, Section 4.1.1 of the guideline was changed to state that in order to obtain CO codes, an applicant must submit or have submitted a COCUS to the NANPA for the NPA(s) in which the CO code(s) is being requested. This requirement does not apply in instances where an NPA has been implemented since the last COCUS and the Service Provider has submitted a COCUS for the NPA(s) previously serving the geographic areas involved.

COCUS can be submitted on-line via the NANPA website (www.nanpa.com) or by fax. Copies of the forms are also available on the NANPA web page. 

NANPA Staff by Region

Jim Deak, Regional Director, NPA Relief Planning 973-539-8331
 Bruce Bennett, Regional Director, Code Administration 925-363-8701

WESTERN REGION

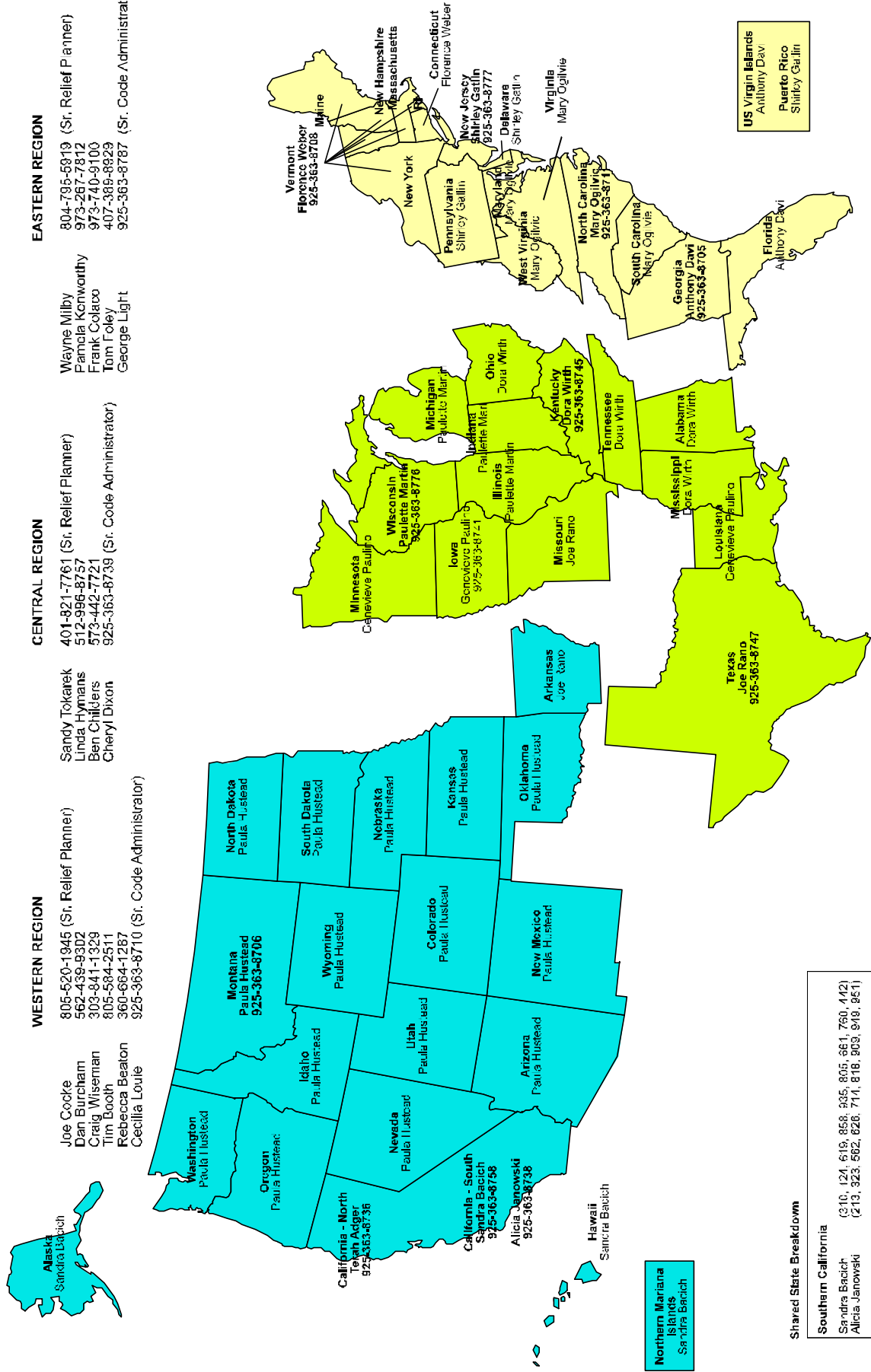
805-520-1945 (Sr. Relief Planner)
 562-439-9302
 303-841-1329
 805-594-2511
 360-684-1287
 925-363-8710 (Sr. Code Administrator)

CENTRAL REGION

401-821-7761 (Sr. Relief Planner)
 512-996-8757
 573-442-7721
 925-363-8739 (Sr. Code Administrator)

EASTERN REGION

804-795-5819 (Sr. Relief Planner)
 973-267-7812
 973-740-9100
 407-389-8929
 925-363-8787 (Sr. Code Administrator)





Jeff Ganek
NeuStar Chairman and CEO

A Word from NeuStar's Chairman and CEO

NeuStar, Inc., is a new, independent company dedicated to providing high quality, neutral services to the telecommunications industry, but the staff and professionals of the company are no strangers to you and throughout the industry. To further our commitment to the industry to improve on the great work we started under Lockheed Martin, I am happy to announce that several key individuals throughout the company have taken on additional responsibility to ensure a stronger senior management base.

Mark Foster has been promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for NeuStar. Mark is responsible for systems engineering, network operations, program management and technical liaison, and has played a key role in NeuStar's success, especially in our LNP and NANPA businesses.

Joe Franlin has been promoted to Senior Vice President of Operations and is responsible for all of NANPA, pooling administration, LNP operations, LNP product management, customer relations, public relations and performance management. Joe has great experience in providing neutral clearinghouse services, having led the development of Lockheed Martin's CIS group beginning in 1988. He played a key role in the development and operation of the 800 SMS.

Robert Poulin is promoted to Vice President of Corporate Development and has responsibility for new business strategy. Robert will also oversee strategic alliances and special strategic projects. Robert spent three years with Global TeleSystems Group, and seven years with GTE, where he worked in the wireless, satellite networking and local exchange operations.

Greg Roberts is promoted to Vice President of Number Services and reports to Joe Franlin. Greg is responsible for all of NANPA and number pooling administration. And, he will oversee the development of extensions of the NANPA and pooling administration businesses. Greg led CIS' successful marketing for LNP and NANPA. He has developed extraordinary knowledge of numbering services and of the industry's requirements.


These executives represent the quality of management upon which NeuStar's success depends. I look forward to working closely with them and the rest of the NeuStar staff to reach our goal of being the premier provider of neutral, clearinghouse services to the telecommunications industry.

State Commissions Petition FCC

(continued from cover)

February 3, directs NANPA to reclaim 54 NXX codes acquired by Brooks Fiber based on a finding that Brooks Fiber is using the codes for an unauthorized interexchange service and not for facilities-based local exchange service.

New Hampshire—Number pooling implementation will begin in NPA 603 on May 1, using only uncontaminated thousand blocks. Contaminated thousand blocks would be added to the pool and available for use in January 2001.

Texas—Texas Public Utility Commission issued a Pooling Order for the 512 NPA in late January. At a February 25 implementation meeting, an agreement was reached to allow for the start of pooling in 512 to be delayed until December 11, if carriers would forfeit their right to recover costs from the state of Texas for the trial. 

If you would like to be added to the mailing list or have any story ideas, please e-mail rebecca.barnhart@neustar.com

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By the Way...

- AT&T recently identified 55 NXX codes that will be returned in the 903 NPA in Texas. Voluntary code returns are strongly encouraged by the NANPA and endorsed by the North American Numbering Council (NANC).
- As part of NANPA's ongoing efforts to monitor CO code assignments and the impact on NPA exhaust, NANPA has posted to its web page (www.nanpa.com) a "delta" COCUS report, which identifies modifications made to projected NPA exhaust dates as compared to the January 18, 2000, update. This page is updated as new NPA exhaust forecasts are revised. These revisions may be the result of a variety of factors that impact NPA exhaust (e.g., changes in demand, rationing amounts, recovery of NXX codes, etc.).
- On the NANPA website, www.nanpa.com, many use the "contact us" button to send questions about numbering. When doing so, users are reminded to be sure to type the correct return email

address. Surprisingly, about 10% of the contacts received have incorrect email addresses, which prevents a response.

- The annual NANPA performance survey, which must be filled out and submitted by March 10, can also be found on the website. **NeuStar**

NANPA Numbering News

A NANPA bi-monthly publication

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