

Glossary of terms

- ASA** Advertising Standards Authority.
- ATIEP** Association of Telephone Information and Entertainment Providers.
- AXE10** The marketing name for a brand of digital exchange (also known as System Y), supplied by Thorn Ericsson Telecommunications Ltd.
- BSGL** Branch Systems General Licence.
- BTE** British Telecom Enterprises.
- Calling-line identification** Transfer of information about the line from which a call has been originated either only as far as the local exchange (as is necessary for the present billing of calls), or across the network to the recipient of the call.
- DDI** Direct Dialling In is an exchange facility which enables calls to a customer with a switchboard to be routed directly to an extension without the need for the call to be answered first by the switchboard operator. This facility has also been provided by BT for Callstream service providers who have equipment which accepts the dialled digits and uses them to determine which message to play the caller.
- DSN** Derived Services Network—a network of exchanges.
- DGT** Director General of Telecommunications.
- DMSU** Digital Main Switching Unit—the DMSU is a transit point for routing calls around the trunk network.
- ICSTIS** Independent Committee for the Supervision of Standards of Telephone Information Services.
- Key system** A device which enables a number of telephone users to use the same exchange line or lines, and with which any extension can answer and transfer incoming calls using a special telephone set. Primarily designed for small businesses.
- Linkline** Telephone services aimed at companies which obtain business through incoming calls. The services allow customers, or contacts of these companies, to call them free of charge on 0800, or for the cost of a local call, on 0345.
- MCL** Mercury Communications Ltd.
- MF** Multi-frequency signalling—new style 'Touchtone' signals from telephones and keypads.
- NNG** National Number Group.
- OFTEL** Office of Telecommunications.
- PABX** Private Automatic Branch Exchange.
- PBX** Private Branch Exchange (PBX 2-10 means a PBX with between 2 and 10 exchange lines, and so on).
- PIN** Personal Identification Number.
- PRLS** Premium Rate Local Service.

- PRNS** Premium Rate National Service.
- PRS** Premium Rate Service.
- PSTN** Public Switched Telephone Network.
- SP(s)** Service provider(s).
- STD** Subscriber Trunk Dialling.
- System X** The marketing name of a particular brand of digital exchanges, supplied by GEC Plessey Telecommunications Ltd. (GPT).
- TIES** Total Information Exchange System—continuous sampling by broad categories of customers of usage and levels of use.
- Touchtone** See **MF**.
- TXD** Telephone Exchange (Digital)—a generic term for digital telephone exchanges, independent of name, supplier or function in the network.
- TXE4** Telephone Exchange (Electronic) Type 4—the brand name of an electronic stored program control (SPC) exchange. It is supplied by Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd. (STC).
- TXE4E** TXE4 Enhanced.
- VADS** Value Added and Data Services.