

PRELIMINARY

**Bell System Voice Communications
TECHNICAL REFERENCE**

**Voice
Connecting
Arrangement**

LVH

**Interface
Specification**

JULY 1970

ENGINEERING DIRECTOR - CUSTOMER TELEPHONE SYSTEMS



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NOTICE

This Technical Reference is specifically intended for the developers and designers of telephone voice communications systems and equipment which interface with the Bell System telecommunications network and for technical consultants to use in designing communications systems and arrangements requiring connections to the Bell System telecommunications network. The right to revise this Technical Reference for any reason, including conformity with USASI, EIA, CCITT or other standards, to utilize new advances in the state of the technical arts, or to reflect changes in the design of the equipment and/or service described herein, is expressly reserved.

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PREFACE

The material in this Technical Reference is intended for use by designers and manufacturers of telephone equipment who expect to connect their communications equipment to the Bell System telecommunications network. This material covers guides which, if followed, should permit the transmission and reception of voice signals without interference to other Telephone Company services.

The responsibility of the Bell System with respect to the use of customer-provided equipment is as set forth in the appropriate Tariff regulations.

In furnishing this material, the Bell System Telephone Companies make no claims or representations and assume no responsibility, beyond that set forth in the Tariff regulations, for the suitability of the transmission path or the performance of the telecommunications system. The Bell System is in no way responsible for the design, performance, installation, operation or maintenance of the communications systems or equipment provided by others which are connected to the telecommunications network and does not endorse or approve any such system or equipment. The material in this Technical Reference is furnished in the interest of preventing interference to other Telephone Company services and users, and is not furnished with the intent to provide complete design specifications or parameters, or to assure the quality or performance of customer-provided telephone systems and equipment.

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1. GENERAL

F.C.C. Tariff No. 263 and corresponding intrastate Tariffs filed by the Bell System, provide for the direct connection of customer-provided voice transmitting and receiving terminal equipment and communications systems to the Bell System telecommunications network. Direct electrical connection is made through a voice connecting arrangement furnished, installed, and maintained by the Telephone Company. The Tariffs also provide for the indirect (acoustic or inductive) connection of such equipment or systems.

In addition, the Bell System retains responsibility for network control signaling. This includes dialing and control functions, as well as responsibility for the protective function of voice signal limiting and isolation of Central Office battery from the customer-provided equipment.

The connection service described in this Technical Reference is identified by the Bell System as Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH and should be ordered as such. Contact your local Telephone Company business office or Marketing representative for information regarding rates for, and the availability of, this voice connecting arrangement for both new and additional service.

2. SYSTEM DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

2.1 Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH

Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH provides a means for automatically connecting a customer-provided source of music or recorded information to a distant party placed on hold by a station on a key telephone system. A single pair of leads is provided, from dry contacts, to the customer which

indicates a seizure and can be used for signaling the start-stop operation of the customer's equipment.

2.2 Service and Maintenance Considerations

2.21 Responsibility of the Customer

The Tariffs permitting direct electrical connection of customer-provided communications systems state that:

Where long distance message telecommunications service is available under this Tariff for use in connection with customer-provided communications systems the operating characteristics of such systems shall be such as not to interfere with any of the services offered by the Telephone Company. Such use is subject to the further provisions that the customer-provided systems do not endanger the safety of Telephone Company employees or the public; damage, require change in or alteration of, the equipment or other facilities of the Telephone Company; interfere with the proper functioning of such equipment or facilities; impair the operation of the telecommunications system or otherwise injure the public in its use of the Telephone Company's services. Upon notice from the Telephone Company that the customer-provided system is causing or is likely to cause such hazard or interference the customer shall make such change as shall be necessary to remove or prevent such hazard or interference.

2.22 Responsibility of the Telephone Company

The Tariffs permitting direct electrical connection of customer-provided communications systems state that:

The Telephone Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any customer-provided communications systems. Long distance message telecommunications service is not represented as adapted to the use of customer-provided systems and where such systems are connected to Telephone Company facilities the responsibility of the Telephone Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities suitable for long distance message telecommunications service and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities in a manner proper for such telecommunications service; subject to this responsibility the Telephone Company shall not be responsible for (i) the through transmission of signals generated by the customer-provided systems or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission, or (ii) the reception of signals by customer-provided systems.

The Telephone Company shall not be responsible to the customer or otherwise if changes in minimum network protection criteria contained in the Tariffs and Paragraph 5 of this Technical Reference, or in any of the facilities, operations, or procedures of the Telephone Company render any customer-provided facilities obsolete or require modification or alteration of such equipment or otherwise affect its use or performance.

2.23 Trouble Reporting Procedure

When trouble is experienced with this service, the customer should perform the necessary testing to sectionalize the difficulty by opening the circuit at the Interface Connecting Block and testing only toward the customer-provided equipment. If the tests indicate that the trouble is in the Telephone Company-provided equipment, it should be promptly reported to the Telephone Company. Trouble reports should be called into the listed "Repair Service" number which can be found in the front of the telephone directory. The repair attendant should be given:

- (a) Customer's name.
- (b) Customer's address.
- (c) Listed telephone number.
- (d) Description of the trouble.
- (e) Customer's contact for additional information.

2.3 Foreign and Surge Voltage Protection

Where telephone lines are exposed to lightning, power circuit contact, or induction, protective devices are installed at the Central Office and on the customer's premises that will provide a path to ground for foreign voltages that exceed about 600 volts peak. Since the customer's equipment is connected to the telephone line through the voice connecting arrangement, the customer's equipment is protected from longitudinal surges by transformer isolation. The maximum surge between the transmission leads (conductors) that the customer's equipment may encounter due to foreign potential is 30 volts. The surge potentials on the other conductors of the voice connecting arrangement will not exceed about 600 volts peak.

The customer is responsible for providing protection, internal to his equipment and facilities, against foreign and surge voltages from his equipment and facilities being applied to the voice connecting arrangement. The surge potential on the transmission leads shall be limited to 30 volts. The surge potential on the other conductors shall be limited to 600 volts peak between conductors or from one conductor to ground.

2.4 Hazardous Voltage Limitations

When it is necessary for the customer to apply an operational voltage to facilities interconnected with telephone facilities, certain voltage limitations shall be observed. These limitations are for the purpose of providing adequate protection to personnel and plant facilities. Unless otherwise specified in Paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 of this Technical Reference, steady-state voltages applied by customer-provided equipment to conductors connected to Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH should not exceed the following:

	<u>dc</u>	<u>ac(RMS)</u>
Maximum voltage, any conductor to ground	135	50
Maximum voltage, conductor to conductor	(135 (270*	(50 (100*

*Permitted only if voltage source is center-tapped to ground.

The power supplies and wiring methods used in the customer-provided equipment should meet the provisions of the National Electrical Code (NEC), Article 725, for Class 2 remote control and signal circuits.

3. DESCRIPTION OF VOICE CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT LVH

3.1 Physical

Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH consists of key telephone system apparatus and a voice connecting unit. One voice connecting unit is required for each line associated with this service. Each voice connecting unit (Fig. 1) is contained on a 4 by 5 inch, plug in, printed wiring board. This unit will be mounted by the Telephone Company in an appropriate Telephone Company-provided mounting. The unit will function satisfactorily within a temperature range of 0° to 55°C and a humidity range from 5 to 95 percent. Leads from the unit will be terminated on a Telephone Company-provided Interface Connecting Block (Fig. 2) conveniently located to permit testing, maintenance, trouble isolation, and ease of connection to the customer-provided equipment. The Interface Connecting Block must be located within 25 feet of the voice connecting arrangement.

3.2 Functions

The major functions of this voice connecting arrangement are:

- (a) To protect Telephone Company personnel and equipment from hazardous voltages which may be applied at the interface.
- (b) To provide access to the telecommunications network for customer-provided music or information source.
- (c) To limit abnormally high signal voltages.
- (d) To provide HOLD indication to the customer-provided equipment.
- (e) To provide sufficient coupling loss between customers connected to a common holding bridge.

3.3 Operation

A call to or from a station of a key telephone system is answered or initiated in the normal manner. When it is desired to place the distant party on hold, the HOLD button on the telephone set is depressed. In addition to the normal hold action this causes the relay or relays (depending on the key telephone system involved) to operate in the voice connecting unit. The relay operation provides a dry contact closure over the SUPERVISORY leads, CBS1 and CBS2, to the customer-provided equipment indicating that the line is in the HOLD condition and closes a transmission path to the customer-provided music source over the TRANSMISSION leads, CT and CR. The distant party will remain connected to the music source until the hold condition is removed by the key system station.

3.4 Interface Leads

Four interface leads are provided per system to the Interface Connecting Block (Fig. 3) for the customer's use and are common for all of the Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH's associated with the system. Technical information pertaining to these leads is discussed in Paragraph 4.

The first pair of leads, designated CT and CR (TRANSMISSION), provides a transmission path from the voice connecting arrangement. The second pair, designated CBS1 and CBS2 (SUPERVISORY), provides an indication to the customer-provided equipment that the associated line has been placed on HOLD.

3.5 Method of Connection

Leads from Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH will be terminated by the Telephone Company on the Interface Connecting Block. The customer or his representative must provide and install the conductors from the customer-provided equipment to the block and make the necessary connections to associate his equipment with the voice connecting arrangement using 22 gauge wire or smaller. The leads will be designated as follows:

<u>Lead Designation</u>	<u>Function</u>
CT	transmission
CR	pair
CBS1	supervisory
CBS2	pair

4. ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Transmission Path

4.11 Voice Signal Limiter

A voice signal limiter (Fig. 4) is incorporated in the transmission path (leads CT and CR) to protect the Bell System telecommunications network from applications of abnormally high signal levels. This has no effect on normal voice signal levels.

This limiter does not remove the customer's responsibility to meet the network protection criteria as prescribed in the Tariffs and as outlined in Paragraph 5 of this Technical Reference.

4.12 Transmission Parameters

The impedance of Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH is a function of the connection between the arrangement and the Central Office. For design purposes, the input impedance of this voice connecting arrangement should be considered to be 8 ohms and, therefore, the impedance of the customer-provided equipment should also be 8 ohms. The voice signal levels must comply with the applicable Tariffs. The Tariffs permitting electrical connection of customer-provided communications systems state:

"To prevent excessive noise and crosstalk in the network, it is necessary that the power of the signal at the Central Office not exceed 12 dB below one milliwatt when averaged over any 3-second

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interval. To insure that this limit is not exceeded, the power of the signal which may be applied by the customer-provided equipment to the Telephone Company interface located on the customer's premises will be specified for each type of connecting arrangement, but in no case shall it exceed one milliwatt."

Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH has sufficient attenuation to insure privacy between any two calling parties that are connected to a common music or recorded information source. The isolation between customers can be expressed in terms of the loss from the calling party terminals of one voice connecting arrangement to the calling party terminals of any other voice connecting arrangement. This loss when measured across 900 ohms at 1000 Hz is approximately 80 dB.

Because of the additional loss to provide privacy an exception is made to the limit given in the Tariffs; the maximum permissible voice signal power at the Interface Connecting Block for Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH is 1 dB below one watt (+29 dBm) when averaged over any 3-second interval.

The protection criteria given in Paragraph 5.3 states an additional requirement on signals in the 2450 to 2750 Hz band. If music is applied by the customer-provided equipment, it could at times have energy solely in this band of frequencies. To prevent interference to network control signaling functions, the customer-provided equipment, when applying music, should preferably include a 2600 Hz band elimination filter with the following minimum attenuation characteristics relative to 100 Hz:

(a) 25 dB loss at 2600 Hz

(b) 15 dB loss at any other frequency in the band from 2500 to 2700 Hz

A possible alternative to the use of a filter to limit power in the 2450 to 2750 Hz band is to set the music power at the Interface Connecting Block so

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that it does not exceed 18 dB below the maximum permissible voice band power (i.e. it does not exceed +11 dBm), when averaged over any 3-second interval. This alternative does not insure compliance with the protective criteria, and does not remove the customer's responsibility to meet the protection criteria prescribed in the Tariffs and as outlined in Paragraph 5 of this Technical Reference. It does provide a simplified method which may provide satisfactory performance on many types of music. If used, its effectiveness should be checked by using the actual signals supplied.

4.2 Signaling Path

The SUPERVISORY leads (CBS1 and CBS2) provide a contact closure to the customer when any one of the voice connecting arrangements receives a HOLD signal. This closure is maintained as long as any line is on HOLD. The customer's equipment load on these leads shall not exceed .25 ampere.

4.3 Grounding

In general, it is desirable that circuits in the customer's equipment which connect to the voice connecting arrangement have some path to ground. A direct or resistive ground on one side of the power supply would be an example of such a path. This practice avoids the possibility of the entire circuit involved being at an indeterminate potential with respect to ground. Such a potential, perhaps as a result of electrostatic induction, could result in an insulation breakdown in this arrangement. It is expected that the customer's equipment, if powered from commercial power, will be grounded in accordance with applicable electrical codes (NEC) and should be bonded to the telephone protector ground when available. Self-powered or passive customer's equipment need not be grounded.

Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH is provided with a common signal ground (a metallic cold water pipe or other ground approved by the NEC) which is always bonded to the electric power ground and telephone protector ground, where present. Provisions should be made within the customer's equipment for connecting together all internal signal grounds and bonding them to one side of the secondary circuit of his power supply. This connection shall be isolated from both the grounding (green) conductor run with the power supply primary conductors and the chassis or frame of the customer-provided equipment. The customer's power supply shall comply with all provisions of NEC Article 725 for Class 2 Systems.

5. POWER AND IMPEDANCE CONSIDERATIONS FOR CUSTOMER-PROVIDED EQUIPMENT

5.1 Average Power at the Central Office

The average power (in any 3-second interval) delivered to a 900 ohm resistive load at the local Central Office should not exceed -12 dBm. The limitations described in 5.2 below one power at the customer's location have been set to meet an average of -12 dBm when all loops in the Bell System are considered.

5.2 Maximum Available Power

The local Central Office power criteria, in 5.1 above can be satisfied by limiting the maximum available power* from a customer-provided 8 ohm source to 1 dB below one watt (+29 dBm) when averaged over any 3-second interval. The customer-provided communications system should be so designed that the average power over any 3-second interval applied to

*The available power of a source is the maximum power that the source can deliver to a load. Maximum power transfer occurs when the load and source impedances are matched.

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the Interface Connecting Block associated with Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH does not exceed 1 dB below one watt (+29 dBm). The recommended procedure for estimating the power is given in Paragraph 6.

5.3 Signaling Considerations

The telecommunications network incorporates tone signaling devices that are used for network control functions. These devices, connected at all times to the telephone circuit, are designed to be sensitive to single frequency tones at 2600 Hz. They are, however, relatively insensitive to energy at this frequency if sufficient energy is present at the same time in other frequencies in the voiceband.

In order to prevent the interruption or disconnection of a call, or interference with network control signaling, it is necessary that the signal applied by the customer-provided equipment to the voice connecting arrangement at no time have energy solely in the 2450 to 2750 Hz band. If signal power is in the 2450 to 2750 Hz band, it must not exceed the power present at the same time in the 800 to 2450 Hz band.

5.4 Out-of-Band Limits

To protect other services it is necessary that the signal applied by the customer-provided equipment to the Telephone Company interference located on the customer's premises meet the following limits:

- (a) The power in the band from 3995 Hz to 4005 Hz shall not exceed 19 dB below one watt specified in Paragraph 5.2.
- (b) The power in the band from 4000 Hz to 10,000 Hz shall not exceed 16 dB below one milliwatt.
- (c) The power in the band from 10,000 Hz to 25,000 Hz shall not exceed 24 dB below one milliwatt.

- (d) The power in the band from 25,000 Hz to 40,000 Hz shall not exceed 36 dB below one milliwatt.
- (e) The power in the band above 40,000 Hz shall not exceed 50 dB below one milliwatt.

5.5 Internal Impedance

The internal impedance of the customer's equipment should be designed to work into an 8 ohm external load.

5.6 DC Signals and Power

The customer's equipment should not present dc current greater than .6 ma on the CT and CR leads into the voice connecting arrangement. The voice connecting unit is a transformer - input device and dc current above this level may cause distortion of the voice signal.

6. TESTING AND MEASURING METHODS

6.1 Measuring Maximum Available Power

The following measuring method is satisfactory for estimating the maximum power averaged over a 3-second interval to determine that the inband criterion is being met:

Operate the customer-provided equipment into a 8 ohm load in parallel with a series combination of 2000 ohms and 900 ohms, as shown in Fig. 5, (this assumes that the customer-provided equipment has a 8 ohm source impedance). The 900 ohm resistor should be bridged by a Hewlett-Packard Transmission and Noise Measuring Set-Model 3555B or a Western Electric 3-Type Noise Measuring Set, or the equivalent.* While these meters are nearly equivalent, the arrangement of control switches differ. To insure a proper measurement technique, the control settings on these meters should be as shown on the following page.

*These meters do not have a 3-second averaging time, but when used on speech they give a reliable estimate of a 3-second average.

Western Electric 3-Type
Noise Measuring SetHewlett-Packard Transmission
and Noise Measuring Set
Model 3555B

<u>Control</u>	<u>Setting</u>	<u>Control</u>	<u>Setting</u>
FUNCTION (Switch)	BRDG	INPUT (Switch)	NOISE/BRDG
NORM/DAMP (Switch)	DAMP	FUNCTION (Pushbutton)	VF/Nm-600BAL
WTG (Plug-In Network)	3Kc FLAT	NOISE WTG (Switch)	3kHz FLAT
		NORM/DAMP (Switch)	DAMP

In almost all cases the speech or music power averaged over any 3-second interval will not exceed 1 dB below one watt (+29 dBm) if the maximum meter swing does not exceed 93 dBm.

The accuracy of this method can be somewhat improved by increasing the size of the damping capacitance in the Western Electric 3-Type Noise Meter by 150 microfarads. To do this, connect the negative lead of 150 microfarad capacitor to either terminal of the NORM/DAMP switch and connect the positive lead to ground. This allows the meter to more nearly approximate a 3-second averaging meter. (NOTE: This modification does not necessarily hold for noise meters other than the Western Electric 3-Type.) With the additional damping the power averaged over any 3-second interval will not exceed 1 dB below one watt (+29 dBm) if the maximum meter swing does not exceed 91 dBm. The use of meters with shorter time constants, such as a VU meter or a standard volt meter, is not recommended.

7. TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK CHARACTERISTICS

7.1 Transmission Parameters

Information describing the component parts and operating characteristics of the Bell System telecommunications network has been published. Various articles listed in Paragraph 8 have discussed statistical information on talker volumes (a), end-office losses and noise (b-d), loop characteristics (e), and other characteristics (f-h). In addition, five general information texts are listed.

7.2 End-to-End Electrical Loss

The end-to-end electrical loss of a connection is a function of the impedance of both end terminations, the losses of the loops at both ends, and the end-office loss. The information given in the REFERENCES may be used to determine statistical loss distributions for different types of calling patterns of the telephone network.

7.3 Bandwidth and Frequency Response

The nominal voice frequency bandwidth of the telecommunications network extends from about 300 to about 3000 Hz. In general, an end-to-end connection may be expected to have a loss characteristic which increases with increasing frequencies in the upper half of the band. This voice connecting arrangement does not limit this bandwidth.

7.4 Nonlinearities

Nonlinearities such as compression, clipping, and harmonic distortion can exist on the telecommunications network. Normally, these are low enough to be ignored. It is expected that total harmonic distortions no greater than about 5 percent of the fundamental will normally be encountered.

8. REFERENCES

Some references describing various transmission characteristics of the telecommunications network are listed below:

- (a) McAdoo, K. L., "Speech Volumes on Bell System Message Circuits - 1960 Survey," Bell System Technical Journal (BSTJ), Vol. 42, No. 5 (September 1963), p. 1999.
- (b) Nasell, I., "The 1962 Survey of Noise and Loss on Toll Connections," BSTJ, Vol. 43, No. 2 (March 1964), p. 697.
- (c) Nasell, I., "Some Transmission Characteristics of Bell System Toll Connections," BSTJ, Vol. 47, No. 6 (July-August 1968), p. 1001.
- (d) Nasell, I.; Ellison, C. R.; and Homstrom, R., "The Transmission Performance of Bell System Intertoll Trunks," BSTJ, Vol. 47, No. 8 (October 1968), p. 1561.
- (e) Gresh, P. A., "Physical and Transmission Characteristics of Customer Loop Plant," BSTJ, Vol. 48, No. 10 (December 1969), p. 3337.
- (f) Alexander, A. A.; Gryb, R. M.; and Nast, D. W., "Capabilities of the Telephone Network for Data Transmission," BSTJ, Vol. 39, No. 3 (May 1960), p. 431.
- (g) Breen, C., and Dahlbom, C. A., "Signaling Systems for the Control of Telephone Switching," BSTJ, Vol. 39, No. 6 (November 1960), p. 1381.

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- (h) Bodle, D. W., and Gresh, P. A., "Lightning Surges in Paired Telephone Cable Facilities," BSTJ, Vol. 40, No. 2 (March 1961), p. 547.
- *(i) "Principles of Electricity Applied to Telephone and Telegraph Work," by American Telephone and Telegraph Company, New York, New York.
- *(j) "Switching Systems," by American Telephone and Telegraph Company, New York, New York.
- (k) "Notes on Transmission Engineering," by United States Independent Telephone Association, Washington, D.C.
- *(l) "Notes on Distance Dialing - 1968," by American Telephone and Telegraph Company, New York, New York.
- *(m) "Transmission Systems for Communications," by Bell Telephone Laboratories.

*Available through Graybar Electric Company.

9. GLOSSARY*

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS - denotes channels and other facilities which are capable, when not connected to Long Distance Message Telecommunications Service, of communications between customer-provided terminal equipment or Telephone Company stations.

CUSTOMER-PROVIDED TERMINAL EQUIPMENT - denotes devices or apparatus and their associated wiring, provided by a customer, which do not constitute a communications system and which, when connected to the communications path of the telecommunications system, are so connected either electrically, acoustically or inductively.

END-OFFICE - the last serving Central Office in the switching hierarchy of the telecommunications network.

INTERFACE CONNECTING BLOCK - the Telephone Company furnished connecting point to which the customer brings and connects the leads of his equipment, and to which the Telephone Company brings and connects leads from the voice connecting arrangement.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK - the Bell System voice switching equipment, associated interconnecting facilities and station equipment which connected its customers together.

TELEPHONE COMPANY - denotes the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Long Lines Department, its concurring carriers and its connecting carriers, either individually or collectively.

VOICE CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT - Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH provided by the Telephone Company to accomplish the direct electrical connection

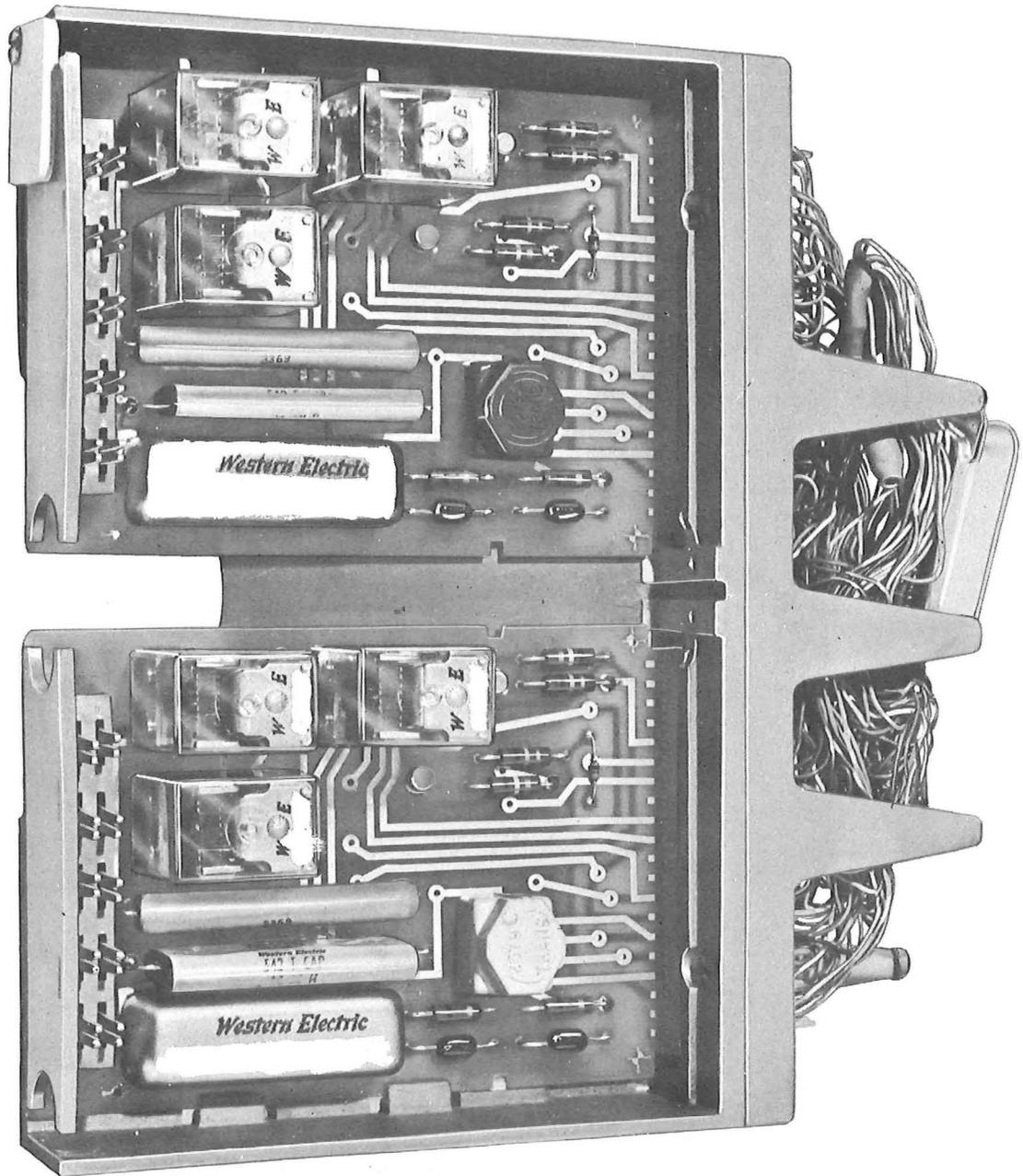
*May differ in letter from exact wording as used in the Tariffs.

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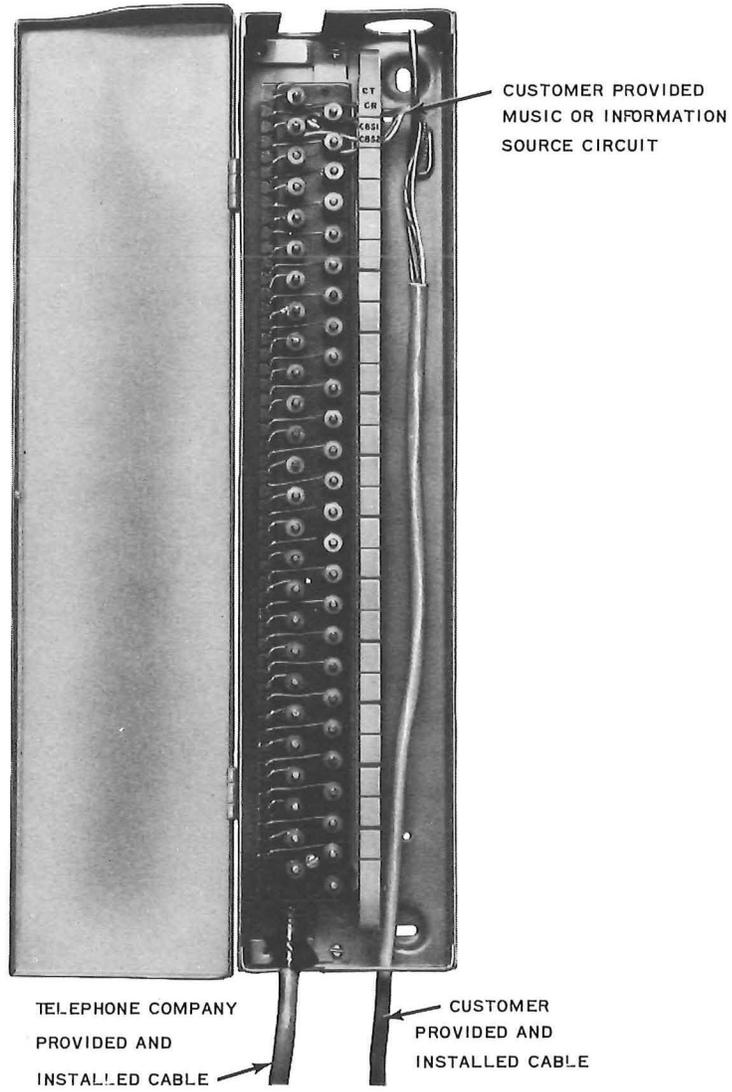
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of customer-provided facilities with the facilities of the Telephone Company.

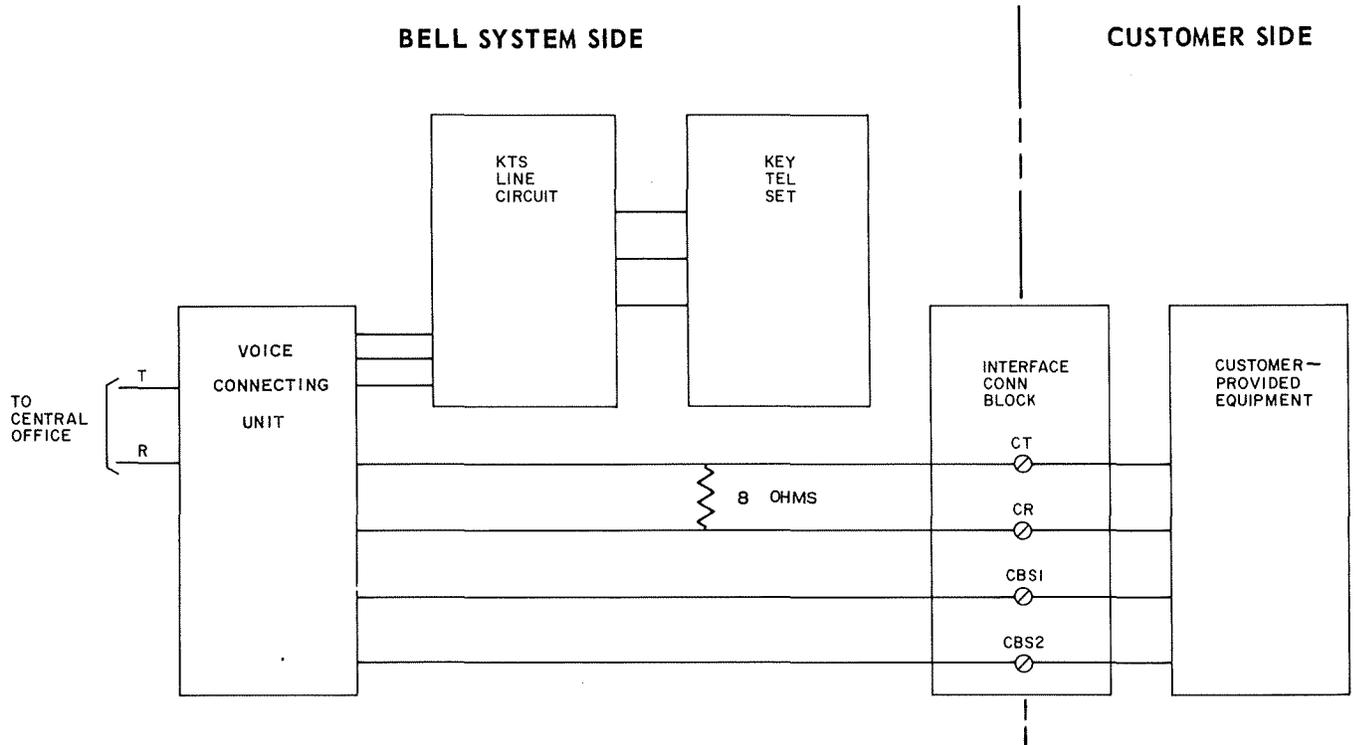
VOICE CONNECTING UNIT - that portion of Voice Connecting Arrangement LVH that provides the interconnection function between the customer-provided equipment and the telecommunications network.



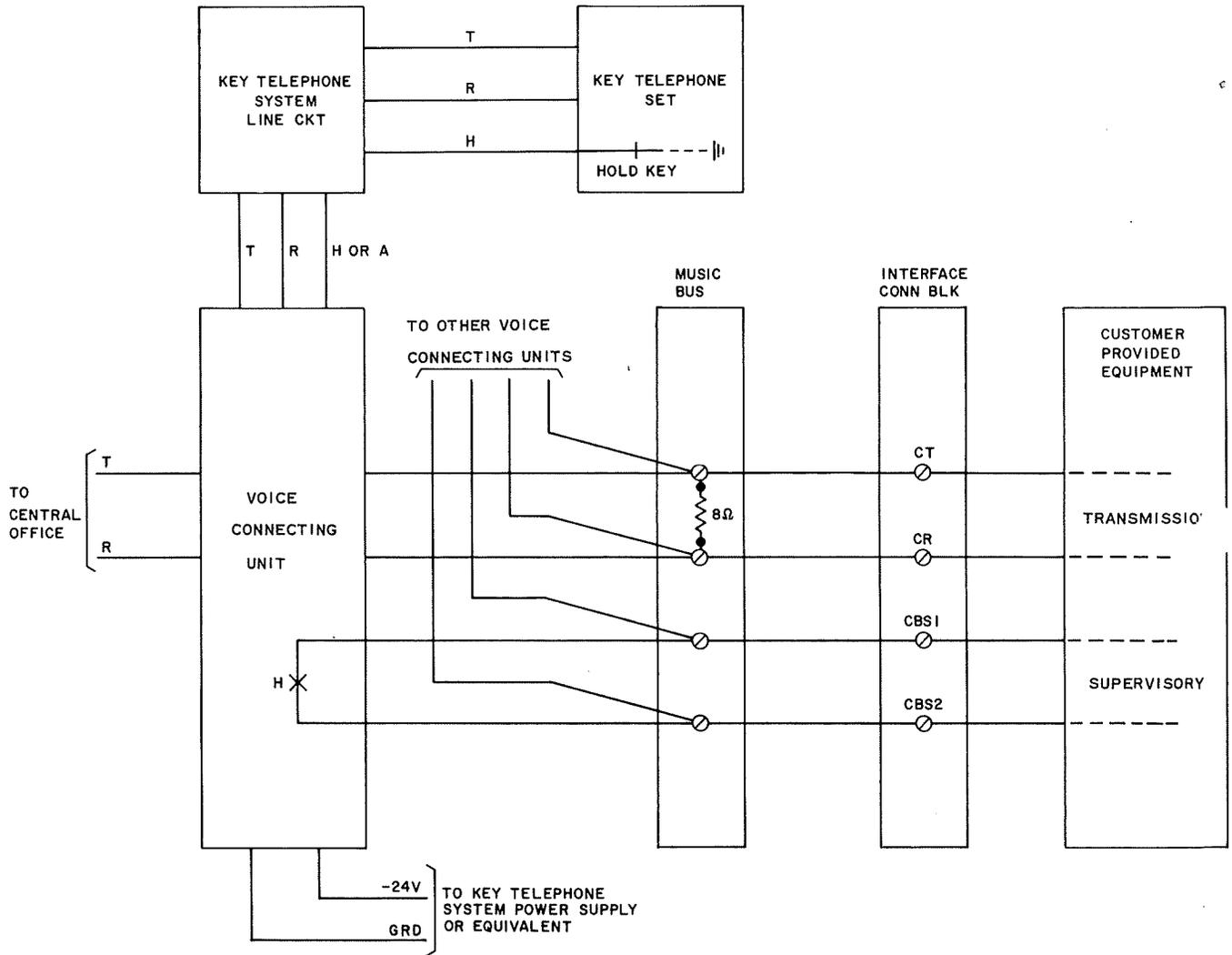
MOUNTING ARRANGEMENT FOR TWO
VOICE CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT LVH'S
FIG. 1



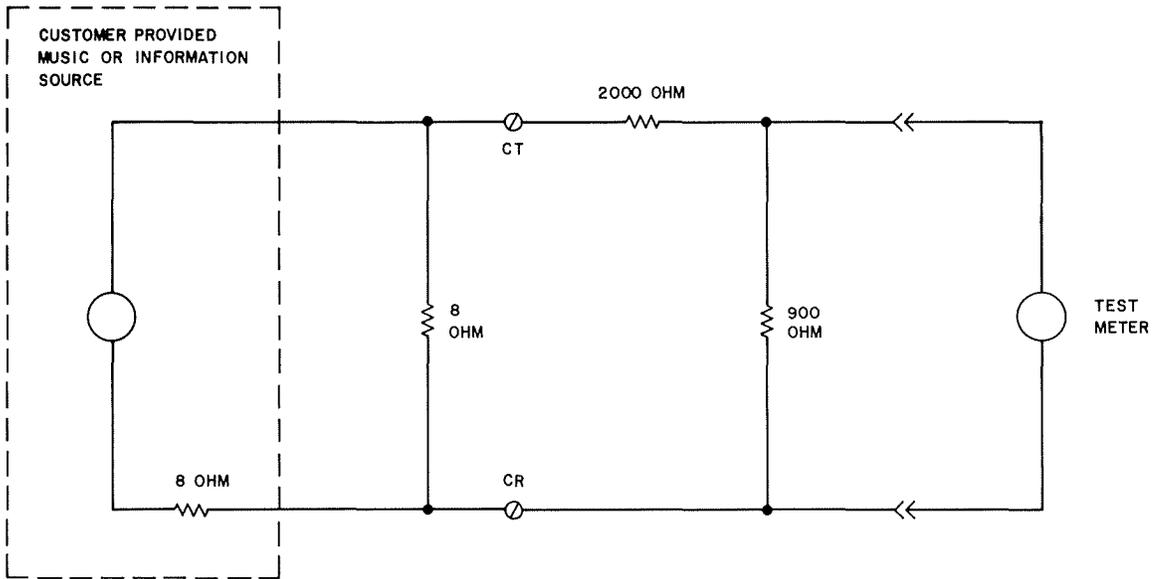
TYPICAL INTERFACE CONNECTING BLOCK
FIG. 2



BLOCK DIAGRAM — VOICE CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT LVH
FIG. 3



SIMPLIFIED SCHEMATIC — VOICE CONNECTING ARRANGEMENT LVH
FIG. 4



SCHMATIC FOR POWER MEASUREMENT
FIG. 5