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Bellcore Letter

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From:
R. R. Conners, Director - North American Numbering Plan Administration

Abstract

This IL provides an update on the status of the CIC expansion plan.

Letter Information (Includes safety liability disclaimer (if applicable), ordering information, originator's signature information)

As expected, the supply of three-digit Feature Group D (FG D) carrier identification codes (CICs) has been exhausted; and on April 1, 1995 FG D CICs were officially expanded to four digits.

The industry began addressing CIC exhaust and expansion in April, 1988. The resulting expansion plan is described in Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum document ICCF 92-1127-007. In August 1991, North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA) projected that FGD CICs would exhaust during the first half of 1995, which served as the target for completing CIC expansion.

The industry has revised the CIC assignment guidelines to reflect expansion. A copy of the most recent revision of the assignment guidelines, identified as INC 95-0127-006, is attached to this letter.

Expansion will not immediately affect holders of existing three-digit FG D CICs. During a permissive period, which began April 1, these codes, along with the associated "10XXX" dialing pattern, may still be used. The industry was not able to reach consensus on the length of the permissive period, and the matter has been included in FCC Docket 92-237. Although the proceeding has not yet been concluded, the FCC has tentatively concluded that the permissive period will last for six years.

The dialing pattern associated with four-digit FG D CICs is "101XXXX", where "XXXX" is the four-digit CIC. During the permissive period, callers may dial 10XXX for three-digit FG D CICs and 101XXXX for four-digit CICs. Also, during the permissive period, the plan allows existing three-digit CICs to be dialed in four-digit form by prefixing a "0" to the CIC. For example, CIC "222" expands to "0222" and may be dialed as "1010222". At the end of the permissive period, all CICs will be dialed in four-digit form.

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During the permissive period the supply of new four-digit FG D CICs available for assignment is limited to the two thousand codes in the 5XXX and 6XXX ranges. In addition, voluntary return and reclamation may result in the occasional availability of one or more three-digit Feature Group D carrier identification codes. Returned or reclaimed three-digit FG D CICs will be assigned by NANPA using procedures and guidelines that are established by the INC for that purpose. Until such procedures and guidelines are established, these CICs will be stockpiled for later assignment.

Important note: One particular localized application for CICs has generated many assignment requests and could reduce the pool of available codes significantly. At NANPA's request, the FCC is investigating the application. Pending the results of their investigation, the FCC has instructed NANPA to continue temporarily the conservation measures in effect prior to expansion; i.e., to restrict assignment of FG D CICs to one per entity. Note that this direction supersedes the four-digit assignment guidelines, which say that an entity may request and obtain up to six FG D CICs. When and if this direction changes, we will so inform you.

Questions about carrier identification codes and their assignment may be directed to Wendy Messer on (908) 699-3054.

R. R. Conners
Director
North American Numbering Plan Administration

Attachment

Carrier Identification Code Assignment Guidelines, April 7, 1995 Revision

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CARRIER IDENTIFICATION CODE ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

April 7, 1995 Revision

This revision includes reclamation text developed by the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) in association with Issue # 029 - NANP Resource Reclamation.

CARRIER IDENTIFICATION CODE ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

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CARRIER IDENTIFICATION CODE ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

This document describes guidelines for the assignment of Carrier Identification Codes (CICs) in World Zone 1 and is a product of industry consensus reached under the aegis of the Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum (ICCF). The document will be maintained by the ICCF which will, therefore, be responsible for the determination of any necessary changes or updates. These guidelines do not detract from the ability of an appropriate governmental or regulatory agency to exercise authority over any and all issues herein. These guidelines and future changes to these guidelines will be submitted to the agencies for their review. In addition, it should be understood that these guidelines supersede any previously issued CIC assignment guidelines.

These guidelines have been formulated with consideration of the following two legitimate needs. First, the recognition that the CICs represent a finite resource and should, therefore, be used efficiently and conserved to the extent possible; and second, that their prudent use is inherent in the provision of telecommunications services. Therefore, the guidelines should offer the greatest latitude in the provision of telecommunication services, while maintaining the effective management of a finite resource.

The assignment practices detailed in these guidelines apply to the assignment of CICs made directly by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) to a specific entity. (See Section 3.2 for CIC application procedures). Therefore, the maximum number of CICs an entity may be assigned under these guidelines pertains to the number of CICs the administrator may directly assign to that entity. Accordingly, codes obtained via means other than direct assignment by the NANPA are outside the scope of these assignment guidelines and hence, are not included in the maximum code assignment limits. The requirements specified in these guidelines will apply to all CICs (e.g., the access and usage requirements for retaining CICs) regardless of the manner through which an entity obtained a code.

1.2 Definition and Use of CICs

CICs are numeric codes which are currently used to identify customers who purchase Feature Group B (FG B) and/or Feature Group D (FG D) access services.* These codes are primarily used for routing from the local exchange network to the access purchaser and for billing between the LEC and the access purchaser.

CICs exist in the public domain, and as such, are a public resource. Assignment of a CIC to an entity in no way implies or infers ownership of the public resource by the entity. The availability of CICs will be monitored by the CIC administrator who will report on the continued assignment of this public resource on a regular basis to the FCC and the ICCF.

In addition to the use of CICs by the LECs for routing and billing of access, the CIC comprises part of the Carrier Access Code (CAC), a dialing sequence used by the general public to access a preferred provider of service.

Specifically, the CAC can be in the following formats:

- For FG B, the CAC is presently in the format 950-WXXX, where XXX is the FG B CIC, W = 0 or 1 (an option to be determined by the entity upon CIC assignment), and X = 0 through 9. At some future, pre-designated time, FG B CICs will be expanded to four digits and the CAC will be in the format 950-XXXX where XXXX is the four digit CIC.

- For FG D, the CAC is presently in the format 10XXX, XXX is the FG D CIC, and X = 0 through 9. At a future, pre-designated time, FG D CICs will be expanded to four digits and the CAC will be in the format 101XXXX (note that the CAC will be expanded from 5 to 7 digits), where XXXX is the four digit FG D CIC.

1.3 Definition of an Entity

CICs are assigned to access customers or industry entities. For purposes of these guidelines, an entity will be defined as follows.

- An entity is defined as a firm or group of firms under common ownership or control.

Franchise operators are those individuals, groups, or firms granted the right or license to market a company's goods or services in a particular area. As there is a commonalty of economic interest in marketing conditions normally imposed on a franchise operator by the franchiser, these industry guidelines treat the franchiser as the relevant entity and not each individual franchise operator. The franchiser is eligible for CICs assigned to an entity up to the maximum number as determined by these guidelines. The franchise operators operating under the common franchise may each use the CICs under the guidance of the franchiser. On the assumption that franchise operators are operating in different territories, as may be dictated by the franchiser, no technical limitation on access service exists due to this CIC limit.

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* For purposes of these guidelines "access services" includes the purchase of trunk access for FG B or D, and, in the case of FG B, translations access (where available).

Although LECs are not formal "purchasers" of FG B or FG D access, these guidelines do not preclude LECs from being assigned CICs.

New switched access arrangements may be identified which will supplement or supplant FG B and/or FG D. CICs will likely be required for some or all of these new arrangements.

1.4 Administration of CICs and CIC Usage Reporting

The assignment and management of CICs will be administered by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA). At the direction of the NANPA, the access providers and the entities who are assigned CICs will be requested to provide access and usage information to the NANPA, on a quarterly basis to ensure effective management of the CIC resource. (Holders of codes may respond to the request at their own election). The NANPA will use this information, not only to effectively manage the use of CICs, but also to advise the industry as to the level of assignments, and to alert the industry to any concerns, such as the potential for code exhaust.

Further detail regarding these reports, including the suggested format and the address to which they should be submitted are shown in Appendix A.

1.5 The Current CIC Pool

Currently, CICs are drawn from a pool of 969 three digit codes. Both FG B and FG D assignments are made from this single pool, such that an assignment of a code for use solely for FG B or FG D use precludes the use of that code by another entity for the alternate access arrangement.

1.6 The Future CIC Pool

The introduction of four digit FG B codes will occur first, followed after some time by the introduction of four digit FG D codes. Concurrent with the expansion of FG B CICs from three to four digits, FG B and FG D CIC resources will be split into two separate assignment pools. One pool will contain the four digit FG B resource; the other pool will contain the three digit FG D resource.

At a pre-designated date (See Section 2.1), the FG B CIC format will be expanded to four digits. The expansion will provide a pool of approximately 9,000 codes and is necessary in light of the potential exhaust of the three digit codes and the subsequent inability -- if no expansion were to take place -- of access suppliers to provide access services to new entrants. (Note: Only 9000 four digit FG B CICs are available for assignment because switches do not differentiate between CICs in the 0XXX and 1XXX ranges. If, in the future, changes in technology allow the distinction between 4 digit FG B CICs of the form 0XXX and 1XXX, separate assignment of those CICs will be considered).

With split pools, FG B and FG D assignments will be made separately. Accordingly, an entity whose needs demand the use of FG B access only will be assigned a FG B CIC, leaving the corresponding FG D CIC available for use by an entity whose needs require only FG D access. (See Section 3.5 for information on matching of FG B and FG D CICs).

At a later pre-designated date, to be determined by the industry and based upon the exhaust of FG D codes, the FG D CIC pool will convert to a four digit resource.

2.0 INTRODUCTION OF FOUR DIGIT CODES

2.1 Four Digit FG B CICs

When the NANPA assigns the 900th three digit CIC, it will advise the industry of the date at which it intends to separate the assignment of FG B and FG D CICs and begin the assignment of four digit FG B codes. Initially, four digit FG B assignments will be made from a single specific 1000s block. The first 1000s block from which four digit FG B CICs will be assigned will be the 5000s block, followed by the 6000s block. (The selection of the 5000s and 6000s block will permit matching assignments to four digit FG D codes, when such codes become available. (See Section 3.5). Subsequent assignments will be made from the remaining blocks of numbers which will be opened sequentially, starting with the 2000s block, i.e., 2000, 3000, 4000, 7000, etc. Opening of subsequent thousand blocks is dependent solely upon the exhaust of the current available FG B CIC resource.

The NANPA will monitor CIC assignments and usage and provide reports to the ICCF indicating the level of assignment and projecting the time of exhaust of the current pool of FG B CICs based on the then current assignment rate. The NANPA will formally notify the industry 2-1/2 years prior to the need for the next 1000s block of FG B CICs. Actual assignment of the new FG B 1000s block will begin six months before the projected exhaust of the current FG B CIC pool.

The industry will review the need, in the future, to continue to restrict assignment of FG B CICs to specific 1000s blocks. The industry will determine if, when technically practicable, this restriction will be lifted, and FG B four digit assignments will be available from the full range of (9,000) FG B CICs.

2.2 Four Digit FG D CICs

At the time FG D CICs are expanded to four digits, a permissive period will exist which will permit the use of both the 10XXX and 101XXXX CAC dialing formats. During this permissive period, four digit FG D CICs will be assigned in the 5000 and 6000 number blocks. (Note: Industry consensus has not been reached on the length of the permissive period. The FCC was notified of the lack of consensus in a letter from the NANP Administrator to Richard M. Firestone, Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau, dated October 13, 1989.)
In the future, it is the intent of the industry to open all four digit FG D 1000s blocks for assignment. The industry will review this intention to verify if all four digit FG D codes will be made available for assignment, or if it is necessary to restrict such availability to specific 1000s blocks.

2.3 Integration of Three Digit and Four Digit CICs

Three digit FG B CICs will change to a four digit format by incorporating the existing W digit, either a 0 or 1, as the lead digit. That is, a three digit FG B CIC with W=0, will become FG B CIC 0XXX and FG B CIC with W=1, will become FG B CIC 1XXX. New FG B CICs will be initially assigned in the 5000s block as stated previously. The structure of the FG B CAC is not affected by this change and, therefore, a transition period and associated permissive dialing period is not required for FG B expansion.

Accordingly, with the introduction of four digit FG B CICs, all FG B CICs will be four digit codes.

Three digit FG D CICs will change to a four digit format with the use of a leading "0". That is, an existing three digit FG D CIC XXX will become a four digit FG D CIC of the form 0XXX. As stated (Section 2.2) a permissive period, which permits the use of both three digit and four digit FG D codes and the corresponding 10XXX and 101XXXX CACs, will be required for FG D expansion. Ultimately, only four digit CICs and the 101XXXX CAC will be permitted.

2.4 Contingency Plan for the Introduction of Four Digit CICs

Four digit FG B or FG D CICs may be available for assignment prior to the exhaust of the three digit codes. This availability is based on the capability, in some EC areas, to process four digit FG B or FG D calls before that capability is generally available nationwide. Accordingly, an entity may elect assignment of a four digit FG B or FG D CIC for use within a specific, four digit capable EC area. This option can be exercised, therefore, whenever technically possible prior to the exhaust of three digit FG B or FG D CICs with the following understanding:

> The four digit FG B or FG D code assignment prior to three digit FG B or FG D exhaust is a voluntary agreement which may be used only in those areas technically capable of processing a four digit FG B or FG D CIC.

3.0 ASSIGNMENT PRINCIPLES

3.1 General

Entities purchasing FG B or FG D trunk access or FG B translations access will be assigned a CIC from the appropriate pool. A request for FG B or FG D access must have been made before an entity's request for the issuance of a CIC will be considered. Assignments will be made consistent with all regulatory directives such as the standing FCC mandate which directs that access be available to all customers, not only traditional carriers. CICs will be assigned on a World Zone 1 basis; i.e., there will be no duplicate assignments segregated by geographic region and, therefore, an entity can use the assigned code throughout World Zone 1.

3.2 Procedures for Obtaining a CIC Assignment

An entity should typically use the following procedure when requesting a CIC assignment.

a) Contact an access provider, i.e., the local exchange carrier, and request the assignment of a CIC.

b) Place a valid order for FG B or D trunk access service, or FG B translation access service, where available, (depending on the type of CIC being requested) with the access provider, indicating in order of preference, three CIC choices.*

c) Provide to the access provider a list of all CICs currently held by the entity (see Section 1.3 for definition of entity), indicating the name of the firm(s) holding the CIC(s) if other than the entity applying for the CIC.

After receipt of a request for a CIC, the access provider will apply to NANPA for a CIC on behalf of the entity using appropriate forms for this purpose, attaching a copy of the written request for access service. NANPA will assign a CIC within 10 working days of receipt of a CIC request from the access provider, and notify the access provider and the entity in writing of the assignment. Entity code preference will be honored to the extent possible, and assignments will be made in the order the requests are received.

3.3 Assignments for IRCs and INCs

International Carriers (INCs) and International Record Carriers (IRCs) will be assigned CICs from the same resource pool as all other access customers. That is, there will be no special block of CICs reserved for code assignments to either INCs or IRCs.

There will be no specific allocation of codes for international services of an entity engaged in both domestic and international carriage.

3.4 Reservation of Codes

There will be no reservation of CICs. Rather, CICs will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, as FG B or D access service, or FG B translation acess service is ordered.

3.5 Matching of FG B and FG D CICs Prior to the Availability of Four Digit FG D Codes

An interim matching process will be available, however, to cover that period of time after the start of the assignment of four digit FG B CICs, but before the availability of four digit FG D codes. (This process will not be available for four digit FG B codes which begin with a 0 or a 1). Specifically, during this time FG B assignments will be made from the four digit pool but FG D assignments will continue to be made from the three digit pool. Accordingly, the assignee of a four digit FG B code will not have the opportunity to concurrently request of the administrator and be assigned the matching four digit FG D CIC. To provide to the assignee the opportunity to request the future assignment of the matching four digit FG D code, the following reservation process will be available:

> Entities requesting the assignment of a four digit FG B CIC may request the reservation of the matching four digit FG D code. Absent a specific request for the reservation of the matching four digit FG D code, no such reservation will be assumed or honored.

* A request for a CIC may be made by an entity or its authorized agent.

The matching of a code will be valid from the FG B expansion date up to, but no later than six months after the corresponding four digit FG D thousands block is opened.

Matching will be honored only if the four digit FG B CIC is still assigned; i.e., it has not been returned to the assignment pool.

The NANPA will inform, by letter, those entities with matching requests notifying them of the matching date of the opening of the corresponding FG D thousands block and indicating that the assignment of the code will be effective as of that date. The access service criteria associated with the assignment of CICs, described in Section 5, will govern the entity's responsibility for connecting service.

Entities may choose not to request the matching FG D assignment. Naturally, if no matching request is made, the NANPA will not specifically inform the entity of the opening of the corresponding FG D thousands block.

Entities acquiring four digit FG B CICs through merger or acquisition or other transfer mechanisms during this period will maintain the FG D matching request, if such a matching request was, in fact, made.

3.6 Matching of FG B and FG D CICs Following the Availability of Four Digit FG D CICs

With the expansion of FG B CICs to four digits, the NANPA will administer the FG B and FG D CICs from separate pools. There will be no linkage (that is, implied reservation) between post expansion four digit CICs assigned for FG B or FG D access service. Specifically, an entity purchasing both FG B and FG D service must order the FG B and FG D CICs separately. Moreover, there is no guarantee that the CICs for FG B and FG D service will be the same code. The NANPA will however, make every effort to assign matching FG B and FG D CICs when requested to do so, given that such matching codes are available.

4.0 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CODES

4.1 Pre-Four Digit FG B Assignment Practices

In the three digit CIC environment, each entity was allowed a maximum of three codes, a primary code and an additional two supplemental code assignments. (Note: Entities using a CIC for international traffic were allowed a maximum of four CICs; a primary code, an international code, and two supplemental codes). Since the introduction of conservation in March of 1989 (see Section 8), no further supplemental CIC assignments are allowed and new entrants can receive only a single CIC assignment.

Entities holding greater than three CICs are encouraged to make a good faith effort to return those codes using the voluntary code return process described in Appendix B. (See also Section 5.4).

4.2 Post-Four Digit FG B - Pre-Four Digit FG D Assignment Practices

With the introduction of four digit FG B CICs and the expansion of the FG B CIC pool to include 9000 FG B CICs, but prior to the introduction of four digit FG D CICs, a maximum of 5 FG B CICs can be assigned per entity. During this period, FG D assignments to new entrants (i.e., any entity holding no FG D codes) will continue in the conservation mode (only one FG D CIC per entity) until the expansion of the FG D resource to four digits.

Entities holding CICs in excess of the maximum of 5 FG B and 3* FG D codes are encouraged to make a good faith effort to return those codes using the voluntary code return process described in Appendix B. See also Section 5.4.

4.3 Post-Four Digit FG D Assignment Practices

With the introduction of four digit CICs and the expansion of the CIC pool to include 9,000 FG B CICs and 10,000 FG D CICs, a maximum of 5 FG B CICs and 6 FG D CICs will be assigned per entity.

Entities holding CICs in excess of the maximum of 5 FG B and 6 FG D codes are encouraged to make a good faith effort to return those codes using the voluntary code return process described in Appendix B. See also Section 5.4.

4.4 Special Use Code Assignments

It is recognized that extraordinary and infrequent situations may arise where an entity, whose intent was to offer a service without the use of a CIC, is required to use a CIC because of a technical constraint in the access provider's network. With the introduction of 4 digit CICs, if the entity and the access provider agree that a CIC assignment is warranted because of such a technical constraint, and both parties also agree that no available technical alternative exists to provide the proposed service, the access provider and the entity will submit a jointly signed letter to the NANPA requesting the assignment of a "special use" CIC.

This "special use" code assignment procedure can take place prior to, or after, an entity reaches the maximum assigned limit of CICs. The "special use" CIC

assignment from the NANPA WILL NOT be counted in the assigned CIC total of the entity or the access provider. The NANPA will, in each such case, notify the FCC of its intention to make the requested assignment and will abide by any instructions it receives from the FCC thereafter.

* NOTE: Entities assigned 3 FG D CICs prior to the conservation mode may continue to use those codes or take advantage of the voluntary return process.

If an alternative to the use of a CIC subsequently becomes available (i.e., there is no longer a technical constraint in the access provider's network), the voluntary return of the "special use" code is encouraged (see Section 5.4). Moreover, if, after it has been established that there exists a technical alternative to the use of the code, and the entity chooses not to return it, the CIC WILL be counted against the limit of assignable codes.

An entity can be assigned a maximum of two "special use" CICs. It is expected that such codes will be required infrequently and that few "special use" codes will be assigned. The industry will review the category of "special use" CICs annually, but will meet at the time the NANPA assigns the second "special use" code to a specific entity in order to examine the needs which required the assignments and, if necessary, to consider a change to the assignment limits.

4.5 CIC Limit Review

The number of CICs assignable per entity will be reviewed annually, beginning one year after the introduction of four digit FG B codes, or when needed as determined by the industry. It is intended that these reviews investigate the potential for further expansion of the number of codes per entity.

5.0 Disposition of Codes

5.1 Requirement for Code Retention

It is expected that CICs, when assigned, will be placed in service within a reasonable time. Specifically, access service associated with the CIC must be obtained, and the CIC must show usage. Absent such service and usage, a reclamation process will be initiated consistent with Sections 5.2 and 5.3.*

5.2 Requirement for Access

If access service associated with a CIC has not been established within four months of the date of code assignment, the NANPA will inquire regarding the status of the CIC and, if appropriate, a certified letter will be sent to the entity initiating the reclamation process. The letter will state that the NANPA intends to reclaim the CIC at the end of a 60 day period if access service has not been established. The entity will also be notified by letter if the code assignment is withdrawn.

Any code reclaimed will be made available for assignment by the NANPA after an idle period of at least six months.

5.3 Requirement for Usage

If, after a CIC is in service, there is no usage associated with that code for two consecutive quarters, the NANPA will inquire regarding the status of the CIC and, if appropriate, initiate the reclamation process. No usage is defined as no minutes of use, with test calls not included in the usage total.

5.4 Voluntary Return of CICs

The voluntary return of CICs which are no longer needed by an entity is encouraged. In fact, a process by which such a return can be efficiently effected, is described in a separate set of guidelines. Those guidelines, entitled "Procedures for the Voluntary Return of Carrier Identification Codes to the North American Numbering Plan Administrator" are attached to this document as Appendix B.

Any code returned by an entity will be made available for assignment by the NANPA after an idle period of at least six months.

6.0 ENTITLEMENTS

6.1 Code Use

Assignment of a CIC provides the "right" to use and retain the CIC consistent with these guidelines, to promote the use of the CIC as part of the carrier access code (CAC) for end user dialing, and to transfer the code to another entity as described in Section 6.2. Franchise operators do not retain any right to the CICs if the franchiser ceases operation or determines that its CICs are no longer required.

6.2 Transfer of CICs

The assignment of a CIC does not imply ownership. Although not a formal asset of an entity, a CIC may be transferred to another entity through merger or acquisition as long as the CIC is in use, i.e., FG B or FG D access is being reported or can be verified by an access provider. The NANPA must be informed of such transfers to ensure that an accurate record of the entity responsible for the CIC can be maintained, and that the guidelines requirements are satisfied. Such requirements include those associated with the retention of CICs, and transferred CICs will be subject to reclamation as are any other codes.

7.0 Reclamation Procedures

7.1 Assignee Responsibility

The entity to which a CIC has been assigned shall return the CIC to its administrator if:

- It is no longer needed by the entity for the purpose for which it was originally assigned
- The service it was assigned for is discontinued, or

* Reclamation Process: The procedure whereby NANP administration, as maintenance agent for the CIC assignment guidelines, recovers codes which do not meet the requirements specified in the guidelines. (Note: NANP administration has the responsibility to attempt to recover numbering resources, especially unused numbering resources, as the situation requires. These guidelines confer no enforcement authority. Actual enforcement authority resides with the appropriate governmental or regulatory body.)

- The CIC was not used or activated within the activation timeframe specified in these guidelines.

In the latter case, the assignee may apply to the administrator for an extension date. Such an extension request must include the reason for the delay and a new activation time commitment.

7.2 Administrator Responsibility

- The CIC administrator will contact any CIC assignee(s) identified as not having returned to the administrator for reassignment of any CIC:
  - Assigned, but no longer in use by the assignee(s),
  - Assigned to or associated with a service no longer offered,
  - Assigned, but not activated within the activation timeframe specified in these guidelines, or
  - Assigned but not used in conformance with these assignment guidelines.

The administrator will seek clarification from the assignee(s) regarding the alleged non-use or misuse. If the assignee(s) provides an explanation satisfactory to the administrator, and in conformance with these assignment guidelines the CIC will remain assigned. If no satisfactory explanation is provided, the administrator will request a letter from the assignee(s) returning the assigned CIC. If a direct contact can not be made with the assignee(s) to effect the above process a registered letter will be sent to the assignee(s) address of record requesting that they contact the administrator within 30 days regarding the alleged CIC non-use or misuse. If the letter is returned as non-delivered the administrator will advise the INC that the CIC will be made available for reassignment following the established idle period, if any unless the INC advises otherwise within 30 days.

- The CIC administrator will refer to the INC for resolution any instance where a CIC has not been returned for reassignment by the assignee if:
  - The CIC has not been activated within the activation timeframe specified in these guidelines, or
  - A previously activated CIC is not now in use.
  - An activated CIC is not being used in accordance with these assignment guidelines.

- If a CIC is not activated within the activation timeframe specified in these guidelines and the administrator determines, by discussion with the CIC assignee(s), that the reason for the non-activation is not within the control of the assignee(s), the administrator may extend the activation date by up to 90 days.

- The CIC administrator will receive, process and refer to the INC for resolution any application from CIC assignees for an extension on an activation date when the:
  - Activation has not occurred within the 90 day extension,
  - Administrator believes that the activation has not occurred due to reason within the assignee's control, or

- Assignee requests an extension in excess of 90 days.

Referral to INC will include the offered reason why the extension is requested, a new proposed activation date, and the administrator's recommended action.

The CIC administrator will make all returned CICs available for assignment following the established idle time, if any.

7.3 INC Responsibilities

The INC will:

- Accept all referrals of alleged non-use or misuse of CIC from the CIC administrator or any other entity, by referring issues to the Resource Management Workshop
- Investigate the referral,
- Review referrals in the context of existing assignment guidelines,
- Attempt to resolve the referral, and
- Direct the CIC administrator regarding the action, if any, to be taken.

Absent a consensus resolution of the referral or non compliance to the resolution by the CIC assignee, the case will be referred by INC via the CLC process, to the appropriate regulatory body for resolution.

8.0 CONSERVATION

8.1 The Need for a Conservation Mode

Conservation involves efforts to preserve the availability of codes. A conservation mode and the restrictive assignment policies associated with it slows the assignment rate, conserves the dwindling resource, and allows the industry time to circumvent the possibility of exhaust.

The assignment level at which a conservation mode is invoked, therefore, must provide adequate time for the industry to plan for the accommodation of additional entities, develop and publish the necessary associated technical documentation describing the plan, provide the necessary software/hardware modifications to the necessary network elements, and deploy those modifications throughout the nation. It is estimated that these efforts require at least five years.

8.2 Conservation Rules for the Three Digit CIC Environment

Conservation Rules established for the three digit CIC environment, which remain in effect, invoke specific measures upon the assignment of the 700th 3 digit CIC. At that time (which occurred in March, 1989), no further supplemental codes can be assigned. Accordingly, new entrants will be assigned only one code. Those entities holding less than the maximum of 3 CICs will not be assigned additional supplemental codes.

8.3 A Conservation Mode for the Four Digit CIC Environment

A detailed conservation plan for the four digit CIC environment will not be described in these guidelines. Rather, the NANPA, as administrator of CIC assignments, will monitor the assignment rate and level, predict the potential for exhaust, and report its findings to the industry. With this information supplied by the NANPA, the industry can determine the need for a formal conservation mode and its associated measures.

Those measures might include restrictions on the maximum number of code assignments per entity, an aggressive effort, beyond that already in place, for code reclamation, and the convening of an ICCF sponsored committee to begin the necessary planning to accommodate the need to assign more than 9,000 FG B and/or 10,000 FG D CICs.

REQUIREMENTS FOR QUARTERLY LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIER (LEC) AND ENTITY ACCESS/USAGE REPORTS

To assist in the administration of Carrier Identification Codes (CICs), LECs and entities are requested to provide CIC access and usage information each quarter to North American Numbering Plan administration (NANPA). The access/usage reporting requirements described below have been developed for use by the LECs and entities in preparing the quarterly reports.

A. *LEC Reporting Format Requirements*

The requirements for the LEC quarterly access/usage reports include the ability to submit the reports in machine readable form, i.e., on computer diskettes (3 1/2" or 5 1/4"). LECs providing Feature Group A (FGA), Feature Group B (FGB) and/or Feature Group D (FGD) service, particularly the Bell Operating Companies and those LECs with greater than 30 CICs in their serving area, are strongly encouraged to submit their reports on diskette to reduce the effort required for data entry and to facilitate CIC analysis by NANPA and the FCC. The format for the data to be presented on diskette is described below. To assure compatibility with NANPA and FCC data entry software, LECs submitting quarterly reports on diskette must use this format.

The following rules shall apply when providing quarterly reports on diskettes:

a. The format for each record will consist of one ASCII text line with each field separated by a comma "," delimiter. The delimiter shall not be considered part of any field.
b. One record shall be provided for each CIC and for each state where service is provided by the LEC.
c. The maximum line length (including comma delimiters) for each record is 88 characters.
d. All fields must be represented in each record. That is, if information for a field is not available or is blank, e.g., some entities do not have an ACNA, a delimiter will immediately follow the previous delimiter, i.e., ",," to indicate this lack of information.
e. To avoid confusion with the comma delimiter, no commas shall be part of the data in any field, particularly in the entity name field where it is common to follow the entity name with , Inc.

Each record shall consist of the 11 fields shown below. Minimum and maximum lengths are specified for each field. A minimum field length of "0" implies the information is unavailable or blank. A record will consist of a sequence of fields following the order shown below, i.e., cic, ename, acna, ...

FIELD NAME	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	LENGTH MIN	LENGTH MAX
cic	Carrier Identification Code	Text	0	4
ename	Entity name	Text	0	40
acna	Access Carrier Name Abbreviation	Text	0	3
fgb_starw	Feature Group B Trunk Access & "W" digit	Text	1	2
fgd_stat	Feature Group D Trunk Access	Text	1	1
fga_use	Feature Group A Usage	Text	1	1
fgb_use	Feature Group B Usage	Text	1	1
fgd_use	Feature Group D Usage	Text	1	1
loc	Name of state in which service exists, using standard 2-character postal codes (e.g., NJ)	Text	2	2
up_date	Last date that a change was made on the record	Text	0	8
ccn	Abbreviated Exchange Carrier Name (e.g., SWBT)	Text	2	15

ATTACHMENT B

ENTITY ACCESS/USAGE QUARTERLY REPORT

Report for ___ Quarter 19__ Date _____

Entity Name: _____

CIC[1]	ENTITY[2]	ACNA[3]	TRUNK ACCESS[4] FGB	FGD	USAGE[5] FGB	FGD	LEC ACCESS[6]
955	LGR, Inc.	LGR	1	Y	N	Y	NYNEX
955	LGR, Inc.	LGR	A0	D	Y	N	United FL
955	LGR, Inc.	LGR	0	Y	Y	Y	GTE FL
970	XYZ Co.	XYZ	D1	N	N	N	Southern Bell
970	XYZ Co.	XYZ	N	A	N	Y	Contel

Entity Address _____ Contact Name _____ Telephone No. _____

Field Descriptions:

1. CIC- A 3 or 4-digit Carrier Identification Code assigned by the North American Numbering Plan administration (NANPA). Information for all CICs held by the entity should be reported.

2. ENTITY- Name of entity that holds the CIC.

3. ACNA- A 3-character Access Carrier Name Abbreviation assigned to the entity requesting a CIC. Leave blank if no ACNA is provided.

4. TRUNK ACCESS- Indicates if FGB and FGD trunks are in service in the LEC (i.e. installed) using the designations shown below. Changes in FGB or FGD trunk access from the previous quarterly report shall be indicated, using the designations shown below, only for new trunk access, or for complete disconnect of trunk access.

5. USAGE- Indicates if there are minutes of use (i.e., MOU>0) for FGB and/or FGD service using the designations, Y = Yes or N = No.

6. LEC ACCESS- Indicates all the LECs where access has been purchased for a particular CIC. Where appropriate, indicate the region of the LEC, e.g., GTE-FL. To keep the listing for each CIC manageable, the number of entries in this column may be limited to seven per CIC, at the discretion of the reporting entity.

Permissible Trunk Access Designations:

FGB

1 = FGB trunk access with "1" as the W digit (i.e., 950-WXXX), no change from previous report
0 = FGB trunk access with "0" as the W digit, no change from previous report
Y = FGB trunk access, no change from previous report
N = No FGB trunk access, no change from previous report
A0 = FGB trunk access activated since the previous report with "0" as the W digit
A1 = FGB trunk access activated since the previous report with "1" as the W digit
D0 = FGB trunk access disconnected since previous report with "0" as the W digit
D1 = FGB trunk access disconnected since previous report with "1" as the W digit

FGD

Y = FGD trunk access, no change from previous report
N = No FGD trunk access, no change from previous report
A = FGD trunk access activated since the previous report
D = FGD trunk access disconnected since the previous report

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ATTACHMENT C

ENTITY ACCESS/USAGE QUARTERLY REPORT

Report for ___ Quarter 19__ Date _____

Entity Name: _____

CIC	ENTITY	ACNA	TRUNK ACCESS FGB	TRUNK ACCESS FGD	USAGE FGB	USAGE FGD	LEC ACCESS

Entity Address _____ Contact Name _____ Telephone No. _____

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INDUSTRY CARRIERS COMPATIBILITY FORUM

PROCEDURES FOR THE

VOLUNTARY RETURN OF CARRIER IDENTIFICATION CODES TO

NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING PLAN ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT	SECTION
General	1
Entity Notification to NANP Administration	2
NANP Administration Initial Notification	3
LEC and Entity Negotiations	4
NANP Administration Notification	5
CIC Recoverable	
CIC Not Recoverable	
LEC and Entity Activities	6
NANP Administration Completion Notification	7

1.0 GENERAL

1.01 This document provides recommended procedures for use by entities voluntarily returning one or more assigned Carrier Identification Codes (CICs) to North American Numbering Plan (NANP) administration. These recommended procedures were developed through consensus at the Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum (ICCF) in an effort to increase the pool of available CIC(s) and to supplement the ICCF-developed "CIC Assignment Guidelines".

1.02 When this document is reissued, the reason will be explained in this paragraph.

2.0 ENTITY NOTIFICATION TO NANP ADMINISTRATION

2.01 When an entity decides to return one or more assigned CICs to the resource pool, that entity will notify NANP administration in writing. The notification should include, at a minimum, the following information:

- CIC(s) to be returned
- List of Local Exchange Carriers (LECs) in which the CIC may currently be active
- Estimated start date for negotiations with LECs
- List of other entities that would be affected by return of the CIC(s)

3.0 NANP ADMINISTRATION INITIAL NOTIFICATION

3.01 Upon receipt of written notification from the entity, NANP administration will review the quarterly Entity Usage Reports and quarterly LEC Usage Reports to verify CIC status. NANP administration will attempt to identify any other LECs which may be affected by return of the CIC(s).

NANP administration will notify the entity of any discrepancy between the entity's list of involved LECs and result of NANP administration verification of LEC usage reports.

3.02 Upon completion of the verification process, NANP administration will inform affected parties that it has received notification of an entity's offer to begin discussion on return of a CIC.

NANP administration will use the monthly CIC assignment report to keep the LECs informed of CIC return activity.

3.03 If NANP administration and the entity determine that the CIC is unused, NANP administration will advise the LECs that the code has been returned.

4.0 LEC AND ENTITY NEGOTIATIONS

4.01 Once NANP administration is notified, the entity will contact the LEC(s) to identify all aspects of reclamation planning. These plans may be LEC specific or may include multiple LECs depending on the CIC involved.

4.02 The entity will provide a written status report to NANP administration that includes:

- Estimated date that negotiations will be complete
- Target return date for the CIC(s)
- Final return date
- LEC contact information

The first report is to be provided within 60 calendar days following the estimated start date for negotiation with LECs as defined in 2.01 above.

Subsequent reports are to be provided every 30 calendar days thereafter.

4.03 If the reclamation planning results in the entity's determination that the CIC(s) will not be returned, NANP administration must be notified in writing by the entity that the code will not be returned and may provide the reasons why.

4.04 If the reclamation planning results in the entity's determination that the CIC(s) will be returned, NANP administration must be notified in writing by the entity that the code(s) will be returned and specify the final return date for the CIC(s).

4.05 If a status report has not been received as defined in section 4.02 above, NANP administration will contact the entity to determine the status.

5.0 NANP ADMINISTRATION NOTIFICATION

5.01 CIC RECOVERABLE - After NANP administration has been notified in writing as specified in 4.04 that all involved parties have reached agreement, NANP administration will issue a CIC Reclamation Confirmation Notice. This notice will include a proposed start and completion date for the overall reclamation of the CIC(s) based on the information provided in the written notification in 4.04.

5.02 NANP administration will monitor the reclamation project to ensure progress is continuing toward completion.

5.03 CIC NOT RECOVERABLE - If NANP administration has been notified in writing per 4.03 that no agreement has been reached of the CIC(s) recovery, NANP administration will contact the involved parties to offer assistance to resolve the outstanding issues.

If the issues remain unresolved, NANP administration will notify all involved parties that the recovery effort will not be completed.

If the issues are resolved, NANP administration must be notified in writing as specified in 4.04.

6.0 LEC AND ENTITY ACTIVITIES

6.01 Upon receipt of the CIC Reclamation Confirmation Notification and the target completion date from NANP administration, the involved parties will initiate the necessary internal and external activities to facilitate return of the CIC(s).

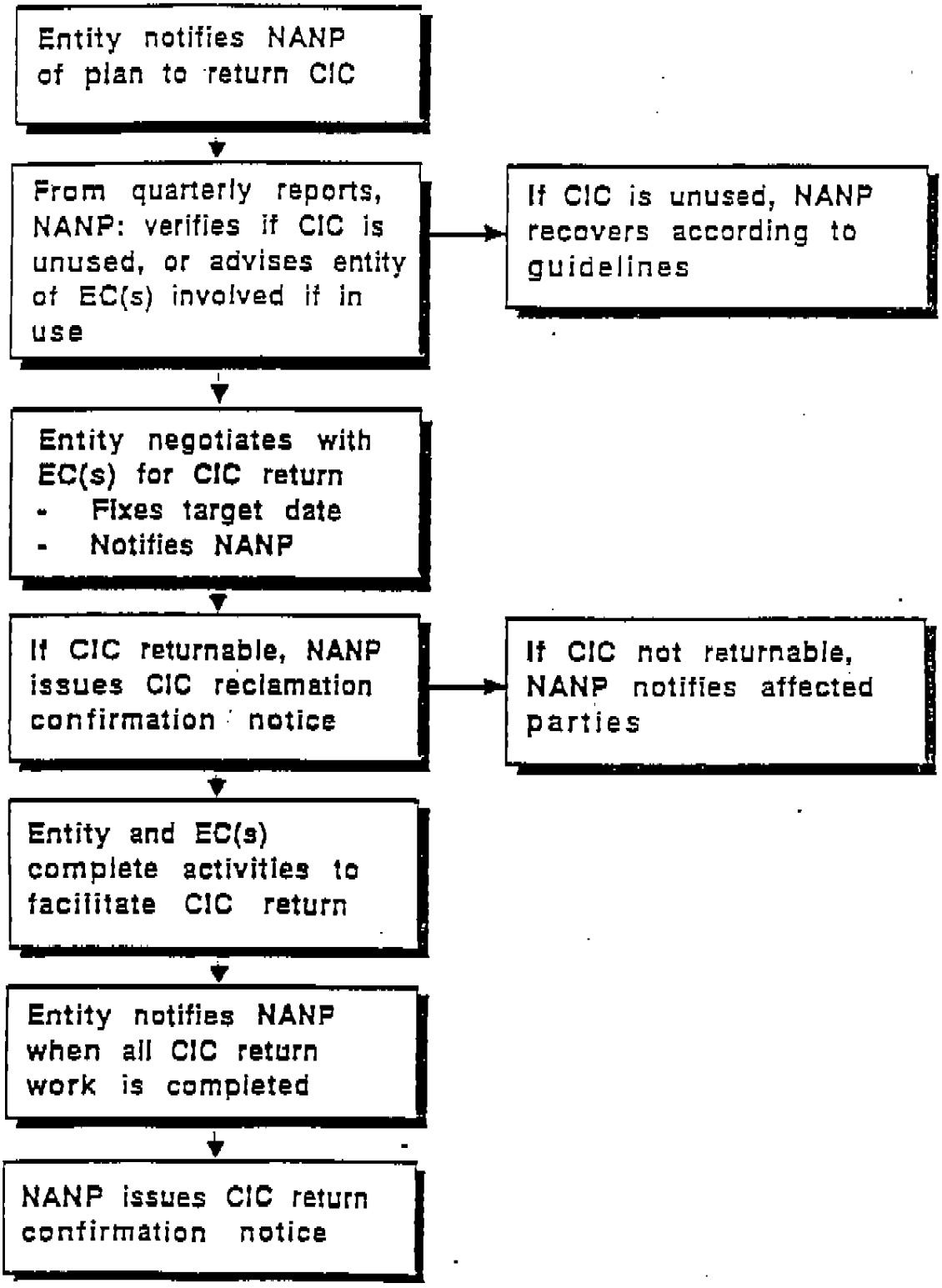
6.02 Upon completion of the reclamation project, the entity will notify the NANP administration in writing that all work is complete.

7.0 NANP ADMINISTRATION COMPLETION NOTIFICATION

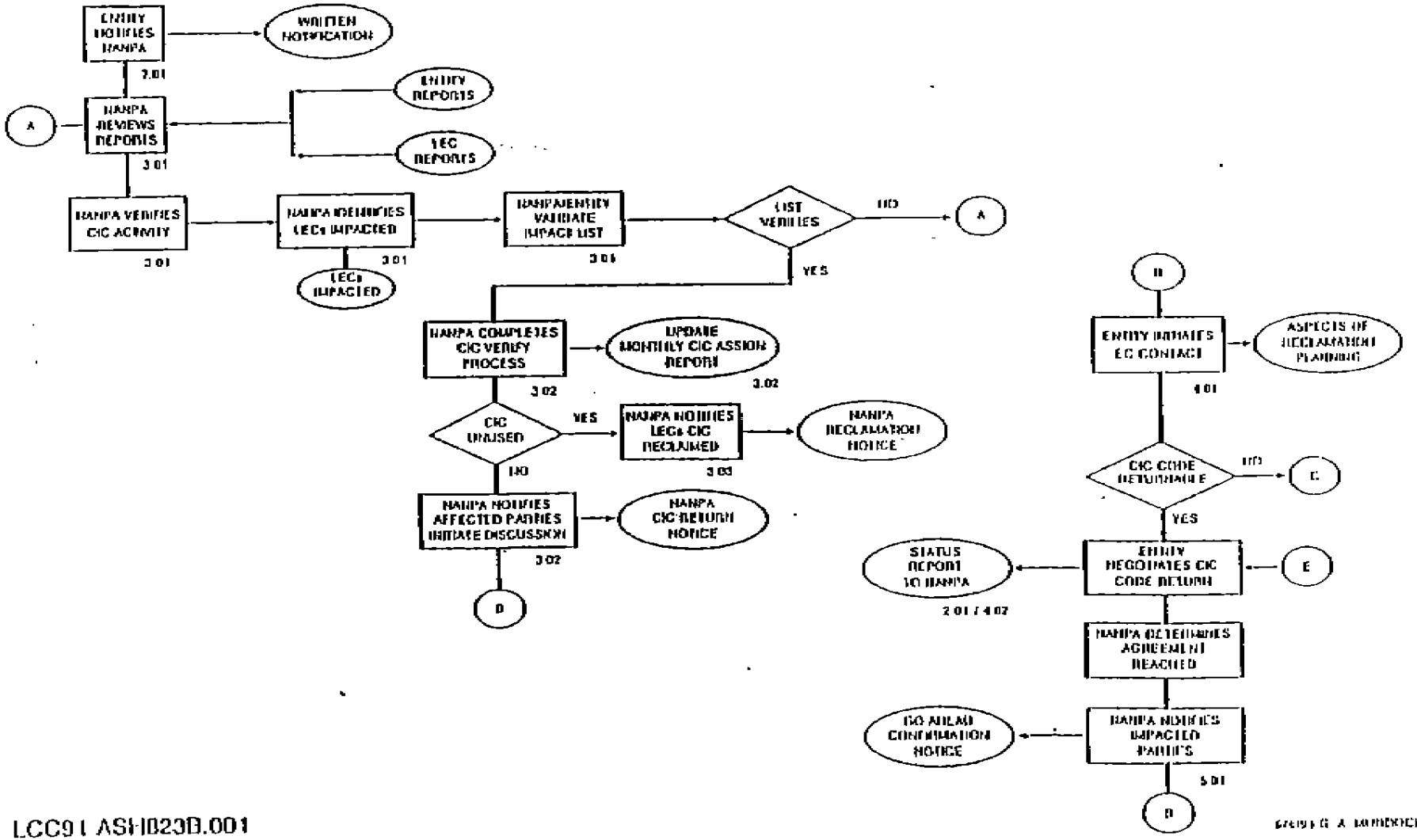
7.01 Upon notification in writing from the entity that all work has been completed, NANP administration will advise the involved parties that the reclamation of the CIC(s) is complete. This information will also be available to the LECs in the monthly CIC assignment report.

OVERVIEW

Voluntary CIC Return Process



Detailed Flow Chart For The Voluntary Return Of A Carrier Identification Code



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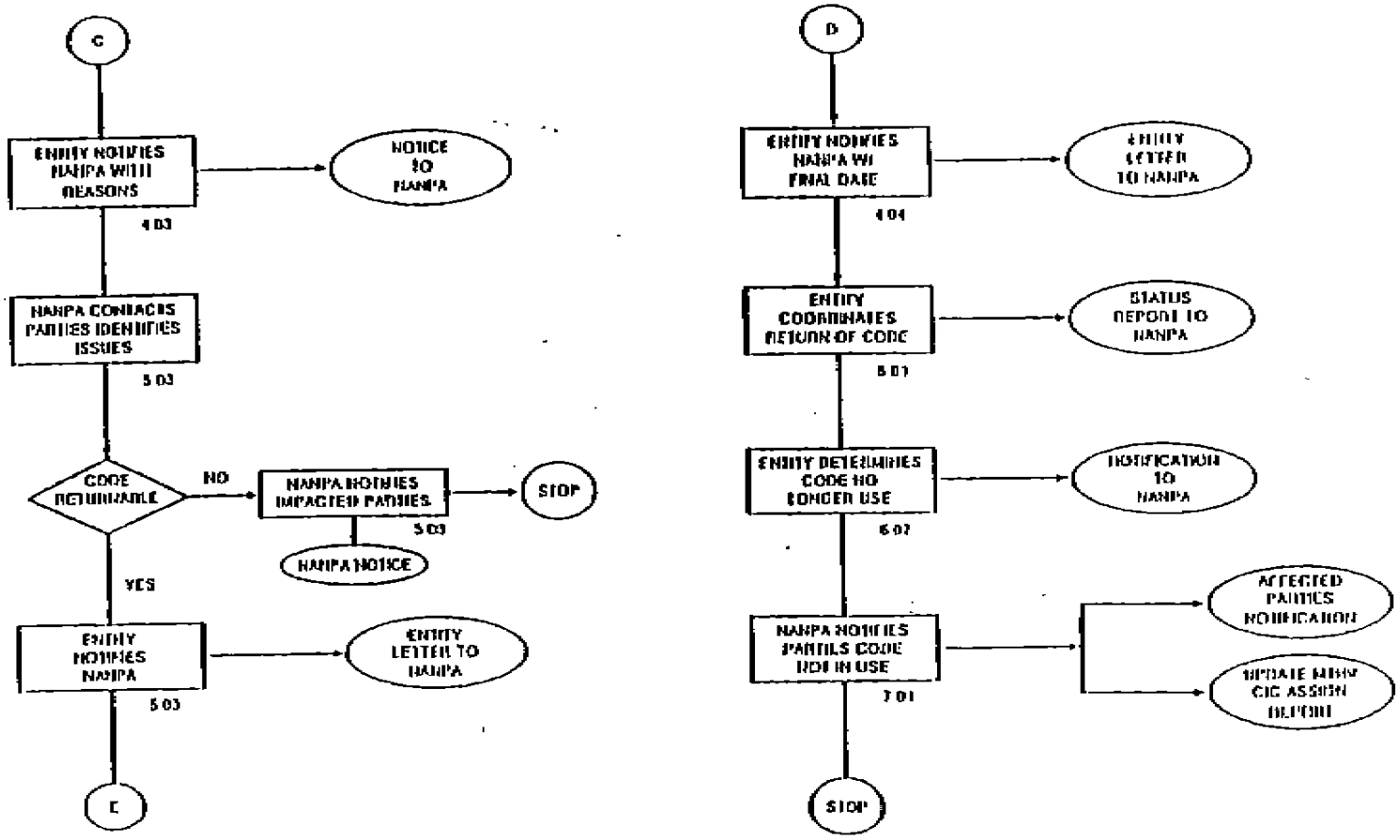
Detailed Flow Chart For The Voluntary Return Of A Carrier Identification Code



6/4/91 G.A. MURDRICK