INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

CCITT

E.230

THE INTERNATIONAL
TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

(08/92)

TELEPHONE NETWORK AND ISDN

OPERATION, NUMBERING, ROUTING AND MOBILE SERVICE

CHARGEABLE DURATION OF CALLS

Recommendation E.230

Geneva, 1992

FOREWORD

The CCITT (the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee) is a permanent organ of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). CCITT is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The Plenary Assembly of CCITT which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study and approves Recommendations prepared by its Study Groups. The approval of Recommendations by the members of CCITT between Plenary Assemblies is covered by the procedure laid down in CCITT Resolution No. 2 (Melbourne, 1988).

Recommendation E.230 was revised by Study Group I and was approved under the Resolution No. 2 procedure on the 4th of August 1992.

CCITT NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized private operating agency.

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CHARGEABLE DURATION OF CALLS

(revised 1992)

1 International operators should allow no tolerance in their assessment of the chargeable duration of calls.

2 Metering devices controlled by operators should be rapid in action and have the utmost accuracy.

3 In the automatic service (and, in the case of station calls, in the manual and semiautomatic service) the chargeable duration should begin from the receipt of the answer signal from the called station (see the definitions in Recommendation E.100 [1]), since the existence of an unchargeable call period, however short, might lead to misuse of the service for the transmission of short messages without payment.

The chargeable duration ends when the caller gives the clear-forward signal or, if the caller has not replaced the receiver, when the call is cleared down by an operator in the performance of her duties in manual or semiautomatic working, or as a result of a clearing signal from the called party when an exchange clears the connection. In the latter case, the chargeable duration ends with some slight delay following receipt of the clearing signal from the called party.

It is generally the responsibility of the originating Administration to measure and record the chargeable duration of calls in accordance with Recommendations E.260 [2] and E.261 [3]. Accounting principles this traffic, between Administration, should be in accordance with Recommendations D.150 [4] and D.178 [5].

In the unlikely event that the call chargeable duration recording mechanism fails, then accounting for the period of lost traffic records should be in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation D.150 [4]

4 It is unnecessary to inform the person making an international call of the exact moment at which the charging begins.

5 An Administration should not give its operators instructions to advise subscribers of successive charging periods unless a prior agreement to this effect has been reached with the other Administrations.

6 Nevertheless, if some Administrations consider it desirable to indicate to callers the expiry of each charging period, an automatic device, or one controlled by the operator at the originating international exchange, can be used for this purpose, on condition that this indication is regarded merely as an advice which is not binding on the Administration as regards charging.

References

[1] CCITT Recommendation *Definitions of terms used in international telephone operation*, Blue Book, Rec. E.100, ITU, Geneva 1988.

[2] CCITT Recommendation *Basic technical problems concerning the measurement and recording of call durations*, Blue Book, Rec. E.260, ITU, Geneva 1988.

[3] CCITT Recommendation *Devices for measuring and recording call durations*, Blue Book, Rec. E.261, ITU, Geneva 1988.

[4] CCITT Recommendation *New system for accounting in international telephony*, Rec. D.150, ITU, Geneva 1992.

[5] CCITT Recommendation *Monthly accounts for semi-automatic telephone calls (ordinary and urgent calls, with or without special facilities)*, Blue Book, Rec. D.178, ITU, Geneva 1988.