

# iconectiv COMMON LANGUAGE<sup>®</sup> Information Services

Common Language<sup>®</sup> Information Services is a telecommunications data infrastructure and management solution based on over 45 years of experience and evolution alongside hundreds of telecom service providers.

Common Language provides a unique combination of software tools, expertise, standards management and industry forum facilitation and direction to achieve a level of data infrastructure management not possible in a single service provider.

Common Language is applicable to:

- Inside and Outside Plant Location Definition and Policy
- Connections, Circuits, Paths Definitions and Policy
- Service Definition and Standardization
- Network Equipment Assets

Service provider operations have typically grown and evolved over time, with new methods and procedures being acquired through mergers and acquisitions, and process improvements. Due to the evolution of the organization, there may be as many ways to represent the network and its assets as there are departments. Reporting becomes difficult, with overheads of translation between representations and error correcting becoming necessary evils in order to get the job done. Individual departments may have their own definitions of equipment or locations, each with their own twists and errors, and maintenance overheads.

Things become more complex when interconnecting with other service providers or interacting with network element providers, who have their own ways of defining their network and equipment, creating more requirements to translate references and definitions for ordering, billing, network modeling and financial reporting.

## Bring Some Order

Common Language brings order to the chaos. We define the policies relating to the division of geographic and geopolitical zones, enabling clear allocation of network sites to these locations. We maintain the data dictionaries used to identify

- Take control of your Network Data
- Benefit from over 45 years of experience
- Meet FCC Reporting Requirements
- Maintain Accurate and Detailed Records
- Simplify and Streamline Reporting
- Streamline Interconnection Orders, Billing and Payment
- Reduce Network Investment
- Improve Physical Inventory Management

## Location

- Single, central repository of standardized location information
- GIS-Enabled infrastructure to resolve address issues
- Efficient and intelligent coding method to represent locations and their use (e.g., outside plant site types, switches, etc.)

## Services

- An efficient and intelligent coding method to represent services and their definition
- Format and structure definition for service orders, ensuring ambiguity is avoided and efficiency is maximized

network site types, connection services codes, equipment types, connection interfaces and channels, and services.

We can prevent data duplication and facilitate industry forums where service providers discuss interconnection and best practice with each other and with network element providers.

Capturing, policing and defining the data infrastructure brings order to the management of the network data, removing silos of information and making the information available for the whole organization to benefit.

Our experts define the rules for the physical labeling of network equipment, supported by over 1300 network element providers. We link the physical label to our equipment repository via our globally unique equipment identifier (CLEI™ code) being printed on the equipment and used in our database. We work with the network element providers to obtain, and make available for use, their equipment characteristics information, before the equipment arrives on site.

### **Centralized data**

Numerous systems make use of data relating to addresses, equipment information, equipment use, circuit paths, circuit assignment, circuit use, service use and definition. Common Language removes the need to host this data across all these systems and, instead provides a centralized master copy of the data infrastructure. By having a single database, data maintenance, duplication and error rates are reduced or eliminated.

### **Automated Communication**

The use of an efficient and informative coding method enables communications between departments and companies to be automated. Lengthy forms describing the location, the equipment used, the connectivity information and the services to be provided are prone to errors due to duplicating information, human error, etc. Common Language enables such forms to be replaced by a series of mutually agreed codes. These codes may be passed electronically and their meaning decoded using the same data dictionaries they were encoded with.

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### **Connection/Circuit Paths**

- An efficient and intelligent coding method to represent facility, trunk and circuit/path information and their use
- Tools to help the OSS guarantee uniqueness and validity of codes used
- Link to location information in the central location repository

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### **Equipment**

- Single, central repository of equipment technical and financial characteristics
- Single, efficient and intelligent method of referencing equipment types of all network equipment
- Standardized physical labeling by the network element provider
- Consistent identification used in the OSS, financial tools and other databases and systems

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### **Furthermore . . .**

- Common Language policy management of key data elements, ensuring consistency in the data across the industry.
- Industry forums for service providers to meet and discuss the evolution and best practice of implementing Common Language with other service providers and with network element providers.
- Coding discipline and implementation support from Common Language data infrastructure experts.
- Key network and service data components enabling industry's interconnection process.

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For more information about iconectiv, contact your local account executive, or you can reach us at:

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