

4140 Clover Street
Honeoye Falls, New York 14472-9323
April 8, 1998



Mr. George Edwards
President
Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions
1200 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20005

Dear George:

In a letter dated March 23, 1998, A. Richard Metzger, Jr., Chief, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requested the North American Numbering Council (NANC) to submit to the FCC within six months a report on national number pooling "sufficiently detailed to support, both technically and operationally, a uniform, nationwide system of pooling by December, 1999". The letter also stated: "It would also be helpful to the Bureau if the NANC would give number conservation solutions, other than pooling, a very high priority".

To assist it in managing this effort the NANC is establishing a Numbering Resource Optimization Working Group. (See the FCC Public Notice of March 27 announcing the new group). In managing this industry endeavor the NANC wants to encourage the broadest participation of interested parties, including the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), state interests, consumer interests, equipment manufacturers (hardware and software), the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA), and of course all industry segments.

The NANC has asked me to invite ATIS staff members to participate in this new Working Group. The NANC recognizes that there are significant issues to be addressed that may require the assistance of ATIS-sponsored forums and committees (beyond the requirements to be placed on the Industry Numbering Committee (INC)) including switch technical requirements that support number pooling, SCP and STP/SS7 technical requirements, enhancements to current network rating and routing information mechanisms, e.g. Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) enhancements, evaluation of emergency services impacts and the evaluation/assessment of the impacts on operational support systems. Given the rigorous schedule to accomplish NANC's task, close coordination and quick turnaround on the part of ATIS sponsored Committees will be important.

Thank you for your previous support of NANC efforts, and I look forward to the continued effort of ATIS in achieving this critical assignment.

Sincerely,

Alan C. Hasselwander

Chairman, North American Numbering Council