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Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments Revises Terminal Equipment Labeling Requirements per TSB-168-A Effective January 1, 2004

September 24, 2003

Washington, D.C. – the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments ("ACTA" or "Administrative Council") announces the adoption of revised labeling requirements from an American National Standards Institute ("ANSI") accredited standards developer, the Telecommunications Industry Association ("TIA") entitled, "Telecommunications – Telephone Terminal Equipment – Labeling Requirements, TSB-168-A". The revised labeling requirements will take effect on January 1, 2004.

TSB-168-A specifies the labeling requirements for terminal equipment approved by a Telecommunications Certification Body ("TCB") or a Supplier's Declaration of Conformity ("SDoC") for connection to the Public Telephone Network in accordance with FCC Part 68. This document will supercede the existing labeling requirements in TSB-168 on January 1, 2004. The following are changes to the labeling requirements in TSB-168: some equipment codes were removed from the pool of valid codes, some definitions associated with equipment codes were changed, some equipment codes were moved from the Terminal Devices category to the Digital Equipment category and additional editorial corrections and clarifications were made to the document. Provision is made in the document for equipment using codes affected by the changes.

Except as described in TSB-168-A, the labeling content and format requirements in effect when a product was approved shall be effective for the life of the product. In such cases, the responsible party has the option of changing a product's labeling to the content and format requirements of TSB-168-A at any time after January 1, 2004.

Effective January 1, 2004, new products approved in accordance with Part 68 must comply with the labeling requirements in TSB-168-A, and the ACTA On-line Filing ("AOF") system will be upgraded to allow only for Telephone Terminal Equipment ("TTE") submissions complying with these requirements. TTE approved for connection to the Public Switched Telephone Network ("PSTN"), and certain private-line services, must comply with all applicable rules and regulations of FCC Part 68 and with the applicable technical criteria and labeling requirements adopted by the ACTA.

The newly adopted labeling requirements and further information about the ACTA can be obtained from the ACTA web site at http://www.part68.org.

Questions and comments about this notice should be submitted to the ACTA Secretariat via E-mail at acta@atis.org, or by phone at +1.202.628.6380.