

**BEFORE THE  
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Application of )  
 )  
**Standard Tandem LLC** )  
 ) **Docket No. TC19-\_\_\_\_\_**  
for a Certificate of Authority to Provide )  
Local Exchange and Interexchange )  
Long Distance Services in the State of )  
South Dakota )  
 )

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY FOR STANDARD TANDEM LLC**

Pursuant to Sections 20:10:32:03 and 20:10:24:02 of the Administrative Rules of South Dakota, Standard Tandem LLC hereby applies for a certificate of authority from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") to provide local exchange services and interexchange long distance services in the state of South Dakota. Standard Tandem submits the following information in support of this Application:

- (1) The applicant's name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, web page URL, and E-mail address:**

Standard Tandem LLC  
4300 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
Long Beach, California 90804  
Telephone: 951-799-9100  
Facsimile: 562-432-5250  
Toll Free: 844-855-9999  
Website: www.standardtandem.com

- (2) A description of the legal and organizational structure of the applicant's Company:**

Standard Tandem LLC is a California limited liability company organized on January 9, 2019. A copy of the Applicant's Articles of Organization is included as **Exhibit 1** to the application.

- (3) The name under which applicant will provide local exchange services if different than in subdivision (1) of this section:**

The Applicant will provide services under the name shown in Question 1.

**(4) The location of the applicant's principal office, if any, in this state and the name and address of its current registered agent, if applicable:**

Standard Tandem does not have a principal office in South Dakota.

The name and address of Applicant's current registered agent is:

CT Corporation System  
319 South Coteau Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

**(5) A copy of its certificate of authority to transact business in South Dakota from the secretary of state:**

A copy of the Applicant's certificate of authority to transact business in South Dakota from the Secretary of State is included as **Exhibit 2** to the application.

**(6) A description of the applicant's experience providing any telecommunications services in South Dakota or in other jurisdictions, including the types of services provided, and the dates and nature of state or federal authorization to provide the services:**

Standard Tandem LLC has not previously provided telecommunications services in South Dakota. It is currently authorized to provide service in Iowa.

Standard Tandem LLC is in the process of filing applications in Colorado, New York, and Washington.

**(7) Names and addresses of applicant's affiliates, subsidiaries, and parent organizations, if any:**

Standard Tandem does not have any affiliates, subsidiaries or parent organizations.

**(8) A list and specific description of the types of services the applicant seeks to offer and how the services will be provided including:**

**(a) Information indicating the classes of customers the applicant intends to serve;**

Standard Tandem will provide services to business customers.

**(b) Information indicating the extent to and time-frame by which applicant will provide service through the use of its own facilities, the purchase of unbundled network elements, or resale;**

Applicant intends to provide service as soon as practicable upon grant of this Application. However, initiation of operations will first require negotiation of interconnection agreements with other service providers, including successful completion of the installation and/or procurement of any facilities needed for Applicant to provide services in South Dakota. As the time periods required to complete such actions may vary, a firm timeline for the initiation of service has not yet been established.

**(8) A list and specific description of the types of services the applicant seeks to offer and how the services will be provided including: (Cont'd)**

- (c) Applicant does not currently own facilities or property in South Dakota but will acquire or construct facilities in the state as necessary to provide its services. To facilitate deployment of services, Applicant intends to enter into interconnection agreements and/or other agreements with other service providers as permitted under the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.c. § 251(c).
- (d) Information identifying the types of services it seeks authority to provide by reference to the general nature of the service;

Standard Tandem proposes to offer wholesale and retail competitive telecommunications service, including local exchange, interexchange, and exchange access services, within the State of South Dakota using its own facilities and services available from other facilities-based carriers.

**(9) A service area map or narrative description indicating with particularity the geographic area proposed to be served by the applicant:**

The Applicant requests authority to provide service throughout the state of South Dakota, excluding those areas served by a rural telephone company. Standard Tandem's service areas and exchanges will mirror those established of its underlying carrier. Standard Tandem concurs in the service maps of those carriers, as currently filed with the Commission and as subsequently redefined. For these reasons, Standard Tandem requests that it be exempted from the requirement to provide a service area map in its filing.

**(10) Information regarding the technical competence of the applicant to provide its proposed local exchange services including:**

- (a) A description of the education and experience of the applicant's management personnel who will oversee the proposed local exchange services; and

Attached hereto as **Exhibit 3** is a description of the education and experience of Standard Tandem's management personnel.

**(10) Information regarding the technical competence of the applicant to provide its proposed local exchange services including: (Cont'd)**

- (b) Information regarding policies, personnel, or arrangements made by the applicant which demonstrates the applicant's ability to respond to customer complaints and inquiries promptly and to perform facility and equipment maintenance necessary to ensure compliance with any commission quality of service requirements;

Applicant is responsible for all customer inquiries and complaints. All inquiries may be accepted 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the following:

Regulatory Complaints [regulatory@standardtandem.com](mailto:regulatory@standardtandem.com) and

Customer Complaints [tickets@standardtandem.com](mailto:tickets@standardtandem.com).

Toll Free: 844-855-9999

**(11) Information explaining how the applicant will provide customers with access to emergency services such as 911 or enhanced 911, operator services, interexchange services, directory assistance, and telecommunications relay services:**

Standard Tandem will enter into interconnection agreements with CenturyLink QC (Qwest) and other certificated LECs. Under such agreements, Standard Tandem's customers will be able to access emergency services such as 911 or enhanced 911. Such calls will be routed through the underlying carrier to the appropriate emergency agency serving the originating location. Access to local operator services, directory assistance and telecommunications relay services will also be made available.

**(12) For the most recent 12 month period, financial statements of the applicant consisting of balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow statements. The applicant shall provide audited financial statements, if available:**

Standard Tandem has the financing and capital necessary to provide services as proposed in this Application. The Applicant's financial information is provided in **Exhibit 4**, which is submitted under confidential seal.

**(13) Information detailing the following matters associated with interconnection to provide proposed local exchange services:**

- (a) **The identity of all local exchange carriers with which the applicant plans to interconnect.**

Standard Tandem will enter into interconnection agreements with CenturyLink QC (Qwest) and other certificated LECs as Customer demand warrants.

- (b) **The likely timing of initiation of interconnection service and a statement as to when negotiations for interconnection started or when negotiations are likely to start.**

Standard Tandem anticipates negotiating the interconnection agreements concurrent with the processing of this application.

**(13) Information detailing the following matters associated with interconnection to provide proposed local exchange services: (Cont'd)**

**(c) A copy of any request for interconnection made by the applicant to any local exchange carrier.**

See response to 13(b) above.

**(14) A description of how the applicant intends to market its local exchange services, its target market, whether the applicant engages in multilevel marketing, and copies of any company brochures that will be used to assist in sale of the services:**

Standard Tandem plans to initially market its services to wholesale customers and to business customers. Marketing of services will be done through its direct sales staff.

**(15) If the applicant is seeking authority to provide local exchange service in the service area of a rural telephone company, the date by which the applicant expects to meet the service obligations imposed pursuant to § 20:10:32:15 and applicant's plans for meeting the service obligations:**

Standard Tandem is not seeking to provide service in rural territories.

**(16) A list of the states in which the applicant is registered or certified to provide telecommunications services, whether the applicant has ever been denied registration or certification in any state and the reasons for any such denial, a statement as to whether or not the applicant is in good standing with the appropriate regulatory agency in the states where it is registered or certified, and a detailed explanation of why the applicant is not in good standing in a given state, if applicable:**

Standard Tandem is a start-up company and in the process of filing applications and registrations in Colorado, New York, and Washington. It is currently certified in IA and has never been denied registration or certification.

- (17) **The names, addresses, telephone numbers, E-mail addresses, and facsimile numbers of the applicant's representatives to whom all inquiries must be made regarding customer complaints and other regulatory matters;**

**Contact for Customer Complaints**

**For Regulatory Matters:**

David Erickson, President  
Standard Tandem LLC  
4300 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
Long Beach, CA 90801  
Telephone: 951-799-9100  
Facsimile: 562-432-5250  
Email: regulatory@standardtandem.com

**For Complaint Matters by Commission:**

David Erickson, President  
Standard Tandem LLC  
4300 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
Long Beach, CA 90801  
Telephone: 951-799-9100  
Facsimile: 562-432-5250  
Email: regulatory@standardtandem.com

**For Complaint Matters by Customers**

Scott Southron, Manager  
Standard Tandem LLC  
4300 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
Long Beach, CA 90801  
Telephone: 951-799-9101  
Facsimile: 562-432-5250  
Email: tickets@standardtandem.com

- (18) Information concerning how the applicant plans to bill and collect charges from customers who subscribe to its proposed local exchange services;**

Standard Tandem will bill customers directly. Customer payments will be made directly to the Company, and the Company will have no payment centers in South Dakota.

- (19) Information concerning the applicant's policies relating to solicitation of new customers and a description of the efforts the applicant shall use to prevent the unauthorized switching of local service customers by the applicant, its employees, or agents;**

Standard Tandem utilizes a direct sales approach to its marketing efforts. The Company does not utilize any form of multilevel marketing in the sale of its services. The Company uses a written LOA to prevent the unauthorized switching of local service customers.

- (20) The number and nature of complaints filed against the applicant with any state or federal commission regarding the unauthorized switching of a customer's telecommunications provider and the act of charging customers for services that have not been ordered;**

Standard Tandem has never had a complaint filed against it for the unauthorized switching of a customer's local exchange service.

- (21) Information concerning how the applicant will make available to any person information concerning the applicant's current rates, terms, and conditions for all of its telecommunications services;**

Standard Tandem will post product offerings on its website at [www.standardtandem.com](http://www.standardtandem.com), and all customers will enter into written or electronic contracts for products and services. The Company's switched access services tariff will be filed with the Commission.

- (22) Information concerning how the applicant will notify a customer of any materially adverse change to any rate, term, or condition of any telecommunications service being provided to the customer. The notification must be made at least thirty days in advance of the change;**

Standard Tandem will notify customers directly or via bill insert, thirty days in advance of the change, as warranted by the nature of the change.

- (23) A written request for waiver of those rules believed to be inapplicable;**

None.

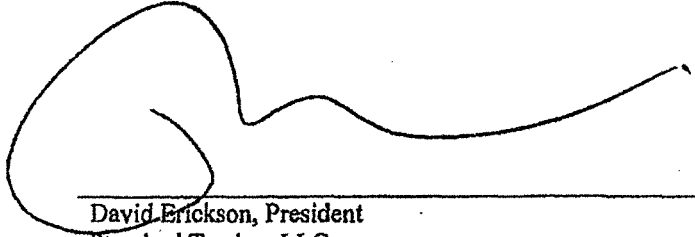
- (24) Federal tax identification number and South Dakota sales tax number; and**

Standard Tandem's Federal Tax Identification Number is 32-0589321.

Standard Tandem's application for South Dakota sales tax number is currently being processed and will be provided in a separate filing upon receipt.

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the information provided in the Application and Attachments Standard Tandem LLC respectfully requests that the Commission grant this application.

Standard Tandem LLC will comply with all requirements applicable to the provision of telecommunications services in the state of South Dakota.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Erickson', is written over a horizontal line.

David Erickson, President  
Standard Tandem LLC  
4300 E. Pacific Coast Hwy  
Long Beach, CA 90804

Dated: 8-23-19