The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM

(Effective: 01/20/2011)

This form is intended to be used with most types of required filings. It provides check boxes with rule references for the most common types of filings. It does not replace or supersede Commission rules in any way.

In the Matter of the Application for Approval to)
Transfer of Indirect Control of Matrix Telecom, LLC)
from TNCI Impact LLC to Lingo Communications, LLC)
)

TRF	Doc	ket No	o. 90-		
-		10.1	100	100	

Case No. 18-1183-TP-ACO

NOTE: Unless you have reserved a Case #, leave the "Case No" fields BLANK

Name of Registrant(s) Matrix Telecom, LLC ("Matrix")	
DBA(s) of Registrant(s) Matrix Business Technologies/Trinsic Communications	
Address of Registrant(s) 9000 E. Nichols Avenue, Suite 230, Englewood, CO 80112	
Company Web Address http://www.impacttelecom.com/	
Regulatory Contact Person(s) Alex Valencia Phone 972-9	10-1720 Fax <u>866-418-9750</u>
Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address avalencia@impacttelecom.com	
Contact Person for Annual Report Same as above.	Phone 972-910-1720
Address (if different from above) 433 East Las Colinas Blvd., Suite 500, Irving, TX 75039	
Consumer Contact Information Customer Care	Phone <u>888-411-0111</u>
Address (if different from above) Same as above.	
Name of Registrant(s) Lingo Communications, LLC	
DBA(s) of Registrant(s)	
Address of Registrant(s) 3060 Peachtree Road, NW, Suite 1065, Atlanta, GA 30305	
Company Web Address http://www.birch.com	
Regulatory Contact Person(s) Sharyl Fowler, Regulatory Admn Phone 478-4	75-9800 Fax <u>478-405-3112</u>
Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address sharyl.fowler@birch.com	
Contact Person for Annual Report Same as above.	Phone 478-475-9800
Address (if different from above) 115 Gateway Drive, Macon, GA 31210	
Consumer Contact Information Angela Howard	Phone 816-300-1428

Motion for protective order included with filing? Yes X No	
Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? \Box Yes \boxtimes No [Note:	Waivers may toll any automatic timeframe.]

Notes:

Section I and II are Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6 OAC Section III – Carrier to Carrier is Pursuant to 4901:1-7 OAC, and Wireless is Pursuant to 4901:1-6-24 OAC. Section IV – Attestation

(1) Indicate the Carrier Type and the reason for submitting this form by checking the boxes below.

(2) For requirements for various applications, see the identified section of Ohio Administrative Code Section 4901 and/or the supplemental application form noted.

(3) Information regarding the number of copies required by the Commission may be obtained from the Commission's web site at www.puco.ohio.gov under the docketing information system section, by calling the docketing division at 614-466-4095, or by visiting the docketing division at the offices of the Commission.

(4) An Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) offering basic local exchange service (BLES) outside its traditional service area should choose CLEC designation when proposing to offer BLES outside its traditional service area or when proposing to make changes to that service.

All Filings that result in a change to one or more tariff pages require, at a minimum, the following exhibits.

Exhibit	Description:
А	The tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s) as they exist before the change(s) N/A No tariff changes
	are anticipated.
В	The Tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s), reflecting the change, with the change(s) marked in the
	right margin. N/A No tariff changes are anticipated.
C	A short description of the nature of the change(s), the intent of the change(s), and the customers affected. See
	Exhibit A for a description of the transaction.
D	A copy of the notice provided to customers, along with an affidavit that the notice was provided according to
	the applicable rule(s). N/A The Parties will continue to provide service without immediate change in
	rates, terms or conditions.

Section I – Part I - Common Filings

Carrier Type Other (explain below)	For Profit ILEC	Not For Profit ILEC	
Change terms & conditions of existing BLES	ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)	ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)	ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)
Introduce non-recurring charge, surcharge, or fee to BLES			ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)
Introduce or Increase Late Payment	ATA 1-6-14(1) (Auto 30 days)	ATA 1-6-14(1) (Auto 30 days)	ATA 1-6-14(1) (Auto 30 days)
Revisions to BLES Cap.	$\Box ZTA 1-6-14(F)$ (0 day Notice)		
Introduce BLES or expand local service area (calling area)	$\Box ZTA 1-6-14(H)$ (0 day Notice)	$\Box ZTA 1-6-14(H)$ (0 day Notice)	$\Box ZTA 1-6-14(H)$ (0 day Notice)
Notice of no obligation to construct facilities and provide BLES	C ZTA 1-6-27(C) (0 day Notice)	$\Box ZTA 1-6-27(C)$ (0 day Notice)	
Change BLES Rates	TRF 1-6-14(F) (0 day Notice)	$\Box \text{ TRF } 1\text{-}6\text{-}14(F)(4)$ (0 day Notice)	$\Box \text{ TRF } 1-6-14(G)$ (0 day Notice)
To obtain BLES pricing flexibility	BLS 1-6-14 (C)(1)(c) (Auto 30 days)		
Change in boundary	ACB 1-6-32 (Auto 14 days)	ACB 1-6-32 (Auto 14 days)	
Expand service operation area			$\Box \text{ TRF } 1\text{-}6\text{-}08(G)(0 \text{ day})$
BLES withdrawal			$\Box ZTA 1-6-25(B)$ (0 day Notice)
Other* (explain)			

Section I – Part II – Customer Notification Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-7 OAC

Type of Notice	Direct Mail	Bill Insert	Bill Notation	Electronic Mail
☐ 15-day Notice				
30-day Notice				
Date Notice Sent:				

Section I – Part III – IOS Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-22 OAC

IOS	Introduce New	Tariff Change	Price Change	Withdraw

Section II – Part I – Carrier Certification - Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-08, 09 & 10 OAC

Certification	ILEC	CLEC	Carrier's Not	CESTC	CETC
Certification	(Out of Territory)		Offering BLES		
* See Supplemental	ACE 1-6-08	ACE 1-6-08	ACE 1-6-08	ACE 1-6-10	UNC1-6-09
form	* (Auto 30- day)	*(Auto 30 day)	*(Auto 30 day)	(Auto 30 day)	*(Non-Auto)

*Supplemental Certification forms can be found on the Commission Web Page.

Section II – Part II – Certificate Status & Procedural

Certificate Status	ILEC	CLEC	Carrier's Not Offering BLES
Abandon all Services		ABN 1-6-26 (Auto 30 days)	ABN 1-6-26 (Auto 30 days)
Change of Official Name *	ACN 1-6-29(B) (Auto 30 days)	ACN 1-6-29(B) (Auto 30 days)	$\Box CIO 1-6-29(C)$ (0 day Notice)
Change in Ownership *	$\square \text{ ACO } 1-6-29(E)$ (Auto 30 days)	$\bigotimes \text{ ACO } 1-6-29(E)$ (Auto 30 days)	$\bigotimes \text{ CIO } 1-6-29(C)$ (0 day Notice)
Merger *	AMT 1-6-29(E) (Auto 30 days)	AMT 1-6-29(E) (Auto 30 days)	CIO 1-6-29(C) (0 day Notice)
Transfer a Certificate *	ATC 1-6-29(B) (Auto 30 days)	ATC 1-6-29(B) (Auto 30 days)	$\Box CIO 1-6-29(C)$ (0 day Notice)
Transaction for transfer or lease of property, plant or business *	ATR 1-6-29(B) (Auto 30 days)	☐ ATR 1-6-29(B) (Auto 30 days)	$\Box CIO 1-6-29(C)$ (0 day Notice)

* Other exhibits may be required under the applicable rule(s). ACN, ACO, AMT, ATC, ATR and CIO applications see the 4901:1-6-29 Filing Requirements on the Commission's Web Page for a complete list of exhibits.

Section III - Carrier to Carrier (Pursuant to 4901:1-7), and Wireless (Pursuant to 4901:1-6-24)

Carrier to Carrier	ILEC	CLEC
Interconnection agreement, or amendment to	□ NAG 1-7-07	□ NAG 1-7-07
an approved agreement	(Auto 90 day)	(Auto 90 day)
Request for Arbitration	ARB 1-7-09	ARB 1-7-09
Request for Arbitration	(Non-Auto)	(Non-Auto)
Introduce or change c-t-c service tariffs,	🗌 ATA 1-7-14	ATA 1-7-14
Inforduce of change c-t-c service tariffs,	(Auto 30 day)	(Auto 30 day)
Request rural carrier exemption, rural carrier	UNC1-7-04 or 05	
suspension or modification	(Non-Auto)	
Changes in rates, terms & conditions to Pole	\Box UNC 1-7-23(B)	
Attachment, Conduit Occupancy and Rights-	(Non-Auto)	
of-Way.		
	RCC	□ NAG
Wireless Providers See 4901:1-6-24	[Registration &	[Interconnection
	Change in Operations]	Agreement or

Registrant hereby attests to its compliance with pertinent entries and orders issued by the Commission.

AFFIDAVIT Compliance with Commission Rules

I am an officer/agent of the applicants, _____, and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf.

(Name)

Please Check ALL that apply:

□ I attest that these tariffs comply with all applicable rules for the state of Ohio. I understand that tariff notification filings do not imply Commission approval and that the Commission's rules as modified and clarified from time to time, supersede any contradictory provisions in our tariff. We will fully comply with the rules of the state of Ohio and understand that noncompliance can result in various penalties, including the suspension of our certificate to operate within the state of Ohio.

I attest that customer notices accompanying this filing form were sent to affected customers, as specified in Section II, in accordance with Rule 4901:1-6-7, Ohio Administrative Code.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on (Date)

at (Location)

*(Signature and Title)_____ (Date)

• This affidavit is required for every tariff-affecting filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.

VERIFICATION

I, **<u>Brett P. Ferenchak</u>** verify that I have utilized the Telecommunications Filing Form for most proceedings provided by the Commission and that all of the information submitted here, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

*(Signature and Title)	/s/ Brett P. Ferenchak	, Outside Counsel	(Date) July 25, 2018
*Verification is require	red for every filing. It may	be signed by counsel or a	in officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the
applicant.			

Send your completed Application Form, including all required attachments as well as the required number of copies, to:

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Attention: Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215-3793 Or Make such filing electronically as directed in Case No 06-900-AU-WVR

LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit A	Description of Transaction
Exhibit B	Management Biographies of Transfer and Birch-GL
Exhibit C	Current, Post-Closing and Post-Transaction <i>Pro Forma</i> Change Entity Structures

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Certificate of Good Standing for Matrix Telecom, LLC		
Attachment 2	List of Officers		
Verifications			

EXHIBIT A

Description of Transaction

Lingo Communications, LLC ("Transferee" or "Lingo"), Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes, LLC, d/b/a Birch Communications ("Birch-GL"), TNCI Impact LLC ("Transferor"), and Matrix Telecom, LLC ("Matrix") (collectively, the "Parties") request approval or such authority as may be necessary or required from the Commission for the transfer of indirect control of Matrix to Transferee (the "Transaction").

I. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTIES</u>

A. Lingo Communications, LLC and Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes, LLC

Transferee is a Georgia limited liability company, with a principal office at 3060 Peachtree Road, NW, Suite 1065, Atlanta, Georgia 30305. Transferee is a wholly owned, direct subsidiary of GG Telecom Investors, LLC ("GG Telecom"), a Georgia limited liability company. GG Telecom is owned by Holcombe T. Green, Jr. (66.5%) and R. Kirby Godsey (33.5%). Transferee has the managerial and technical qualifications to acquire Matrix. <u>Exhibit B</u> contains biographies of the key management personnel of Lingo.

Lingo is a holding company and does not provide telecommunications services or hold any Commission authorizations. Birch-GL, a Delaware limited liability company, is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Lingo and is authorized in Ohio to provide competitive local exchange and toll services pursuant to Revised Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("Certificate") No. 90-9134-TP-TRF granted in Case No. 18-0619-TP-CAN.¹ Birch-GL also holds authority from the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") to provide domestic interstate and international telecommunications services.

¹ The certificate was initially issued to Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes Inc., which has since been converted to a limited liability company. *See* Case No. 00-1042-TP-ACE.

B. TNCI Impact LLC and Matrix Telecom, LLC

Matrix is a Texas limited liability company and wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of Transferor. Transferor is a Delaware limited liability company that is 90% owned by Garrison TNCI LLC and 10% owned by Impact Telecom Holdings, Inc. The corporate headquarters of Matrix and Transferor is located at 9000 E Nichols Ave., Suite 230, Englewood, Colorado 80112.

Matrix and its affiliates (collectively, "Impact Telecom") provides intrastate, interstate and international telecommunications services to residential, business and carrier customers throughout the United States. In Ohio, Matrix is authorized to provide toll and local exchange telecommunications services pursuant to Revised Certificate No. 90-9309 issued in Case No. 16-0948-TP-ACN. Matrix also holds FCC authority to provide interstate and international telecommunications services.

II. <u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u>

Questions, correspondence or other communications concerning this filing should be directed to:

For Transferor and Matrix to:

Catherine Wang Brett P. Ferenchak Stephany Fan **MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP** 1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 20004-2541 Tel: 202-739-3000 Fax: 202-739-3001 catherine.wang@morganlewis.com brett.ferenchak@morganlewis.com stepahny.fan@morganlewis.com With a copy to:

Alex Valencia, Vice President of Government Affairs & Compliance Impact Telecom 433 East Las Colinas Blvd., Suite 500 Irving, TX 75039 Tel: 972-910-1720 avalencia@impacttelecom.com For Transferee and Birch-GL to:

Chérie R. Kiser Angela F. Collins **CAHILL GORDON & REINDEL LLP** 1990 K Street, N.W. Suite 950 Washington, DC 20006 Tel: 202-862-8950 Fax: 866-255-0185 <u>ckiser@cahill.com</u> acollins@cahill.com With a copy to:

Michelle Ansley Chief Administrative Officer and VP HR Lingo Communications, LLC 115 Gateway Drive Macon, GA 31210 Tel: 678-296-5962 michelle.ansley@lingo.com

III. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSACTIONS</u>

Pursuant to the terms of a Securities Purchase Agreement (the "Agreement") dated as of July 3, 2018, by and between Transferor and Lingo, Lingo will acquire all issued and outstanding membership interests of Impact Acquisition, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an indirect parent of Matrix. Impact Acquisition, LLC and its subsidiaries, including Matrix, will be held by Lingo Management, LLC, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Lingo. As a result, indirect ownership of Matrix will be transferred to Lingo.

Additionally, the Parties request authority for Lingo, only after the closing of the Transaction, to eliminate Impact Telecom, LLC from the chain of ownership of Matrix (the "Post-Transaction *Pro Forma* Change") resulting in Matrix becoming a wholly owned, direct subsidiary of Impact Acquisition, LLC. Since Matrix is currently a wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of Impact Acquisition, LLC, the Post-Transaction *Pro Forma* Change will not change the ultimate post-Transaction ownership of Matrix and is pro forma in nature. This Post-Transaction *Pro Forma* Change will have no effect on Matrix, its customers or its operations, but eliminating the additional intermediate holding company will streamline recordkeeping and reporting among other benefits.

For the Commission's reference, <u>Exhibit C</u> depicts the current, post-closing and Post-Transaction *Pro Forma* Change entity ownership structure of the Parties.

IV. PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS

The Parties submit that the Transaction is in the public interest. The Transaction will bring together two enterprises that have demonstrated a long-standing commitment to excellence in a highly competitive marketplace. Customers of the combined company will benefit from the extensive telecommunications experience and expertise of the combined company. The financial, technical, and managerial resources that Transferee and Birch-GL will bring to Matrix (and Matrix to Transferee and Birch-GL) are expected to enhance their ability to compete in the telecommunications market-place.

The proposed Transaction will have no adverse impact on customers and will not alter the manner of service delivery or billing. The Transaction will not result in any immediate change of carrier for customers or any assignment of authorizations, and in no event will it result in the discontinuance, reduction, loss, or impairment of service to customers. Following consummation of the Transaction, Matrix and Birch-GL will continue to provide high-quality communications services to their customers in Ohio without interruption and without immediate change in rates, terms or conditions. The only change immediately following closing of the transaction from a consumer's perspective is that Lingo will be the new ultimate owner of Matrix.

EXHIBIT B

Biographies for Key Management of Transferee and/or Birch-GL

Vincent Oddo, President and Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Oddo is a 25+ year veteran of the telecom industry and has specialized in growing, restructuring and managing wireline, wireless, and broadband telecommunications businesses. Mr. Oddo currently holds the title of President and CEO of Birch Equity Partners. He was previously President and CEO at Birch Communications and has served as an executive at NuVox Communications and Graphic Scanning Corp. Mr. Oddo holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's in Public Administration from Long Island University.

Grant Williams, Vice President of Operations

Mr. Williams is a 20-year telecommunications industry veteran with experience building successful customer service organizations and supporting current and emerging technologies. Before joining Lingo, he served as Vice President of Customer Care at Birch Communications, and previously as Vice President of Customer Operations at Fusion Connect, where he directed all customer-impacting operations as well as implemented strategic account management teams. Mr. Williams holds a bachelor's degree in Communications Arts from the University of West Florida.

Michelle Ansley, Vice President of HR and Administration

Ms. Ansley began her career in technology and transitioned into Human Resources via Learning and Development and Change Management. Prior to joining Lingo, she served as Chief Administrative Officer with Birch Communications and previous to that as VP of Human Resources at ASAP Solutions, LLC; Senior Vice President of Shared Services at Prommis Solutions, LLC; and held various human resources, learning and development, technical and program management positions at IBM. Ms. Ansley holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Kennesaw State University and a Masters in Business Administration from Georgia State University.

James Harrelson, Vice President of IT & Network Engineering

Mr. Harrelson is a 18-year Information Technology veteran with a rich history in development and telecommunications. Before joining Lingo, he served as Senior Director of Software Development at Birch Communications, and previously, Mieu Consulting as a proprietor who ran IT departments for several companies. Mr. Harrelson has been in prior leadership roles with PureRed, Vintage Transport, and as CIO at Asset Verification, LLC.

Lisa Taranto, Vice President of Finance and Accounting

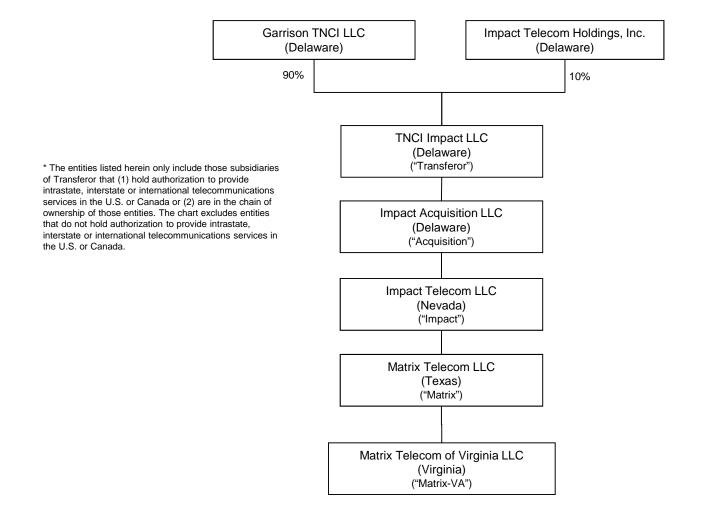
Ms. Taranto has served in various accounting and financial positions for communications companies for numerous years. Prior to joining Lingo, she served as the Vice President of Accounting and Finance for Fusion Connect, and previously, for Cypress Communications. Earlier in her career, Ms. Taranto held executive management roles at AirGate PCS (a Sprint Company) and MCI/Verizon Business, where she led the Global Financial Operations and IT Revenue Systems organizations. Ms. Taranto holds a B.A. from William Patterson University of

New Jersey and Masters in Business Administration, Finance Management, from the Keller Graduate School of Management of DeVry University.

EXHIBIT C

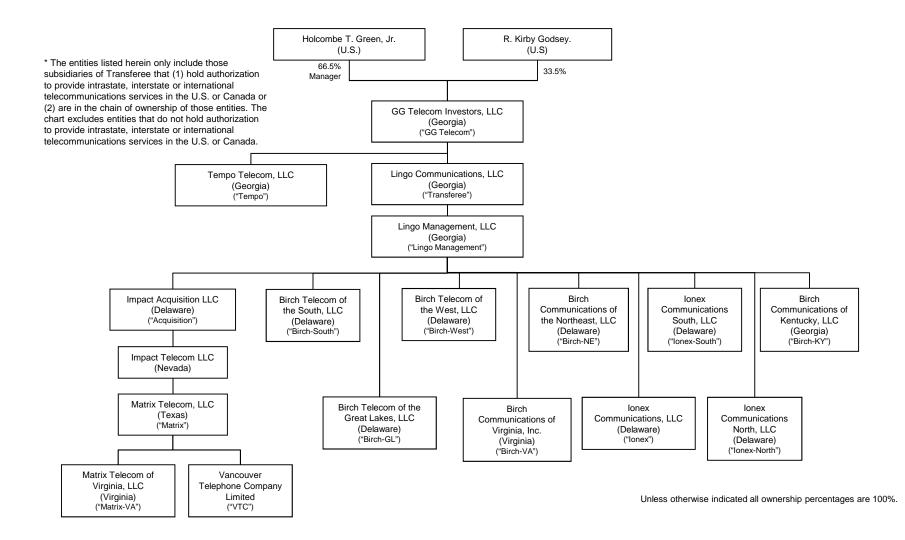
Current, Post-Closing and Post-Transaction Pro Forma Change Entity Structure

Current Organizational Structure of Matrix & Matrix-VA*

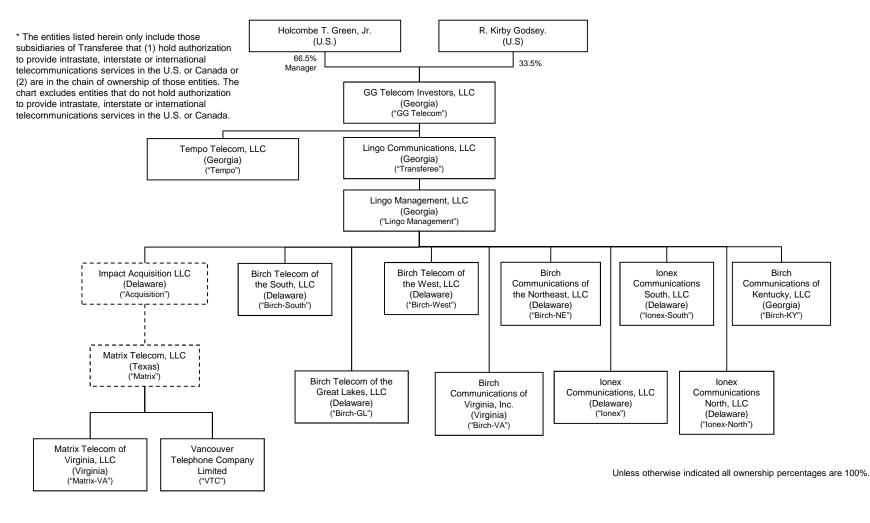


Unless otherwise indicated all ownership percentages are 100%.

Post-Closing Organizational Structure of Matrix & Matrix-VA*



Organizational Structure of Matrix & Matrix-VA Post-Transaction Pro Forma Change*



Highlights Difference in Structure ----- Resulting from Post-Transaction Pro Forma Change -3-

ATTACHMENT 1

Certificate of Good Standing For Matrix Telecom, LLC

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATE OF OHIO OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

I, Jon Husted, do hereby certify that I am the duly elected, qualified and present acting Secretary of State for the State of Ohio, and as such have custody of the records of Ohio and Foreign business entities; that said records show MATRIX TELECOM, LLC, a Texas For Profit Limited Liability Company, Registration Number 814250, filed on February 24, 1992, is currently in FULL FORCE AND EFFECT upon the records of this office.



Witness my hand and the seal of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio this 24th day of July, A.D. 2018.

for Huster

Ohio Secretary of State

Validation Number: 201820504222

ATTACHMENT 2

List of Officers

The current corporate officers of Matrix are:

Chuck Griffin President & Chief Executive Officer

As a limited liability company, Matrix does not have directors. Currently, Impact Telecom, LLC is the sole member of Matrix.

The corporate officers of Transferee are:

Vincent Oddo President and Chief Executive Officer

As a limited liability company, Transferee does not have directors.

STATE OF TEXAS § § SS: COUNTY OF DALLAS §

VERIFICATION

I, Chuck Griffin state that I am an CEO of TNCI Impact LLC and Matrix Telecom, LLC that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of TNCI Impact LLC and its affiliates, including Matrix Telecom, LLC (collectively, the "Company"); that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the contents with respect to the Company are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Chuck Griffin

CEO **TNCI** Impact LLC Matrix Telecom, LLC

Sworn and subscribed before me this <u>b</u> day of <u>fuly</u> 2018. <u>Chine Coper</u> Notary Public

My commission expires 5 12 2019



STATE OF GEORGIA	§	
	ş	SS:
COUNTY OF FULTON	Ş	

VERIFICATION

I, Vincent M. Oddo, state that I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Lingo Communications, LLC (the "Company"); that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of the Company and its affiliates; that I have read the foregoing document; and that any statements in the foregoing document with respect to the Company and its affiliates, except as otherwise specifically attributed, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

lab.

Vincent M. Oddo President and Chief Executive Officer Lingo Communications, LLC

Sworn and subscribed before me this 16 day of July 2018.

Tuli

Notary Public

My commission expires <u>March 26,2020</u>

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

7/25/2018 11:45:31 AM

in

Case No(s). 18-1183-TP-ACO

Summary: Application Transfer of Control Application electronically filed by Ms. Catherine Kuersten on behalf of Matrix Telecom LLC and Lingo Communications, LLC