HANDOUT

TruOps Common Language

NC/NCI Information Services

Drive New Revenue from your Existing Assets

Ultimately, all services are both ordered as and delivered via network links or connections that provide very specific capabilities. These connections need to be ordered, designed and activated.

TruOps® Common Language® Connection Information Services consist of a series of code sets that can be used to describe in technical detail what kind of network connections a provider seeks to order from another provider or from an organization within its own company. Without a single, consistent means to communicate connection details: processing time and error recovery time increase; increasing costs and therefore hitting the bottom line of any Communications Service Provider's (CSP's) balance sheet.

TruOps® Common Language® Network Channel and Network Channel Interface (NC/NCI™) codes enable the specification of services typically used to support interconnection within and between CSPs.

NC stands for Network Channel and represents the "pipe" being ordered. NCI stands for Network Channel Interface; there are two NCIs for each specified NC and they describe the engineering characteristics of the NC endpoints.

In the USA the NC/NCI codes are used extensively between CSPs to define how they intend to interconnect. NC/NCI codes accurately communicate technical attributes of services, facilities and their associated interfaces and are used on inter-carrier ordering forms that are, for the most part, processed electronically and in an automated manner.

As with all Common Language Codes, NC/NCI Codes enable electronic transmission of information in a standard, clear, concise and meaningful way. This means that the NC/NCI codes can be integrated within a CSP's OSS and standardized across an inter-CSP interconnection ordering interface.

A major part of the Access Service Request/Local Service Request (ASR/LSR) process, NC/NCI codes are published in NC/NCI subscribers carrier coding guides. Common Language teams create and manage the NC/NCI code definitions and maintain over 8 million valid combinations, ensuring interconnection orders are right the first time.

NC/NCI Codes

The NC code KDA-describes the type of channel. For example, 10M bps Ethernet along with the optional features, e.g. full duplex LAN. The NCI code 02LNF. A02 describes a 2 conductor, LAN, fiber interface with interface options A02, which is just one of many configurations of this interface. It's easy to see how confusion can arise when definitions aren't clear. This is made worse when each partner has its own definition. Common Language facilitates the consistent definition of NC/NCI Codes and the maintenance of the valid combinations across the industry, enabling CSPs to concentrate on selling and delivering their services rather than dealing with issues related to misunderstandings.

Alignment with Interconnection Partners

The code sets receive hundreds of additions and amendments each year as CSP establish new offerings. Through Common Language, CSPs are able to keep in-sync with the valid combinations of NC and NCI Codes.

Without NC/ NCI, the synchronization of service definitions between interconnection partners would involve manual processes or expensive, bespoke solutions. Standardizing on the language between interconnection partners plays a large part in automated service ordering. Without Common Language CSPs face all sorts of issues when ordering and delivering new services.

Common Language Provides Value

Defining, agreeing, producing and maintaining wholesale/buy services is a constant effort. New services, new partners and new packages all required constant monitoring and management. The addition of having to manage the data dictionary for the naming of these services just adds to the workload. Common Language has been managing and maintaining an industry standard for communicating services with interconnection partners since the 1980s. It saves customers' effort by providing a level of standardization superior to that which can be achieved by any one CSP.

- All services are delivered via connections
- A single, consistent connection definition saves time and money
- NC/NCI Codes enable interconnection and integration of connection definitions across the OSS, and automate the communication of interfaces
- NC/NCI subscribers can publish NC/NCI codes in their carrier coding guides

NC Code Content	NCI Code content
4 character standardized code to represent the pipe	12 character standardized code to represent each end of the pipe
Provides an industry standard description of what the connection channel type is	Provides an industry standard description of what the connection type is
Required on ASR/LSRs	Required on ASR/LSRs
Electronic communication of connection information	

Cost Savings

- Prevents delays due to incorrect interface expectations
- Prevents disputes between connecting partners
- Enables automated ordering
- Reduce the overhead of internally managing connection naming — software & human resources

Resources Available with a Subscription

- NC & NCI Codes
- NC/NCI compatibility guide
- Access to our NC/NCI Subject Matter Experts
- Industry forums for CSPs to meet and discuss the evolution and best practice of implementing Common Language with other CSPs
- Policy management of key data elements, ensuring consistency in the data
- Coding discipline and implementation support from Common Language data infrastructure experts
- Key documentation, including, but not limited to:

BR-795-403-101, Common Language Network Channel and Channel Interface codes -Compatibility Guide

BR-795-403-100, Common Language Network Channel and Channel Interface codes

BR-751-000-157, Common Language Service and Product Enhancement code (SPEC) Catalog

NC/NCI code set data (Excel)

(at additional cost)

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