
BellSouth Interconnection Services

675 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30375

Carrier Notification**SN91083014**

Date: October 2, 2002

To: Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs), Interexchange Carriers (IXCs), Independent Companies (ICOs), and Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) Providers

Subject: CLECs, IXCs, ICOs, CMRS – **REVISED:** Elimination of File Transfer System (FTS) and Round Reel Tapes (T6250) (Originally posted on April 30, 2002)

This is to advise that the suppliers of tape technology have advised BellSouth that they will no longer manufacture round reel tapes nor the parts used to maintain round reel tape drives. Since the vendors will no longer support these devices, BellSouth has made the decision to no longer provide the 9-track round reel tape option for its customers.

Additionally, BellSouth's vendor that supports the File Transfer System (FTS) mode of data transmission has notified BellSouth that it will no longer support FTS and that it will withdraw from software support. Therefore, BellSouth will no longer offer this method of electronic file transfer to its customers.

Plans are underway to convert the applications currently sending and/or receiving data via FTS or round reel tapes to an alternative method of data exchange. **The alternative method may vary for each application. BellSouth has set a tentative date of January 31, 2003, to discontinue providing data files via the FTS or round reel tape media options.**

This information should be disseminated to your data processing staff. If you are one of the affected customers, a BellSouth data exchange manager will be contacting you **regarding the appropriate alternative method of data exchange and** to coordinate this conversion.

BellSouth apologizes for any inconvenience this change may cause your company and are ready to assist you in designing a more optimum billing solution for your company.

If you have questions, please contact your BellSouth Account Team Representative.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY JERRY HENDRIX

Jerry Hendrix – Assistant Vice President
BellSouth Interconnection Services