

Switched Long Distance

Last updated 01-04-23

WaTech offers reduced-rate long-distance telephone service for state and local government agencies in Washington through the [Switched Long Distance \(SLD\) service](#). SLD is an alternative to commercial long distance that adds access security by using a seven-digit authorization code. SLD also provides detailed billing of long-distance calls to a program or an individual. Customers who purchase Centrex and PBX local telephone services through WaTech currently receive SLD service.

Features of this service

- Customers use WaTech-provided seven-digit authorization numbers.
- Traveling authorization code allows long distance calls to be placed from other WaTech-connected sites and billed to the code holder.
- International calls can be allowed or blocked on an individual authorization code basis.
- Fraud protection.
- Service is month-to-month and does not require time, dollar or volume commitments.

Intended customers

The primary customers of this service are subscribers to other WaTech voice services such as Private Branch Exchange (PBX) and Centrex. Other publicly funded entities can utilize switched long distance by changing the Preferred Interstate Common Carrier (PICC) on their phone service to the code associated with SLD as provided by RingSquared Inc. Customers who wish to connect a on premises-based phone system to use SLD may be able to do so with dedicated circuits at a lower per-minute cost.

Optional services

Dedicated connections to customer-managed phone systems providing lower per-minute costs.

Customer engagement

- Semi-annual customer Town Hall with all Networking Services teams providing updates and gathering customer feedback.
- Monthly Technology Management Council (TMC) and Business Management Council (BMC) meetings for agency CIOs and IT leaders to inform and sponsor enterprise strategy, policy and investments.
- Regularly scheduled meetings between customers and Business Relationship Managers (BRM) to connect, advise, address concerns and provide solutions.
- Weekly group calls for state CIOs and CISOs to provide updates on important and immediate issues and actions.
- Regular outreach to solicit feedback, provide updates and inform agencies on emerging projects, initiatives, and services.
- Requests for new consultations and modifications to existing applications.

Helpful information

Service category

Communications & Collaboration

Service availability

24/7/365

Planned maintenance

Planned maintenance is performed after hours and coordinated with agency representatives.

Related services

- [Private Branch Exchange \(PBX\)](#)
- [Centrex Services](#)
- [Teams Telephony](#)

How to request service

Submit a request for service through our [Customer Portal](#).

Service owner

Eric Talberg

Action plan

Current activity

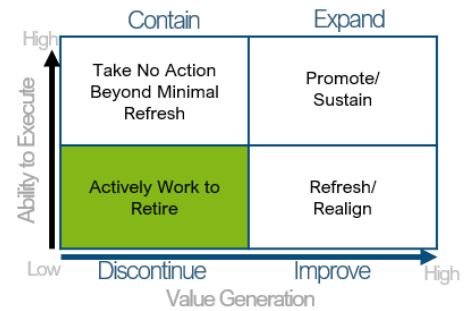
We are entering the last year of a contract with our current provider. There are no changes planned to the service.

One- to two-year goals

WaTech will need to recomplete the long-distance contract in the next year to maintain continuity of SLD for WaTech and the other customers who use this service. The terms of service of the resulting award will determine if there are any changes to the functionality or to the pricing of the services.

Three- to five-year goals

The three-to-five-year goal is to offer the SLD services via our preferred Microsoft Teams solution. WaTech will work to retire the stand alone service and make it an option to the PBX and Centrex services as a passthrough cost to customers.



Service review and fully loaded service budget projection

Revenue source

The Switched Long Distance service operates on a pay-per-use rate structure. Revenue received from this rate structure goes directly against the cost incurred to provide the service.

Net income over time:

WaTech is seeing a decrease in revenue as agencies move from legacy services to Teams and SIP telephony services. Both products include domestic long-distance usage as part of the service. Also, dial in traffic to the on-prem Skype for Business conferencing was carried by Ringsquared with margin credited to SLD. When this service was discontinued, the revenue ceased.

Current rates for SLD service are tied to a contract set to expire in 2023 and may change with the award of a new contract. WaTech anticipates a rate adjustment may be needed to account for this trend.

