

Foreword

Those who are about to confront telecommunications for the first time face a frustrating experience. For one thing, the topic is broad and complex. For another thing it is often difficult to find clearly written materials in the public domain. And, finally, telecommunications is an industry obsessed with acronyms.

By the time one manages to negotiate the SS7s, STPs, CRPs, SEPs, SSPs and HLRs it is time to deal with the ISUPs, ATMs, Sonets, and BISUPs. It seems that telecommunications people would rather say to their children “GOTT!!” than they would to say “Get off the telephone!!”.

Those of us who were not born speaking telecommunications sympathize completely. All of that is really part of the reason this booklet was written. It is our hope to lead the reader through the Signalling System #7 so gently, that you may never even be aware of the fact that you now know what the acronym SS7 means until it's too late to unlearn it.

We must confess that we also have a hidden agenda in writing this. If your vision of the Signalling System #7 is sufficiently clear, it cannot fail to lead you to easier implementation of SS8 Networks products, and a greater appreciation of their value. When both the publisher and the reader benefit, it sounds like a great reason to write a book. Let's find out.

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