

**NATIONAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
NEUTRALITY AND CONSENT ELECTION**

WHEREAS the Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO (hereafter "CWA" or "the Union") and Verizon Communications companies which were subsidiaries of the former GTE Corporation (hereafter the "Verizon/GTE Companies" or "the Companies" or "the Company") have collective bargaining relationships throughout the United States;

NOW THEREFORE THE VERIZON/GTE COMPANIES AND CWA agree as follows:

This agreement between Company and the Union covers all understandings between the parties concerning union organizing, access to employees and code of conduct applicable to union organizing efforts.

The Union and the Company recognize that it is in their mutual interest to enhance the success and image of the Company, to acknowledge the Union as a valued partner, and to foster the pride and commitment of the employees. The parties also share the mutual goals of building a world class, high performance enterprise and addressing employment security through business success and employee development. As a means to enhance these goals, the parties will mutually support regulatory and legislative efforts, marketing/sales and service efforts and other business initiatives leading to employment security and Verizon's business success.

The parties also recognize that the Union's goal of growing membership is intrinsically linked to the successful growth of the business. In order to maintain this perspective and to avoid unnecessary confrontation, the parties agree that the following principals regarding neutrality and consent election will be applicable to Verizon's former "GTE Network Services Companies" (Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Logistics). This shall be the exclusive means by which the Union, their locals, or individuals acting on their behalf, will conduct an effort to organize eligible employees in the covered Verizon's former "GTE Network Services Companies" (Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Logistics) as defined by the National Labor Relations Act.

1. Employee Choice

Both the Union and the Company support and agree with the principle that the decision as to whether or not to become represented by a union is one that does not belong to either the Union or to the Company. Rather, it is an individual decision that belongs to the employee. With the parties' mutual recognition of this fundamental tenet, the following provisions are intended to establish, encourage and nurture an environment during a union organizing drive that will allow employees to choose whether or not to become represented in a fully informed and uncoerced manner. All negotiations concerning appropriate unit, access, conduct and voting will be performed by Verizon Labor Relations staff in conjunction with local management and designated Union representatives.