
From: Sullivan, Scott
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2001 1:49 PM
To: Myers, David
Subject: Re: FW: Telco

Well the numbers are in your attached spreadsheet and he needs to get to work now

Scott Sullivan

-----Original Message-----

From: Myers, David <david.myers@wcom.com>
To: Sullivan, Scott <Scott.Sullivan@wcom.com>
Sent: Tue Mar 06 11:38:03 2001
Subject: FW: Telco

-----Original Message-----

From: Bosley, Tom
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2001 11:37 AM
To: Myers, David
Cc: Prestwood, Louis
Subject: RE: Telco

Actually I asked Scott what numbers he wanted and I would see what could be done to get them. But... obviously gross margin is very important and we will put several projects in place to get this moving back where it was. The first quarter is pretty well cast at this point but we will define what we can do to reverse the trend.

-----Original Message-----

From: Myers, David
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2001 5:24 PM
To: Bosley, Tom
Cc: Sullivan, Scott
Subject: Telco

Tom,
Pls see the attached Gross Margin analysis which highlights the need for immediate attention to Telco and Margins.

Scott relayed a conversation you had with him at dinner when your volunteered to do whatever necessary to get Telco/Margins back in line. This was a dinner with Scott, Ron amd Bernie prior to the announcement of our last quarter.

As you can see, margins have declined significantly and your immediate attention is appreciated. We need to address this during the quarter and not at the end of the quarter. Just so you know, I fully realize the impact that decling pricing to our customers has had on margins but i hope you feel like me that it is impossible to accept declining margins given the significant capex (over \$16 billion over the past 2 years), access reform and the fastest growing part of our buisness being Telecom (more capex with lower variable line cost).

C

<< File: 2001 January Gross Margin Analysis vs Q1'00.xls >>

From: Yates, Buford
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2000 9:44 AM
To: Myers, David
Subject: RE: taxes

David,

I might be narrow minded, but I can't see a logical path for capitalizing excess capacity.

Your thoughts?

BY

-----Original Message-----

From: Minert, Tony
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2000 8:23 AM
To: Myers, David; Yates, Buford
Subject: FW: taxes

David,

Bill McGrath is in Australia right now, so we have been communicating by voice-mail and e-mail.

Below is an explanation of one of the reasons why we are so under utilized and something that I think you could go to Ron with.

What I don't understand is why they need such a redundant network. If they are ordering Sonet rings then there is redundancy built into them, so if he has additional rings that is two times the redundant. I don't completely understand how this works. I will get with the network folks here in Tulsa to try and find out.

I have asked Bill if he could come up with a dollar amount for the protect capacity.

Also, can we capitalize these cost?

Tony Minert

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill McGrath [mailto:bmcgrath@uu.net]
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2000 6:42 PM
To: tony.minert@wcom.com
Subject: RE: taxes

Tony,

I received you message on capitalizing costs related to capacity built for future needs.

I think you will find that hard to identify. You would be better served working on how to capitalize our protect capacity. We currently run a one for one protect scheme at UUNET. That equates into roughly half our capacity sits idle all the time. If we could capitalize that piece and draw down against it like a spare parts inventory, we would make the income statement look great.

I would approach it that the protect circuits hold a total inventory of mega bits. When we have an outage and consume megabits, we would draw down against the inventory. As we go to less and less protect with optical switching, we would remove most if not all the inventory.

Let me know what you think.

At 02:14 PM 7/24/00 -0500, you wrote:

>What is our tax rate for federal and state (average).

>

>Tony Minert

>

>-----Original Message-----

>From: ebedell@UU.NET [mailto:ebedell@UU.NET]

>Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2000 1:15 PM

>To: tony.minert@wcom.com

>Cc: harbaugh@UU.NET; bmcgrath@UU.NET; jrocha@UU.NET; blem@UU.NET

>Subject: Re: taxes

>

>

>Tony,

>As an ISP UUNET pays both federal and state taxes on it's network cost

>(circuits and equipment). In instances were UUNET is a reseller, we

>might

>be exempted from paying taxes but this would be a Joan Caminos

>question.

>Joan manages the billing department.

>

>

>Thanks

>Eugene

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>At 08:10 AM 7/19/00 -0500, you wrote:

>>Eugene,

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>>Do you guys pay taxes on your network cost or are you treated like an

>>IXC

>>reseller and get this waived?

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>>Tony Minert

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From: Yates, Buford
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2000 9:53 AM
To: Minert, Tony; Myers, David
Subject: RE: taxes

Tony,

David and I have reviewed and discussed your logic of capitalizing excess capacity and can find no support within the current accounting guidelines that would allow for this accounting treatment. I think our efforts should shift back to our gross margin analysis and the g/l and esbase structural changes needed to support this analysis.

Thanks
BY

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From: Minert, Tony
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2000 11:41 AM
To: Myers, David; Scott, Stephanie; Yates, Buford; Vinson, Betty; Willson, Mark
Subject: utilization of the domestic network

I talked to some people in the NIM organization about the utilization of the domestic network and here is what I have found out.

First of all we are signing up for term commitments. In most cases this is a five year term.

Stephanie - You asked the question about whether or not we would get our money back if we did not use all the capacity like I did with the AT&T swap four years ago. The answer to this is no. However, I hope that we could still explore ways to either take the unutilized network as an asset (Inventory, prepaid) or better yet, capitalize the cost.

We are currently running at a Utilization rate of about 85% to 87% from the serving wire center to the end office. Mona Abutaleb (Lynn Refer's replacement) has mandated that the utilization rate decrease to 75% so that we do not block any revenue. (Note - all of this is with the LEC's. It does not include any IXC charges.) I am being told that this will give us an additional 3 months worth of capacity. Meaning that if we stopped turning up any network that it would take three months to be at 100% capacity. That is a lot of line cost expense that does not have matching revenue today.

We are also changing our capacity from our POP to our serving wire center. We are turning up entrance facilities currently at the OC48 level instead of a DS3 at a time, however very soon this will increase to OC192 (I can remember when we turned up DS1's for entrance facilities). They are looking at this with a breakeven point of 24 months. Basically, if they could break even by ordering an OC192 or an OC48 within 24 months over ordering up DS3's then they are ordering up the service. This is going to mean that we have a lot of extra capacity, especially when we go to OC192's. The utilization rates on these nodes can also be measured. This is currently at 75% and will be greatly reduced once we move to OC192's. The good news is that we will need less capacity in the future and can grow into our network, the bad news is that the cost are going to be high in the first year, especially the first three to six months. Again, in my eyes, we are not properly matching up expense with revenue.

C

Currently Access cost are \$200 million per month for the domestic network. Some of this is local loop cost and switched network cost which do not fit into this equation. I am assuming that we could at least go back to January when estimating what the monthly cost impact would be.

This also does not include the UUNET network or what potential we have internationally. I have heard that the international network has a lot of excess capacity, but I have no idea if this is true or not.

My question is, can we pursue this? Should I get the line cost people involved to see what type of impact this might make on our line cost numbers or am I running into a dead-end because of the fact that this is not something that we could get reimbursed for if we don't use the capacity. Of course, I don't think there is any fear that we won't use the capacity. The network is growing so fast that they are having a hard time keeping up with the capacity needs.

Can you use the same argument that you use with installation. Since we don't recover the cost of unused capacity, can we capitalize this cost? Once revenue is recognized we start recognizing this as line cost expense, but until then we could then spread the three months worth of expense over the useful life of our customers or the circuit.

I can't imagine that there isn't something we can do. The impact could be huge. Like I said, if I was a book store or a computer store, I would not have to recognize any expense until I actually sold the product. In my eyes this is the same thing or at least it has similarities. There is no reason why I should have to recognize any expense until I sell the product. Of course this would make it an inventory or a prepaid which would not have the benefits of capitalizing the cost.

I am still trying to get with the internet folks to discuss this with them.

Tony Minert

C