INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Recommendation E.502 applies to all digital telecommunications exchanges operating in a switched telephone network and ISDN.

Traffic measurements on exchanges and surrounding network provide the data base from which the dimensioning, planning, operation and management of the network are carried out.

Information gathered from these measurements can be used for:

– identifying traffic patterns and distributions on a route and destination basis;

– determining the amount of traffic in the exchange and the network;

– monitoring the continuity of service and the grade of service.

The above data and information are gathered with the purpose of supporting the following fundamental activities:

a) dimensioning, planning and administration of the exchange and surrounding network;

b) performance monitoring of the exchange and surrounding network;

c) network management;

d) operation and maintenance of the exchange and surrounding network;

e) tariff and marketing studies;

f) forecasting;

The information generated by the exchange (see Recommendation Q.544) can be provided to the end user in either real-time or non real-time (post processed). The activities being performed by the end user will dictate the speed of this response: for example, operation and maintenance will require real-time information while the forecasting and planning information can be provided after the event in non real-time.

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