**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

Federal Communications Commission 45 L St., N.E. Washington, D.C. 20554

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> DA 21-350 March 25, 2021

# DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF ALLIANCE GLOBAL NETWORKS, LLC TO VELOCITY, A MANAGED SERVICES COMPANY, INC.

## STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 21-96

## Comments Due: April 8, 2021 Reply Comment Due: April 15, 2021

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by Alliance Global Networks, LLC (Alliance) and Velocity, A Managed Services Company, Inc. f/k/a Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever, Inc. (Velocity) (together, Applicants), pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and sections 63.03-04 of the Commission's rules, seeking approval for the transfer of control that occurred on January 1, 2020, when Alliance was transferred to Velocity without prior authorization from the Commission.<sup>1</sup>

Alliance, a Delaware limited liability company, is authorized to provide competitive telecommunications services in multiple states.<sup>2</sup> Velocity, a Delaware limited liability company, is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 214; 47 CFR §§ 63.03-04. Applicants also filed an application for the transfer of authorizations associated with international authorizations. Any action on the domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications. On March 23, 2021, Applicants filed a supplement to their domestic section 214 application. On March 24, 2021, the Bureau granted Applicants' request for special temporary authority for a period of 60 days to allow Velocity to provide uninterrupted service to customers during the pendency of this application. Letter from Lance Steinhart, Counsel to Applicants, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 21-96 (filed Mar. 22, 2021) (on file in WCB Docket No. 21-96). A grant of the domestic section 214 application would be without prejudice to any enforcement action by the Commission for non-compliance with the Act or the Commission's rules.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Alliance is currently wholly owned by Jess DiPasquale, a U.S. citizen, and providing wholesale interexchange telecommunications services in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, New Jersey, Nevada, New York, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. Alliance is also authorized to provide interexchange services in Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire (local services), New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

authorized to provide competitive local exchange, interexchange, and other communications services in multiple states. Velocity is wholly owned by Platinum Holding Investments, LLC (Platinum Holdings), a Delaware limited liability company, which, in turn, is wholly owned by Gregory Kiley, a U.S. citizen.<sup>3</sup>

According to the Applicants, on January 1, 2020, Velocity acquired 100% of the ownership interests of Alliance from Jess DiPasquale. Applicants request streamlined treatment of the proposed transaction under the Commission's rules and assert that a grant of the application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. We accept the Application for filing under section 63.03(b)(2)(i) of the Commission's rules.<sup>4</sup>

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of Alliance Global Networks, LLC to Velocity, A Managed Services Company, Inc., WC Docket No. 21-96 (filed Mar. 16, 2021).

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The transfer of control identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing as a streamlined application. The Commission reserves the right to return any transfer application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules and policies. Pursuant to section 63.03(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03(a), interested parties may file comments **on or before April 8**, **2021**, and reply comments **on or before April 15**, **2021**. Pursuant to section 63.52 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.52, commenters must serve a copy of comments on the Applicants no later than the above comment filing date. Unless otherwise notified by the Commission, the Applicants may transfer control on the 31st day after the date of this notice.

Pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03, parties to this proceeding should file any documents using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/.

#### In addition, e-mail one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- 1) Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, tracey.wilson@fcc.gov;
- Gregory Kwan, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, gregory.kwan@fcc.gov;
- 3) David Krech, Telecommunications & Analysis Division, International Bureau, <u>david.krech@fcc.gov</u>; and
- 4) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Applicants state that Platinum Holdings also wholly owns Time Clock Solutions, LLC (Time Clock), a Delaware limited liability company that provides wholesale competitive LEC and interexchange services primarily to Velocity. Applicants state that neither Velocity, Platinum, Time Clock, nor Mr. Kiley, hold a 10% or greater interest in any other provider of domestic telecommunications services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 47 CFR § 63.03(b)(2)(i).

People with Disabilities: We ask that requests for accommodations be made as soon as possible in order to allow the agency to satisfy such requests whenever possible. Send an email to  $\underline{fcc504@fcc.gov}$  or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530.

The proceeding in this Notice shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules. Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b), 47 CFR § 1.1206(b). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

To allow the Commission to consider fully all substantive issues regarding the application in as timely and efficient a manner as possible, petitioners and commenters should raise all issues in their initial filings. New issues may not be raised in responses or replies.<sup>5</sup> A party or interested person seeking to raise a new issue after the pleading cycle has closed must show good cause why it was not possible for it to have raised the issue previously. Submissions after the pleading cycle has closed that seek to raise new issues based on new facts or newly discovered facts should be filed within 15 days after such facts are discovered. Absent such a showing of good cause, any issues not timely raised may be disregarded by the Commission.

For further information, please contact Tracey Wilson at (202) 418-1394 or Gregory Kwan at (202) 418-1191.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See 47 CFR § 1.45(c).