Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

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DA 25-1016

Released: December 5, 2025

DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF TELNET WORLDWIDE, INC. BY INTERACTIVE SERVICES NETWORK, INC.

NON-STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 25-189

Comments Due: December 19, 2025

Reply Comments Due: December 26, 2025

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by TelNet Worldwide, Inc. (TelNet) and Interactive Services Network, Inc. (d/b/a IPFone) (Interactive) (together, Applicants), pursuant to section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and section 63.04 of the Commission's rules,¹ requesting Commission consent to the acquisition of certain assets of TelNet by Interactive.²

TelNet, a Michigan S corporation, operates as a telecommunications services provider, offering local exchange, long distance, and other communications services to business customers.³ TelNet is a competitive local exchange carrier (LEC) in Michigan where it offers resold local and interexchange services and also provides other communications services in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Georgia, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and California.⁴

Interactive, a Florida C corporation, operates as a competitive LEC in Florida where it offers resold local exchange and interexchange services for business customers.⁵ Interactive also provides other communications services in California, Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico and Texas.⁶ Applicants state there is no overlap in the service territory where the two companies offer telecommunications services.⁷ Interactive's 10% or greater interest holders are: Roberto Damian Chmielewski, holds dual citizenship in the United States and Argentina, and is the CEO and President of

¹ See 47 U.S.C. § 214(a); 47 CFR § 63.04.

² Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Acquisition of Certain Assets of TelNet Worldwide, Inc. by Interactive Services Network, Inc., WC Docket No. 25-189 (filed Sept. 19, 2025) (Restated Application). Applicants also filed an application for the assignment of authorizations associated with international services (ICFS File No. ITC-ASG-20250829-00104). Any action on the Restated Application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications.

³ Restated Application at 1-2.

⁴ *Id.* at 5. TelNet also operates a data center and contact center. *Id.* at 2.

⁵ *Id.* at 1-2, 5.

⁶ *Id*. at 5.

⁷ *Id*.

Interactive (15% direct equity and voting); Claudio Liberman, a citizen of Argentina (45% direct equity and voting and 40% indirect equity and voting interest through Olivia Management Corp.); and Olivia Management Corp., a British Virgin Islands company, wholly owned by Claudio Liberman (40% direct equity and voting).⁸

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, TelNet and Interactive have entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement, whereby Interactive agreed to acquire certain assets, clients, and specific network equipment of TelNet.⁹ Applicants state that post-consummation, TelNet's telecommunications customers would be served by Interactive, and continue to use the trade name TelNet Worldwide, an IPFone Company.¹⁰ TelNet will remain a separate entity, not owned by Interactive, but will no longer provide telecommunications services.¹¹ TelNet will continue to own and operate its data center and contact center.¹²

Applicants assert that grant of the application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Specifically, Applicants state that customers of TelNet will have access to new services offered by Interactive and the proposed transaction will strengthen the competitive position of Interactive by expanding its customer base. Applicants also state that the proposed transaction will not disrupt or otherwise negatively impact services, customers or competition. Because the proposed transaction is more complex than those accepted for streamlined treatment, and in order to analyze whether the proposed transaction would serve the public interest, we accept the Application for non-streamlined processing.

Domestic Section 214 Filed for the Acquisition of Certain Assets of TelNet Worldwide, Inc. by Interactive Services Network, Inc., WC Docket No. 25-189 (filed Sept. 19, 2025).

<u>Referral to Executive Branch Agencies</u>: Pursuant to Commission practice, the Application is being referred to the relevant Executive Branch agencies for their views on any national security, law enforcement, foreign policy, or trade policy concerns related to the foreign ownership of the entities at issue.¹⁷ Applicants state that, concurrent with filing the Application, they submitted directly to the Committee for the Assessment of Foreign Participation in the United States Telecommunications Services Sector (Committee) responses to the Committee's standard questions.¹⁸

GENERAL INFORMATION

The application identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing.

⁸ *Id.* at 2-4, Attach. 1-A.

⁹ *Id*. at 4.

¹⁰ *Id*.

¹¹ *Id*. at 4-5.

¹² *Id.* at 5.

¹³ *Id*. at 7.

¹⁴ *Id*.

¹⁵ *Id.* at 5, 7.

¹⁶ 47 CFR § 63.03(c)(1)(v).

¹⁷ See Process Reform for Executive Branch Review of Certain FCC Applications and Petitions Involving Foreign Ownership, IB Docket 16-155, Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 10927, 10935-36, paras. 24-25 (2020) (Executive Branch Review Process Order).

¹⁸ Restated Application at 6-7.

The Commission reserves the right to return any application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules and policies.

Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S.
 Postal Service. All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal
 Communications Commission.
 - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
 - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

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

- 1) Megan Danner, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, megan.danner@fcc.gov;
- 2) David Krech, Telecommunications and Analysis Division, Office of International Affairs, david.krech@fcc.gov; and
- 3) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov.

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 was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the 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.¹⁹ 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 Megan Danner, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1151.

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¹⁹ See 47 CFR § 1.45(c).