Bellcore
Bell Communications Research

BELLCORE PRACTICE
BR 751–100–050
ISSUE 9, FEBRUARY 1998

COMMON LANGUAGE® Geographical Code Description

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Project funding year:1998.

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COMMON LANGUAGE
Geographical Code Description

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this Bellcore Practice (BR) is to provide definitions, requirements, and usage of COMMON LANGUAGE Geographical Codes. COMMON LANGUAGE Geographical Codes are derived by **Bellcore,** upon request, from place names and unique locations throughout the world. **Bellcore has sole responsibility for the development of COMMON LANGUAGE Geographical Codes.**

In addition, this Practice lists the BRs in Table A that describe the COMMON LANGUAGE standard codes for the representation of place names within the following:

- States of the United States and the District of Columbia.
- U. S. Outlying and Pacific Ocean Territories.
- Provinces and Territories of Canada.
- States of Mexico and the Federal District.
- Venezuela and the Federal District.
- Other Countries of the World.
- Unique Places and States.

For information on COMMON LANGUAGE Geopolitical Codes, see BR 751-100-055, *COMMON LANGUAGE®, Geopolitical Code Description and Listings.*

2. Scope

This BR is issued for use as a cross-reference to BR 751-100-055, *COMMON LANGUAGE®, Geopolitical Code Description and Listings,* and to BR 795-100-100, *COMMON LANGUAGE® CLLI™ Code Description for Location Identification.* BR 751-100-055 provides definitions, requirements, and usage of COMMON LANGUAGE Geopolitical Codes, and BR 795-100-100 provides the basic rules and guidelines used when assigning unique CLLI Codes to geographic locations and functional categories of equipment that are of interest primarily to the telecommunications industry.

3. Reason for Issue

This document revises and replaces BR 751-100-050, Issue 8, in its entirety and supersedes all other documents alleged to provide geographical code definitions or descriptions. All reference to place code will be removed and include “geographical” code as the naming

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convention for “place” code.” Sections 5 and 6 have been rewritten to agree with geographical code information in BR 795-100-100.

4. General

COMMON LANGUAGE Geographical Codes provide a standard for use in manual and mechanized environments. Geographical Codes used as part of the CLLI™ Code Set become an integral part of the various applications of manual, mechanized, and centrally developed systems.

BRs 751-401-1xx contain listings of COMMON LANGUAGE Geographical Codes in alphabetical order according to place names by their COMMON LANGUAGE Geopolitical Code. On a yearly basis, these documents are published for the States of the United States, U. S. Outlying and Pacific Ocean Territories, States of Mexico, States of Venezuela, Provinces and Territories of Canada, Unique Locations, and other Countries of the World.

Bellcore is responsible for the assignment of all geographical codes. Questions concerning these codes should be directed to the CLLI Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Chairperson, Language Standards Department, Bellcore, through the appropriate Bellcore customer COMMON LANGUAGE CLLI Code contact.

The Bellcore Language Standards Department provides the technical expertise to maintain the CLLI Code Sets. Input to this procedure is provided by the Language Standards Technical Advisory Group, in accordance with the procedure outlined in BR 751-000-102, *COMMON LANGUAGE® Abbreviation and Code Request Procedures.*

5. Geographical Code

Geographical Code Description. A geographical code is described as a unique 4-character code which represents a valid locality (or unique type location) within a country, state, province, or unique type location (i.e., high seas or earth orbit) in which it is located.A place name is the criteria for the selection of the geographical code. A place name is not unique and may be duplicated within geographical areas. However, when the geographical code is used in conjunction with the second element, the COMMON LANGUAGE Geopolitical Code (character positions 5 and 6) of the CLLI Code, that 6-character code is unique worldwide.

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Geographical Code Application. The COMMON LANGUAGE CLLI Code utilizes the geographical code as the first element of the CLLI code set formats. CLLI codes must be created using the proper geographical code in the first element (character positions 1-4) of each of the CLLI code set formats. The address of the site to be coded will determine the proper geographical code. The CLLI code will identify the precise point within a geographical area. Geographical codes for *Military Locations and International Airports* are to be used if a site to be coded is located within the premises Geographical codes for *Townships or Minor Civil Divisions* (MCD) are to be used if the code exists and the site to be coded lies within the township and outside the boundaries of an incorporated geographical area.

6. Place Description

A place is generally described as a municipal locality or similar type area in the world. Such a locality may be referred to as a city, town, suburb, village, hamlet, municipality, or other types of incorporated places.

When a required location lies outside the boundaries of an incorporated area, a geographical code will be assigned to identify that area. Some of these areas are identified as a county, parish, township, or minor civil division (MCD), census designated place (CDP), department or territorial subdivision, prefecture or district, region, canton, etc. depending upon its country and/or state.

A geographical code requirement may also include government complexes (i.e., military locations), major international airports, geographic features, e. g., mountains, bodies of water, etc., and satellites. If a metropolitan area includes a suburban area, each locality requires its own geographical code.

Telecommunications exchange areas (BR 751-100-155, COMMON LANGUAGE® Exchange Area Codes), and rate center areas (BR 751-100-150, COMMON LANGUAGE® Rate Center Codes) are not considered to be valid locations for a CLLI geographical code.

NOTE There can be multiple geographical codes within an exchange area. In addition, an exchange area can be a single wire center, or include multiple wire centers within a place, or have cross boundary capabilities into two rate centers. All this indicates that a place, exchange area, and a rate center have a common bond. Although the CLLI Code Set does not prohibit such a plan, it is not part of the CLLI Code definition that a geographical area is tied to any restriction such as an exchange area or rate center even though an exchange area or rate center may well fit the geographical code

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description. Language Standards recognizes the right of its customers to restrict geographical areas within an exchange area where the CLLI Code Set coordinator is kept informed, and suitable indicators are available for identifying geographical boundaries.

7. Geographical Code Format

The geographical code field is a 4-character code that accepts only alpha characters. If the place name contains fewer than four characters, Bellcore will assign a 4-character code by replicating the last letter(s) of the place name if that combination is available, e.g., ELY will become ELYY. An (a) in the following example indicates any alpha A-Z may be used.

Character Positions	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Basic Edits	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)

8. Geographical Code Assignment Examples

1. **Geographical Codes**. When a place name contains four or more characters, the geographical code will be four characters.

	Character Position			
Place Name	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Newark	N	W	R	K
Jacksonville	J	C	V	L

2. **Three- (or less) Character Geographical Codes.** All geographical codes created after November 8, 1995 will be 4-alpha characters to facilitate electronic bonding. Prior to that date, when a place name contained fewer than four characters, the geographical code was left-justified, and the unused positions were blank filled.

	Character Positions				
Place Name	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**Geopolitical Name**
Rio	R	I	O		Wisconsin
Rye	R	Y	E		New York

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3. **Duplicate Place Names - Same Geographical Code.** Place names are not unique, and may appear in two or more states, provinces, and/or counties. For example, in the United States, duplicated place names in different states should all have the same geographical code, if possible. The geopolitical code is the discriminating factor between two or more geographical codes.

	Character Positions				
Place Name	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**Geopolitical Name**
Plainville	P	L	N	V	New York
Plainville	P	L	N	V	Ohio
Madrid	M	D	R	D	Maryland
Madrid	M	D	R	D	Spain

4. **Duplicate Place Names - Different Geographical Codes.** When place names are duplicated within the same state, province, county, etc., a unique geographical code will be created for each duplicated place name. The next political subdivision name (county in this example) is given in parenthesis in the place name field and incorporated into the new geographical code.

	Character Positions				
Place Name	1	2	3	4	**Geopolitical Name**
Jacksonville (Center)	J	C	C	T	Pennsylvania
Jacksonville (Lehigh)	J	C	L	H	Pennsylvania

5. **Duplicate Geographical Code - Different Place Names.** The same place name may represent different place names in different states, provinces, countries, etc. In this instance, the COMMON LANGUAGE Geopolitical Code is required to provide a unique combination to identify each geographical code location.

	Character Positions				
Place Name	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**Geopolitical Name**
Lymansville	L	Y	V	L	RI- Rhode Island
Lynnville	L	Y	V	L	I N - Indiana

6. **Unique Geographical Codes**. Unique geographical codes are provided to identify high seas locations (bodies of water) or to indicate a satellite in fixed earth orbit as

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a valid place. See Table A under the heading *Unique Locations* for a complete listing of codes.

	Character Positions				
Place Name	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**Geopolitical Name**
Satellite	S	T	L	T	EO - Earth Orbit
Atlantic Ocean	A	T	O	N	HS - High Seas

7. **Reserved Geographical Codes.** Geographical codes that have the word **Reserved** in the geographical code name field of a (geographical code Practice (751-401-xxx) are not to be used as part of a CLLI Code. These codes are for internal use only for those companies that cannot use geographical codes having special characters in character position 4 and/or 3 and 4. They are marked **Reserved** to prevent new geographical code creation using that particular code combination.

	Character Positions				
Place Name	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**Geopolitical Name**
RIO	R	I	O		Wisconsin
Reserved	R	I	O	O	Wisconsin

9. Guidelines for Requesting Geographical Codes

Non-Licensees may request geographical codes [and geopolitical codes*] through the American National Standard Institute, Inc. (ANSI) by contacting the following:

Bellcore Customer Service
8 Corporate Place
Piscataway, NJ 08854

CLLI Code Set licensees may either mail or submit a fax for geographical codes [and geopolitical codes] to the Customer Service Center as indicated in the table below.

***** For geopolitical code requests, refer to BR 751-100-055, *COMMON LANGUAGE® Geopolitical Codes and Listings*. All other requests

regarding the CLLI Code Set should be made in accordance with procedures established in BR 751-000-102 via the LS2 request.

Geographical code requests should be addressed as follows:

Standard Request (mail)	Expedited Request (fax)
Bellcore	Bellcore
Language Standards Department	Language Standards Department
Customer Support Center	Customer Support Center
444 Hoes Lane, RRC 4C-818	RRC 4C-818
Piscataway, NJ 08854	Fax: 732-336-2778
Tel: 732-699-5577	

Bellcore will assign requested geographical code(s) the same day upon receipt of mail and notify requester via telephone or mail of assigned code.

Bellcore will assign requested geographical code(s) within two business hours upon receipt of a complete and valid fax request during a normal work day (7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday) except for the following eight fixed holidays observed annually at Bellcore:

1. New Years Day (January 1)
2. Presidents Day (first Monday after Lincoln’s birthday)
3. Memorial Day (last Monday of May)
4. Independence Day (July 4)
5. Labor Day (first Monday in September)
6. Thanksgiving Day (last Thursday of November)
7. Day after Thanksgiving Day (last Friday of November)
8. Christmas Day (December 25)

Within the two-hour time frame, Bellcore will notify the requester, via telephone, that processing the request has been completed, or that a delay may be encountered.

Geographical Code Request Requirements. The following criteria must be followed when requesting geographical codes:

- Requirements for geographical code requests vary according to country. The next lowest geopolitical subdivision based upon the Country Code (CC), State Code (SC),

or Geopolitical Code (GEOPC) is required for creation of the CLLI Code. See table below for additional information that may be required for a geographical code request.

CC/SC - GEOPC & Place Name	CC/SC - GEOPC Subdivision Required	LATA	NPA	Country Code	City Code
US - United States	States & District of Columbia	Yes	Yes1	1	Optional
US Outlying & Pacific Ocean Territories	See Table A	No	Yes	1	Optional
CN - Canada	Provinces & Territories	No	Yes	1	Optional
MX - Mexico	States & the Federal District	No	No	52	Optional
VE - Venezuela	States & the Federal District	No	No	58	Optional
SP - Spain	Provinces	No	No	34	Optional
NL - Netherlands	Provinces	No	No	31	Optional
IT - Italy	Provinces (Do not enter region)	No	No	39	Optional
GE - Germany	District or States	No	No	49	Optional
All Other Countries	Yes	No	No	Yes	Optional

On occasion, the following additional information may be required when requesting geographical codes:

- An official map showing where the place exists must be submitted upon request of Bellcore. Acceptable maps include Rand-McNally, County, State Department of Transportation, and Geographical (topography) Survey maps. Selected geographical area must be verified to insure that the requested geographical area is proper, and that the postal geographical area (e.g., ZIP Code® area) or greater metropolitan area is not selected.

  a. The map must indicate the state, province, or country including the geopolitical subdivision, e.g., country, parish, township, department, region, prefecture, canton in which the geographical area is located.

  b. A place name handwritten or typed on a map will not suffice.

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- Exceptions to assignment of a geographical code to a location that does not appear on a map, e.g., settlements, wilderness areas, or other unincorporated and incorporated (found on the Internet) areas, may be made by **Bellcore** provided the requester has exhausted attempts to find a detailed map, but can provide the other characteristic traits of a geographical area as outlined below.
- Bellcore will make the final determination for the assignment of a geographical code that may not appear on a valid map, including, but not limited to, settlements, wilderness areas, or other unincorporated areas, such as industrial parks, shopping centers, universities or colleges, county divisions, federal or state parks, prisons, hospitals, counties, and parishes.
- For remote areas, other supporting information should be provided, e.g., latitude and longitude, nearest city, nearest crossroads, and/or direction from nearest crossroads, or geographical feature such as near rivers, lakes, mountains, etc.
- For antenna, transmitter and/or receiver type locations, latitude and longitude are required.
- On occasion, Bellcore may request additional information which will be used to validate a place name request before a geographical code is assigned, or as a reference source for future requirements as follows:

  a. Postal information, e. g., ZIP Code.

  b. The address or direction from nearest crossroads for the required CLLI Code, and if other address information is available for that location, e.g., entrances facing onto another street, alias street names, highway name or number, or vanity type street names.

REFERENCES. The following sources can be used for reference:

- Rand-McNally Foreign Research Verification (1-800-333-0136).
- National Geographic Verification (1-800-638-4077).
- BR 751-100-050 for additional information concerning geographical codes.
- BR 751-100-055 for additional information concerning geopolitical codes.
- LocateIt™ System and/or Vendor GIS Software
- The Internet.

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Table A Index of Geographical Code Practices

States of the United States (US) Codes BR 795-xxx-100 and BR 751-401-xxx					
State Name	**Code**	**BR**	**State Name**	**Code**	**BR**
Alabama	AL	101	Montana	MT	127
Alaska	AK	102	Nebraska	NE	128
Arizona	AZ	103	Nevada	NV	129
Arkansas	AR	104	New Hampshire	NH	130
California	CA	105	New Jersey	NJ	131
Colorado	CO	106	New Mexico	NM	132
Connecticut	CT	107	New York	NY	133
Delaware	DE	108	North Carolina	NC	134
District of Columbia	DC	109	North Dakota	ND	135
Florida	FL	110	Ohio	OH	136
Georgia	GA	111	Oklahoma	OK	137
Hawaii	HI	112	Oregon	OR	138
Idaho	ID	113	Pennsylvania	PA	139
Illinois	IL	114	Rhode Island	RI	140
Indiana	IN	115	South Carolina	SC	141
Iowa	IA	116	South Dakota	SD	142
Kansas	KS	117	Tennessee	TN	143
Kentucky	KY	118	Texas	TX	144
Louisiana	LA	119	Utah	UT	145
Maine	ME	120	Vermont	VT	146
Maryland	MD	121	Virginia	VA	147
Massachusetts	MA	122	Washington	WA	148
Michigan	MI	123	West Virginia	WV	149
Minnesota	MN	124	Wisconsin	WI	150
Mississippi	MS	125	Wyoming	WY	151
Missouri	MO	126			

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Table A Index of Code Practices (continued)

U. S. Outlying and Pacific Ocean Territories BR 795-180-100 and BR 751-401-180			
Territory Name	**Code**	**Territory Name**	**Code**
American Samoa	AM	Northern Mariana Islands	NN
Guam	GU	Belau, (Palau) Republic of	PL
Johnston Atoll *	JH	Puerto Rico, Commonwealth of	PR
Marshall Islands, Republic of the	RS	Virgin Islands, of the U.S.	VI
Micronesia, Federated States of	FM	Wake Island (Pacific Ocean)	WK
Midway Island (Pacific Ocean)	MY		

Federal District & States of Mexico (MX) Codes BR 795-180-100 and BR 751-401-180					
Name	**Code**	**Name**	**Code**	**Name**	**Code**
Aguascalientes	XA	Guerrero	XG	Queretaro De Arteaga	QR
Baja California	XB	Hildago	HG	San Luis Potosi	XU
Baja California Sur	XQ	Jalisco	JA	Sinaloa	XS
Campeche	XC	Mexico, Estado	XM	Sonora	XR
Chiapas	XP	Michoacan	XI	Tabasco	TA
Chihuahua	XH	Nayarit	XN	Tamaulipas	XT
Coahuila	XD	Morelos	XO	Tlaxcala	XX
Colima	XK	Nuevo Leon	XL	Veracruz	VR
Distrito Federal	DF	Oaxaca	OA	Yucatan	YU
Durango	DU	Puebla	PB	Zacatecas	ZC
Guanajuato	GJ	Quintana Roo	QO		

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Table A Index of Code Practices (continued)

Federal District, States, and Territories of Venezuela (VE) Codes BR 795-180-100 and BR 751-401-180					
Name	**Code**	**Name**	**Code**	**Name**	**Code**
Anzoatequi	AQ	Federal District	FD	Suere	QS
Apure	AV	Guarico	GZ	Tachira	TF
Aragua	QA	Lara	LB	Trujillo	TJ
Barinas	BF	Merida	QM	Yaracuy	YY
Bolivar	BQ	Miranda	QD	Zulia	ZL
Carabobo	QC	Monagas	QG	Amazonas Territory	QZ
Cojedes	CZ	Nueva Esparta	QN	Delta Amacuro Territory	DA
Falcon	FN	Portuguesa	PZ		

Provinces and Territories of Canada (CN) Codes BR 795-xxx-100 and BR 751-401-xxx					
Name	**Code**	**BR**	**Name**	**Code**	**BR**
Alberta	AB	160	Nunavut	VU	172
British Columbia	BC	161	Ontario	ON	167
Manitoba	MB	162	Prince Edward Island	PE	168
New Brunswick	NB	163	(Province of) Quebec	PQ	169
Newfoundland	NF	164	Saskachewan	SK	170
Northwest Territory	NT	165	Yukon Territory	YT	171
Nova Scotia	NS	166			

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Table A Index of Code Practices (continued)

Unique Locations - BR 795-180-100 and BR 751-401-180					
Unique Name	**Geographical Code**	**Geopolitical Code**	**Unique Name**	**Geographical Code**	**Geopolitical Code**
Satellite	STLT	EO	Indian Ocean	INON	HS
			North Sea	NRHS	HS
Arctic Ocean	ARON	HS	Pacific Ocean	PCON	HS
Atlantic Ocean	ATON	HS	Mediterranean Sea	MDTS	HS
Bering Sea	BRGS	HS	Red Sea	RDSE	HS
Caribbean Sea	CRBS	HS	South China Sea	SCHS	HS
Gulf of Mexico	GLMX	HS	Tyrrhenian Sea	TRNS	HS

Countries - BR 795-xxx-100 and BR 751-401-xxx			
Country Name	**Code**	**BR 795**	**BR 751**
Italy	IT	181	181
Spain	SP	183	182
Netherlands	NL	182	183
Malaysia	ML	184	184
Other Countries		180	180

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