

# MTA Acceptable Use Policy Addendum

## **Acceptable Use Policy:**

MTA has formulated this Acceptable Use Policy ("AUP") in order to encourage the responsible use of MTA's networks, systems, services, web sites and products (collectively, the "MTA Network and Services") by our customers and other users of the MTA Network and Services (collectively, "Users"), and to enable us to provide Users with secure, reliable and productive services. By using the MTA Network and Services, Users consent to be bound by the terms of this AUP. MTA reserves the right to modify this AUP in its discretion at any time. Such modifications will be effective when posted. Any use of the MTA Network and Services after such modification shall constitute acceptance of such modification.

## **Suspension; Termination:**

Any User which MTA determines to have violated any element of this AUP may be subject to a suspension or termination of service. MTA will suspend service for violation of the AUP on the most limited basis as MTA determines is reasonably practical under the circumstances to address the underlying violation. MTA will attempt to notify Customer prior to suspending service for violation of the AUP (which may be via email or any other notification); provided, however, MTA may suspend service without notice if MTA becomes aware of a violation of any applicable law or regulation or activity, including but not limited to a violation of the AUP, that exposes MTA to criminal or civil liability or that exposes the MTA network or MTA customers' network or property to harm. Such harm to a network may include, but is not limited to, risk of having an IP address placed on blacklists. MTA may take such further action as MTA determines to be appropriate under the circumstances to eliminate or preclude repeat violations, and MTA shall not be liable for any damages of any nature suffered by any Customer, User, or any third party resulting in whole or in part from MTA's exercise of its rights under this AUP.

## **Prohibited Conduct:**

**In General** - The MTA Network and Services must be used in a manner that is consistent with the intended purpose of the MTA Network and Services and may be used only for lawful purposes. Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services in order to transmit, distribute or store material: (a) in violation of any applicable law or regulation, including export or encryption laws or regulations; (b) that may adversely affect the MTA Network and Services or other MTA customers; or (c) that may expose MTA to criminal or civil liability. Users are prohibited from facilitating the violation of any part of this AUP or another provider's AUP, including, but not limited to transmitting, distributing, or otherwise making available any product or service that violates this AUP or another provider's AUP.

**Inappropriate Content**- Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services to transmit, distribute or store material that is inappropriate, as reasonably determined by MTA, or material that is obscene (including child pornography), defamatory, libelous, threatening, abusive, hateful, or excessively violent.

**Intellectual Property**- Material accessible through the MTA Network and Services may be subject to protection under privacy, publicity, or other personal rights and Intellectual Property rights, including but not limited to, copyrights and laws protecting patents, trademarks, trade secrets or other proprietary information. Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services in any manner that would infringe, dilute, misappropriate, or otherwise violate any such rights. If you use a domain name in connection with any of the MTA Network and Services, you must

not use that domain name in violation of the trademark, service mark, or other rights of any third party.

**Harmful Content-** Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services to transmit, distribute or store material that may be harmful to or interfere with the MTA Network and Services or any third party's networks, systems, services, or web sites. Such prohibited harmful content includes, but is not limited to, viruses, worms, or Trojan horses.

**Fraudulent/Misleading Content-** Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services to transmit or distribute material containing fraudulent offers for goods or services, or any advertising or promotional materials that contain false, deceptive, or misleading statements, claims, or representations. In addition, Users are prohibited from submitting any false or inaccurate data on any order form, contract or online application, including the fraudulent use of credit cards.

**Email and Unsolicited Messages-** Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services to transmit unsolicited e-mail messages, including, without limitation, unsolicited bulk email , where such emails could reasonably be expected to provoke complaints ("spam"). Further, Users are prohibited from using the service of another provider to send spam to promote a site hosted on or connected to the MTA Network and Services. In addition, Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services in order to (a) send e-mail messages which are excessive and/or intended to harass or annoy others, (b) continue to send e-mail messages to a recipient that has indicated that he/she does not wish to receive them, (c) send e-mail with forged TCP/IP packet header information, (d) send malicious e-mail, including, without limitation, "mail-bombing", (e) send or receive e-mail messages in a manner that violates the use policies of any other Internet service provider, or (f) use an e-mail box exclusively as a storage space for data.

**Third Party Rules; Usenet-** Users may have access through the MTA Network and Services to search engines, subscription Web services, chat areas, bulletin boards, Web pages, USENET, or other services that promulgate rules, guidelines or agreements to govern their use. Users must adhere to any such rules, guidelines, or agreements.

**Inappropriate Actions-** Users shall not use the MTA Network and Services to conduct activities that may be harmful to or interfere with the MTA Network and Services or any third party's networks, systems, services, or Web sites, including, but not limited to, flooding, mail bombing, or denial of service attacks. Users are prohibited from violating or attempting to violate the security of the MTA Network and Services or the computers, accounts, or networks of another party. Users are also prohibited from any activity considered a precursor to attempted security violations, including, but not limited to, any form of scanning, probing, or other testing or information gathering activity. Inappropriate activity may result in civil or criminal liability. MTA will investigate such activity and may involve and cooperate with law enforcement authorities in prosecuting Users involved in such activity.

**Responsibility for Content-** MTA takes no responsibility for any material created or accessible on or through the MTA Network and Services. MTA is not obligated to monitor such material but reserves the right to do so. MTA will not exercise any editorial control over such material. In the event that MTA becomes aware that any such material may violate this AUP and/or expose MTA to civil or criminal liability, MTA reserves the right to block access to such material and suspend or terminate any User creating, storing or disseminating such material. MTA further reserves the right to cooperate with legal authorities and third parties in the investigation of alleged wrongdoing, including disclosing the identity of the User that MTA deems responsible for the wrongdoing.

Violations of this AUP may be reported at the following link: [abuse@midwesttele.com](mailto:abuse@midwesttele.com)