

Ethoplex, LLC

Robocall Mitigation Plan

Ethoplex, LLC (“Ethoplex” or the “Company”) is a small voice service provider (VSP) dedicated to stopping illegal calls from originating in our network and monitoring the calls coming into our network. The FCC requires that, by June 30, 2021, all VSPs certify in the Robocall Mitigation Database that they have (1) fully implemented STIR/SHAKEN across its entire network, (2) implemented STIR/SHAKEN on a portion of its network and that the remainder of the calls are subject to a Robocall Mitigation Plan (RMP), or (3) have not implemented STIR/SHAKEN but subject all calls to an RMP to ensure that the network is not originating illegal robocalls.

The FCC requires that VSPs develop an RMP that:

- Lists the specific, reasonable steps the VSP has taken to avoid originating illegal robocall traffic
- States a commitment to respond fully and in a timely manner to all traceback requests from the FCC, law enforcement, and the industry traceback consortium
- To cooperate with entities investigating and stopping any illegal robocallers that use its services to originate calls

STIR/SHAKEN Extension

We are eligible for and are taking the STIR/SHAKEN implementation extension received under 47 CFR § 64.6304 because we have fewer than 100,000 voice subscriber lines. All the voice traffic that originates on our network is subject to the robocall mitigation program described below.

Know Your Customer

We follow the best practices for vetting caller identity described by the NANC Call Authentication Trust Anchor Working Group. (<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-367133A1.pdf>).

International Subscribers

Ethoplex does not sell origination or termination services to subscribers outside of the United States.

Acceptable Use Policy

Ethoplex maintains an Acceptable Use Policy (“AUP”) that subscribers must sign before being permitted to use Ethoplex Internet broadband or voice services. Among other things, this AUP prohibits fraudulent activities and outlines the company’s right to remove any content deemed unacceptable and suspend or cancel an account for engaging in inappropriate conduct.

Traceback Requests

Ethoplex is committed to respond in a complete and timely manner to all traceback requests from the Federal Communications Commission, law enforcement, state attorneys general, and the industry traceback consortium. Furthermore, Ethoplex is committed to cooperating with such entities in investigating and stopping any illegal robocallers that use Ethoplex’ service to originate calls. Subscribers are required to comply with traceback requests via our AUP. [Traceback requests can be sent to noc@ethoplex.com for immediate processing.](mailto:noc@ethoplex.com)

Telephone Number Validation

If a subscriber wishes to use a telephone number (TN) as a caller identity and that TN is not directly managed by Ethoplex then TN validation is necessary by requiring the subscriber to provide a

valid letter of authorization that they are an authorized user of such TN. Should the subscriber provide sufficient documentation to Ethoplex of authorization to use a TN, documentation will be provided to Ethoplex LLC so that they can attest calls originated with these TNs.

Investigation of High-Volume Network Traffic, Suspicious Calls, and Calling Patterns

Our wholesale VoIP provider uses TransNexus's ClearIP solution to monitor our origination voice traffic in real time to prevent the origination of illegal robocalls. The software provides detailed reporting identifying suspected illegal robocalls and alerts Ethoplex if we originate any calls where the calling number is invalid, unallocated, on a Do Not Originate list, in the FCC consumer complaint database or has a poor reputation. Ethoplex will immediately ask the wholesale provider to investigate any identified calls to determine if the caller was attempting to originate unlawful robocalls. If the wholesale provider determine that the caller was attempting to originate unlawful robocalls, then we either warn them to stop or terminate their service as based on our AUP.

Examples of calling patterns monitored

- Higher than expected cost generated by calls from a subscriber
- Targeted pumping of repeated calls to a specific called number within a 15-minute period
- Fast traffic pumping of repeated calls to a specific called geographic location within a 5-minute period
- Slow traffic pumping of repeated calls to a specific called geographic location within a 60-minute period
- Theft of service traffic pumping of repeated calls to high-cost geographic location within a 60-minute period
- Recent call volumes (last 60 min) vs weekly trends
- Number of unique destination numbers in a 60-minute time frame
- Irregularities in Short Call Duration (SDC) and Average Call Duration (ACD) distribution
- Anomalies in Answer-Seizure Ratio (ASR)
- Robocalling triggers monitoring for a high-volume of outbound calls or excessive incoming calls from the same calling number
- Wangiri trigger monitoring for origination calls to high termination rate destinations with short duration (to trigger end-users to call back) for all calls over a 5-minute duration
- Analysis of recent and past Call Detail Records (CDRs) to benchmark against expected trends

STIR/SHAKEN Implementation Timeline

Our underlying provider has committed to Ethoplex that on or before December 31st, 2021 that they expect to be authenticating and verifying with STIR/SHAKEN voice traffic that originates and terminates on our network. We have every confidence our wholesale provider will meet the June 30th, 2023, deadline provided by the exemption granted.