

Robocall Mitigation Plan

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OCN:154L

Business Information

Sparkplug Studios LLC (dba "Tekmetric")
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Contact Information

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Overview

In the Commission's recent release, In the Matter of Call Authentication Trust Anchor, Sixth Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket No. 17-97 (rel. March 17, 2023) ("R&O") it is stated that all voice service providers ("VSPs") must file robocall mitigation plans ("RMPs") that, among other things, outline "reasonable steps" taken to avoid originating illegal robocalls.

In addition to the "reasonable steps," the FCC requires that a RMP include:

- "know your customer" procedures;
- a description of any call analytics system used to identify and block illegal traffic; and
- whether a third-party vendor is used and if so, the name of the vendor.

The FCC previously stated that a RMP is sufficient if the detailed practices in the plan can reasonably be expected to significantly reduce the origination of illegal robocalls and the VSP complies with the practices it describes in its filing.

Purpose

Tekmetric is a small VSP dedicated to stopping illegal calls from traversing the network and monitoring the calls coming into our network.

As certified in the FCC's Robocall Mitigation Database, Tekmetric has fully implemented STIR/SHAKEN. In compliance with the R&O, Tekmetric submits this RMP and certification.

Know Your Customer ("KYC")

Tekmetric is a small company, we have a small number of customers. We know our customers and understand their use cases.

From our portal when a Customer signs up for service we gather the following information related to the Customer:

- Business Name
- Business Address
- Contact Name
- Contact Email Address • Contact Phone Number
- Website
- IP Address they signed up from
- Valid Credit Card that matches the address and name of the person who is signing up
- Description of the type of outbound calls the customer will be placing. We do not accept calls that are placed through a Robo Dialer or outbound blast calling. All outbound calls must be dialed by a human and be for the normal course of legal business.

After customers sign up for service from our portal, we send them a communication stating that, as part of our verification process, and to maintain compliance with federal regulations regarding Know Your Customer (KYC) and STIR/SHAKEN, we require additional information from customers to move forward with account verification before they can make or receive any calls on our network. We request the following documents:

1. Picture copy of the credit card (front and back) placed on the account for billing with all but the last four digits obfuscated for security purposes.
2. Picture copy of the Photo Identification/Govt ID (front and back). It is also required that the ID matches the name on the credit card above.

Once provided by the customer, this information is uploaded via our Customer Service/Account. Verification team (normally within the same Business Day) for processing, and we reply once the customer's account has been verified.

Until customers provide the required information and we vet it, we do not allow inbound or outbound calls from the customers on our platform.

Know Your Upstream Providers

In accordance with the Commission's directive in Advanced Methods to Target and Eliminate Unlawful Robocalls Call Authentication Trust Anchor, Seventh Report and Order In CG Docket 17 - 59 and WC Docket 17 - 97, Eighth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking In CG Docket 17 - 59, and Third Notice of Inquiry in CG Docket 17 - 59 (Rel. May 19, 2023) ¶¶ 49-51, Tekmetric provides the following information concerning its upstream voice service carrier.

Tekmetric has one upstream provider from which it receives voice traffic:

Bandwidth.com
900 Main Campus Drive
Suite 100
Raleigh NC 27606
Stephen Thayer
voicesecurity@bandwidth.com

22) Tekmetric has a master service agreement with Bandwidth.com and has received assurances in writing from their officials that it has, and will continue to, sign calls transmitted to Tekmetric, and will abide by the Commission's STIR/SHAKEN and robocall mitigation rules in all respects when providing voice traffic to Tekmetric. Tekmetric and its upstream providers have agreed to work together diligently to mitigate all illegal robocalls, including cooperating fully when receiving traceback requests.

Acceptable Use Policy ("AUP")

Tekmetric maintains an AUP that subscribers must agree to before being permitted to use Tekmetric's software and services. Among other things, the AUP prohibits:

1. **Use with LCR:** Customer may not use the Service (as defined in the Terms and Conditions posted by Tekmetric from time to time at <https://www.tekmetric.com/legal/privacy-policy-website>) with (or in connection with) a least cost router (or "LCR"), which Tekmetric will determine, in its reasonable discretion, based upon analysis of Customer's traffic patterns in the ordinary course of business.
2. **Use with Auto-Dialer (or "Robo-Dialer"):** Customer may not use the SIP Trunking Service with (or in connection with) an auto dialer (or "Robo-dialer"), which Provider will determine, in its reasonable discretion, based upon analysis of Customer's traffic patterns in the ordinary course of business.
3. **If using "North America Domestic Call Path Subscription" Voice Service, the following restrictions and limitations also apply:**
 - a) **Standard Business Use:** The Service is provided for Standard Business Use for a single company only. Tekmetric reserves the right to ensure that the Customer's use of the Service is consistent with Standard Business Use and otherwise complies with the Terms and Conditions. If Tekmetric determines that a Customer is not using the Service for Standard Business Use for a single company, Tekmetric may, in addition to all other rights and remedies pursuant to the Terms and Conditions, notify Customer and allow the Customer the opportunity to cure any such use within two (2) calendar days. Customers may cure by stopping any such use, buying more trunks in order to comply with Standard Business Use, or change Customer's use of the Service in any other way that is consistent with Standard Business Use. Additionally, Tekmetric reserves the right to in any combination (i) immediately terminate the Service, (ii) charge a minimum inappropriate use fee of US\$500.00 and/or charge US\$0.05 per minute for all calls made during such periods of prohibited use (plus applicable toll free and international charges), whichever is higher, to Customer's payment method of record, and (iii) all applicable termination fees described in these Terms and Conditions.

- b) **Not for Wholesale:** The North America Domestic Call Path Subscription service is not to be used with any type of Softswitch or Call Router with the intention of feeding phone service from a service provider to their customers using their own Softswitch or Call Router in a wholesale/resale environment. This service is to be registered to a single PBX/Phone System direct that belongs to a customer for their own internal use only. You are not to use any Trunking service for purchasing and porting the numbers out to another service provider. Tekmetric may determine, in its reasonable discretion, if Service is being purchased or used in violation of this provision, based upon analysis of Customer's traffic, purchase and cancellation patterns in the ordinary course of business. In addition to all other remedies that Tekmetric has listed as part of the terms listed in this agreement, Tekmetric has the right to assess a Port Out fee of up to \$50.00 per phone number that is being ported out of an account that Tekmetric has reasonably determined is being used for the resale of phone numbers.

Telephone Number Authorization

New subscribers placing outbound calls can only use Caller IDs which have been purchased through our platform or ones verified through automated-number-validation voice calls. Subscribers can sign a form allowing them to use Caller IDs not purchased through our platform or verified by validation call for outbound calls, functionality that is restricted to customers with whom we've had human contact by phone call or in-person. This form:

- prohibits the sending of outbound traffic via the PSTN with Caller IDs not owned by the customer or the customer's subscribers; AND
- states that, if Tekmetric receives notice that the Customer's outbound calls through our platform are deemed to be spam, Tekmetric has the right to disconnect the service immediately and without notice.

Analytics for Monitoring Traffic

Tekmetric works to detect a calling pattern consistent with illegal robocalls. If such a call is detected we will identify the party that is using our network to originate those calls and will take appropriate action. Taking appropriate action may include, but is not limited to, initiating a traceback investigation verifying that the originating subscriber owns or is authorized to use the Caller ID number, and suspending or terminating the party's ability to originate calls on our network. No third-party vendors are involved in deploying Tekmetric's analytics.

Investigate Suspicious Activity

When traffic analysis indicates the presence of likely illegal robocalling, Tekmetric follows the defined procedures on investigating such subscribers.

The procedures established include but are not limited to:

- checking recent and past call detail records and benchmark against expected trends;
- checking recent and past account activity and purchases;
- investigating if any system issue generates the strange behavior;
- verifying that the call originating path is valid; and
- contacting the subscriber to understand his or her particular use case and validate that the activity belongs to that subscriber.

Tekmetric follows Industry Traceback Group ("ITG")-recommended best industry practices and cooperates in traceback and trace forward investigations. To allow for timely and comprehensive responses, Tekmetric will devote sufficient resources to provide prompt and complete resources to traceback requests.

Blocking

Tekmetric will promptly respond to Do Not Originate requests it receives from the ITG. Tekmetric has mechanisms to automatically block suspicious calls using internal analytics. If Tekmetric's monitoring systems identify suspected robocalling patterns that are confirmed with further investigation, Tekmetric will take appropriate action which may include suspending or terminating the subscriber's use of Tekmetric's network.

Tekmetric will cooperate with investigative bodies (provide a single point of contact to address traceback requests from law enforcement including state attorneys general offices), to the FCC, and/or the ITG; as well as documenting requests and actions taken in response thereto. Tekmetric blocks calls that exceed a certain number of calls per mins/sec from a customer and blocks calls that are not using an authorized caller ID. Tekmetric has a database of DNO numbers and can in real time add numbers to it.

Plan Updates

This plan and industry best practices must evolve to respond to the dynamic nature of mitigating illegal robocalling. Tekmetric will monitor industry best practices and continuously improve our internal processes to ensure this plan and our system adapt to this ever-changing issue. In the event of any material change to this plan, Tekmetric will republish it to employees, consultants and contractors and file such an update to the FCC Robocall Mitigation Database within ten (10) days of such an update.

Certification of Sunil Patel

I, Sunil Patel, the CEO of Tekmetric, do hereby certify, under penalty of perjury, the following:

1. Tekmetric has fully implemented STIR/SHAKEN in the IP portions of its network.
2. Tekmetric's Business name and primary address are as follows:

Tekmetric Inc
730 Town & Country Blvd, Suite 300
Houston, TX 77024-4668
3. Sparkplug Studios LLC dba Tekmetric. Tekmetric has no other business names in use.
4. Tekmetric has not previously used any other business name.
5. The name, title, department, business address, telephone number, and email address of the individual responsible for addressing robocall-related issues are listed in the above robocall mitigation plan.
6. The following is the list of Tekmetric's owners with more than 10% interest each/directors:
Sunil Patel
7. None of the person(s) in item 6 above have had their licenses denied/revoked by the FCC or been subject to an FCC enforcement proceeding.
8. Tekmetric's role in the call chain is that of a voice service provider with a STIR/SHAKEN implementation obligation serving end-users.
9. Tekmetric has not been prohibited from filing in the Robocall Mitigation Database due to an enforcement action.
10. Tekmetric is not subject to a Commission, law enforcement, or regulatory agency action or investigation due to suspected unlawful robocalling or spoofing.
11. Tekmetric's Operator Code Number is 154L

Sunil Patel 04 / 28 / 2025

Sunil Patel
CEO, Sparkplug Studios LLC