



FEBRUARY 2009

POTS

PLAIN OLD TELEPHONE SERVICE



POTS — or Plain old telephone service is the voice-grade telephone service that remains the basic form of residential and small business service connection to the telephone network in most parts of the world. The name is a reflection of the telephone service still available after the advent of more advanced forms of telephony such as ISDN, mobile phones and VoIP. It has been available almost since the introduction of the public telephone system in the late 19th century, in a form mostly unchanged to the normal user despite the introduction of touch-tone dialing, electronic exchanges and fiber-optic communication into the public switched telephone network (PSTN).

Basically, it's a good idea to make sure somewhere in the house, there's a corded telephone attached to a wall or sitting on a desk. A lot of people enjoy modern conveniences, like cordless telephones and making phone calls through their computer. However, they can also leave people without phone service when the power goes out if there isn't at least one corded phone plugged into a phone outlet somewhere in the house. Most cordless phones or computers require another power source to work. These corded phones that are plugged into a wall have their own power system that retains power despite power outages. ATC Communications as a company strives to have a quick response with generators that will run on diesel fuel, natural gas or propane to ensure that the phone service will remain. The recent ice storms in Nebraska affected many customers whom did not realize that their cordless phones would not work due to the power being out whereas, a corded phone would work. The vast majority of telephone lines are buried underground which helps to ensure that the phone service remains on despite the weather.

SIX TOP REASONS TO KEEP A LANDLINE

With times being difficult and the economic stability in question, it is time to decide where you can cut back on expenses. Your landline telephone is not necessarily the place to cut back. With cell phones becoming ever more popular it is easy to think that it may be all you need. There are a few things that you should consider before you make that decision.

- 1 If electricity is cut off due to weather or technical problems, do you have a way to charge your cell phone?
- 2 What if the tower that your cell reception comes off of is damaged.
- 3 For those of you that have young children, do you have a way that they can call 911 if you are not home?
- 4 What if your children try to call you and the reception is bad? Not just your cell phone but the one they are trying to call from?
- 5 If you have a babysitter while you go out, is there a phone at home they can use in emergencies?
- 6 Remember a land line is hardwired into your house, even if the electricity shuts down your landline phone will still work as long as you have a regular corded phone.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CALL 611 FOR TELEPHONE TROUBLE CALLS: If you need to report trouble with your phone line you can dial 611 from a land line phone in any ATC Communications telephone exchange and be connected with ATC Communications' telephone service department. After hours callers will be asked to leave a message which will be immediately forwarded to the technician on call. If you use a cell phone to report phone trouble, you will need to dial 308-962-9611.

Where is My Phone Book?



Do you ever find yourself looking high and low for your phone book? Or do you ever find yourself going through community by community looking up a specific name because you aren't sure where the business or person is located? Well, look no longer! Phone directories are now at your finger tips via the Internet on your computer and it is simple to find whomever or whatever you are looking for. ATC Communications customers now have access to all the directories published by FDC Publishing.

To access the directories, simply log on to the internet and go to <http://www.fdcpublishing.com>. Once at their website you will see all the directories they publish. Click on the region that the person or business you are looking for resides. ATC Communications official directory is the McCook / North Platte region. In the upper left type in the name, business type, or whatever you are looking for. For instance, if you are looking for John Doe, type in Doe and it will give you the towns, if it is in the yellow pages or white pages and how many instances in each town or section the word Doe is found. To make it simple to access the next time you want to use it there is a link on the left hand side that allows you to create a shortcut icon on your desktop.

So the next time you are in search of a number for whatever get online and look it up at <http://www.fdcpublishing.com>.

NOTICE:

ATC COMMUNICATIONS IS NOTIFYING OUR PATRONS THAT IT COULD TAKE UP TO 24 HOURS FOR RECONNECTION FOR NONPAYMENT OR INSUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR CABLE, INTERNET OR TELEPHONE SERVICES. ALL SERVICES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE BY THE 10TH OF THE MONTH. THE FINAL BILLING AMOUNT IS LISTED ON THE STATEMENT.