

Term	Definition
Agency	Administrative agency created by the Interlocal Agreement
Alternate	Person appointed in writing by a Participant's Director to serve as its representative on the governing Board of of the Agency in the absence of the Director
Board	Governing body of the Agency, comprised of one Director and one Alternate representing each of the Participants
Director	Person appointed by each Participant to serve as its representative on the governing Board of the Agency
Equity Contributions	Funds and other property and things of value contributed for the acquisition and installation of the Network in accordance with Section 5(A) of the Interlocal Agreement
Financial Manager	Participant or contractor that performs fiscal duties for the Agency. These duties include opening and maintaining bank accounts, receiving and disbursing funds, maintaining custody of funds, giving notice of the need for funds, reporting on fund balances and taking other actions regarding fiscal matters of the Agency.
Fixed Costs	Total initial cost of constructing and installing the network
GAATN	Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network
GAATN Board	Governing body for the GAATN Agency
Interlocal Agreement	Governing document of Agency, Telecommunication Network Interlocal Agreement (together with Attachments and Amendments), entered into on the 10th day of June, 1993, by and between the seven GAATN participants.
Network	property and equipment of all kinds necessary to construct the communications network which consists solely of passive transport media (fiber optic strands and misc. hardware)
Network Manager	Participant or contractor under contract to the Participants to oversee management and operation of the network.
Network Right	Network Right is determined by a Participant's percentage interest in the Network. Percentage interest is calculated based on 1. presence on a ring, 2. sites on a ring and 3. fiber strands on a ring.
Node	Location served by a separate fiber optic cable (node cable) that intersects the GAATN ring cable at a splice location for the sole purpose of serving a single entity's network requirements.
Node Cable	A length of fiber optic cable containing all or part of a participant's fiber allocation which is routed from public right-of-way to a participant's node or site. Two types of node cable exist: single entry or dual entry. A single entry node cable contains a participant's "in and out" fiber allocation in the same (often referred to as "collapsed") cable sheath. A dual entry node cable consists of two separate cables, one containing the "in" fibers and one containing the "out" fibers. These cables follow different routes into and out of a site. From the point the node cable(s) leaves the GAATN splice enclosure it is considered property of the served entity and not part of GAATN plant. A node cable will normally consist of only the fiber allocation belonging to the node owner unless special arrangements are made between participants. Node cables may be included in GAATN drawings for Locate Service purposes.
Participants	Governmental entities that cooperated to build and manage the GAATN network. Original participants were Austin Independent School District (AISD), Austin Community College (ACC), City of Austin (COA), Travis County (TC), State of Texas (DIR), Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), University of Texas at Austin (UT)

Term	Definition
Plant	Super ring and sub-ring fiber cables, located within the Austin metropolitan area and Travis and Williamson Counties, serving as transport facility for networks where at least two or more of the seven GAATN participants occupy facilities within the common cable sheath, splice enclosures, patch panels, racks, conduit, poles, manholes, handholes, signage and markers, locate wires, fiber distribution cabinets, slack management brackets, guys, anchors, hardware.
POP, Point of Presence	A physical location where a participant has access to their fiber allocation for (future) splicing of a node cable. A POP is typically a splice enclosure attached to a pole or in a manhole if the cable is underground.
Repair Work	Work performed under emergency conditions to restore a service affecting damage situation.
Restoration Work	Work performed under normal conditions to replace or rework a temporary repair or a non-service affecting damage situation (controlled and schedulable work)
Ring Cable	Fiber optic cable, placed at the request of the GAATN Board, that serves as a backbone transport facility for networks where at least two or more of the seven GAATN participant fibers are contained within a common cable sheath
Scheduled Work	Non-emergency work that has been discussed (Maintenance Contractor, Network Manager, Technical Committee), approved (as needed), and published to the project schedule.
Site	A physical location at which a node cable is terminated making one or more participant's fiber allocation accessible. A site will normally provide access to only the fiber allocation for the site owner unless special arrangements are made between participants.
Spur	A GAATN maintained fiber optic cable containing one or several participants' fiber allocations (usually both "in and out" counts) to a participant's NODE typically in a single collapsed cable. A SPUR is essentially a smaller-than-ring-size fiber cable that runs between the RING CABLE and the node cable(s) serving a designated SITE(s).
Supernode, Super Node	A node that serves as an interconnection point on at least one of the super rings and at least one of the user rings where all participant ring fiber allocations are accessible for attachment to local equipment or for through-connecting.
Super Rings	SRN or SRS
Technical Subcommittee	Established Jan 24, 1994, a standing subcommittee of the GAATN Board, chaired by a GAATN representative and comprised of people from the staffs of the Participants and others outside the Participants (except vendors). Formed to address issues regarding applications of technology, standards, equipment, levels and types of cooperative efforts, etc.
User Rings	A1N, A2N, B1N, B1S, B2S, C1N, C1S, C2S, D1N
Variable Costs	Yearly operating expenses incurred by the Agency in connection with running and maintaining the Network