



Maintenance Release 23



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Table of Contents

	Document Objectives How to Get Technical Assistance	6
	Hardware and Software Requirements	
1.	Introduction	7
	PortaBilling Security	10
	Common Features	11
2.	System Management	
	My Company	20
	Access Levels	
	User Management	30
	Mailing List	36
	Templates	
	Web Interface	
	Quick Forms	46
3.	Adjusting Billing Parameters	49
	Services	50
	Currencies	
	Exchange Rates	
	Customer Classes	
	Payments	58
4.	Rating	62
	Destinations	63
	Destination Group Sets	67
	Tariffs	
	Volume Discount Plans	
	Subscription Plans	
	Products	93
5.	Participants	105
	Representatives	106
	Distributors	106
	Distributors Customer Management	
	Distributors Customer Management Resellers	
	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management	
6	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management Vendor Management	
6.	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management Vendor Management Networking	
6.	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management Vendor Management Networking Nodes	
6.	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management Vendor Management Networking Nodes Call Handling	
6.	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management Vendor Management Networking Nodes Call Handling IP Centrex	
6.	Distributors Customer Management Resellers Account Management Vendor Management Networking Nodes Call Handling	



7 .	Routing	179
	Route Categories	180
	Routing Plans	
	Test Dialplan	183
	Routing Criteria	
	Access Numbers	
	Connections	190
8.	Statistics	198
	System Load	200
	ASR	
	Cost / Revenue	203
	Custom Reports	204
	Vendor xDR Reports	209
	Customer xDRs	210
	Invoices	210
9.	Help Desk	214
	Trace Session	215
	Active Sessions	216
	BE Log Viewer	218
	SIP Log Viewer	219
	Account Info	221
10.	Appendices	223
	APPENDIX A. xDR Browser	224
	APPENDIX B. Audio File Formats Supported by Music on Hold	



Preface

This document provides a general overview of the PortaBilling® administrator web interface.

Where to get the latest version of this guide

The hard copy of this guide is updated at major releases only, and does not always contain the latest material on enhancements occurring between minor releases. The online copy of this guide is always up to date, and integrates the latest changes to the product. You can access the latest copy of this guide at: www.portaone.com/support/documentation/

Conventions

This publication uses the following conventions:

- Commands and keywords are given in boldface
- Terminal sessions, console screens, or system file names are displayed in fixed width font



Exclamation mark draws your attention to important information or action.

NOTE: Notes contain helpful suggestions about or references to materials not contained in this manual.



Timesaver means that you can save time by taking the action described in the paragraph.



Tips provide information that might help you solve a problem.

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Document Objectives

The target audience of this document is system administrators, VoIP engineers, and system or helpdesk operators who will be managing your services via the PortaBilling® web interface.

How to Get Technical Assistance

The dealer from whom you purchased this product is the *first place* you should go for technical assistance. The dealer is usually the most qualified source of help, and is the person most familiar with your system and how this product should be installed. Many dealers have customer service and technical support programs that offer varying levels of support, depending on your needs and computer knowledge.

If your dealer cannot assist you

If you cannot get assistance from your dealer, the vendor provides varying levels of technical assistance.

PortaOne's Customer Support Service (e-mail: support@portaone.com) can supply quick answers to specific inquiries regarding product features and technical questions. You can visit our website (http://www.portaone.com) for more information.

Hardware and Software Requirements

Client System Recommendations



- OS: Windows, UNIX or Mac OS
- Web Browser: Internet Explorer 6.0 (and higher), FireFox 2.0 (and higher) with JavaScript and cookies enabled.
- Spreadsheet processor (MS Excel)
- Display Settings:
 - o Min. Screen Resolution: 1024 x 768
 - o Color Palette: 16 bit color (minimum)

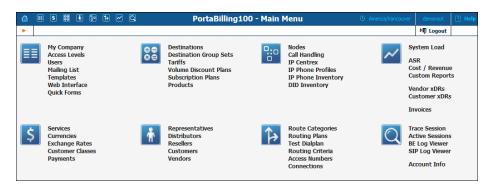
NOTE: To view downloaded CSV (Comma-Separated Values) files in Windows, please do the following to match PortaBilling's default list separator: My Computer -> Control Panel -> Regional Settings -> Number -> List Separator type ",".



1. Introduction



PortaBilling's front-end design and functionality are simple and intuitive. The web interface of the PortaBilling® home page is the main point of entry to all system objects and tools. Divided into eight functional blocks, the icons below link to pages containing tools for system management, VoIP networking, billing, customer help, and generating statistics. Each second-level page contains a link back to the home page.



These are the eight functional blocks:



Management





Rating



Participants



Networking





Statistics

Global system maintenance tasks, such as adding administrative users, defining access levels and creating mailing lists, templates and quick forms.

Tasks related to billing, such as managing the list of services provided and the rate plan definition; maintenance of currencies and exchange rates.

Tasks related to charging customers for services, such as managing destinations, destination group sets, tariffs, products and discount plans.

Task related to different entities in the system, such as representatives, distributors, resellers, customers, vendors and account management.

Configuration of network components: registering new nodes (network endpoints) in the system; configuration of IP phone profiles; tools for configuring and testing call routing.

Configuration of various parameters which affect call routing, and a tool to check how routing will be done for a particular destination number.

A variety of statistics and reports are available, reflecting the status of the system or providing information on call records, costing and revenue.





Tasks available to help desk staff for assistance in troubleshooting problems that clients may inquire about.



PortaBilling Security

PortaBilling® is compliant with Visa Security Standards.

User interface

- Inactivity logout
- o Unconditional logout

User passwords:

- O The minimum password length is six (6) characters and the maximum password length is sixteen (16) characters.
- o Passwords include both alphabetical and numerical components.
- o Passwords are stored under irreversible encryption.
- O It is required that the current password be used before allowing a new password to become effective.
- o The user's last four (4) passwords cannot be re-used.
- O It is prohibited to change a password within one (1) day of the previous change.
- o The initial password must be changed on the first login.
- o Passwords must be changed at least once every 30 days.
- o Use dictionary checking to restrict password selection.

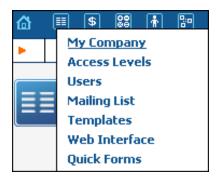
Credit card information

- o Credit card information is displayed as 1234xxxxxxx567
- O Credit card information is stored using the same encryption as for the Payment System password.



Common Features

All of the functions available from the home page (main menu) are also available using the drop-down menus:



The **Home** icon on the left also contains a menu with shortcuts to all the other PortaBilling® interfaces:

 \mathbf{Admin} - Shortcut to this interface; same result as clicking the \mathbf{Home} icon

Customers - Customer self-care interface

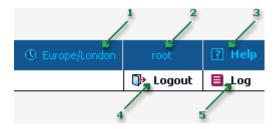
CC-Staff - Customer Care Staff interface

Accounts - Interface for account owners (end-users)

Vendors - Interface for your termination partners

Representatives – Interface for your sales agents or distributors

The top right-hand side of the interface provides users with the following information:



- 1. The time zone where the current user operates. Click on this link to select a time zone for your current session.
- 2. Login name of the user currently logged in.
- 3. Context help for the current screen. Click this link and the Help window will pop up.
- 4. Logout button. Used to end the current session or, when necessary, to re-login as another user.



5. View Log. This link is only available to users with corresponding access rights and where applicable. Clicking it will open a window showing all logged activities performed on the current screen.

The toolbar often also shows a list of available actions relative to the current page:



This toolbar acts as the equivalent of the "File" menu for the application, i.e. the usual location for the "Save", "Close" and "Add" operations.

Delete an object in the database

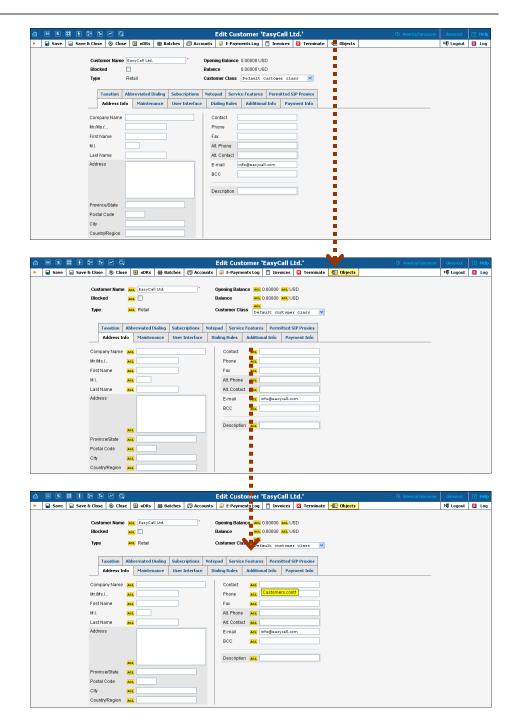
If you see the icon next to an object name in the list of objects, this means it can be deleted from the system. Note that only objects which are not used elsewhere in the system may be deleted. For instance, in the screenshot below, the **DID supplier costs, Prepaid cards** and **SIP Phone Subscribers** tariffs can be deleted, whereas the rest of tariffs are being used by some product or connection.



Show objects

The **Objects** icon is only available to the Root user; when selected next to any web element (such as a data field or select menu) it displays an **ACL** control. Move your mouse over the ACL control for the given element to see the object properties, as illustrated below. These object properties can be used by the administrator when configuring access levels for certain users in the system. See the **Access Levels** section for more information.





Sorting tables





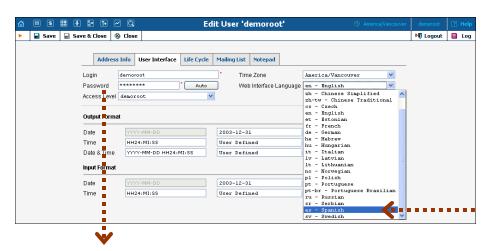
This feature is available for all xDR browsers in order to sort the displayed information according to different criteria, where necessary. The table header cell with the orange triangle shows the sorted row. A triangle pointing downward indicates descending order, while a triangle pointing upward means ascending order.

Sorting is available for all columns with a bi-directional white arrow in the top left-hand corner of the header cell. To sort a column, simply click on the header; click the same column again for the opposite sorting order.

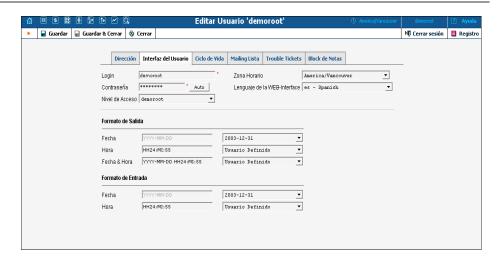
Another handy feature for sorting tables is that the table header is always visible, even if you scroll to the bottom of a large table which does not fit completely on the screen.

Multiple languages

PortaBilling® uses a flexible and extensible localization system. Every user of the system (admin user, account, customer, vendor, customer care admin) can choose the language of the web interface for his session. This does not, of course, affect other users; thus user John can work with the system using English as his interface language, while user Peter can make use of Chinese simplified as his language. Currently, PortaBilling® supports such commonly-used languages as Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish, in addition to English. New languages may easily be added on request; please contact PortaOne to obtain the XML template files if you would like to perform the translation yourself.







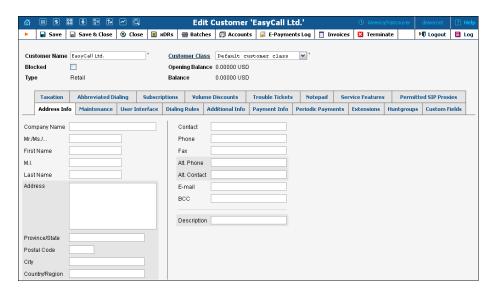
Currently the following languages are supported:

- Arabic
- Chinese (traditional and simplified)
- Czech
- English
- Estonian
- French
- German
- Hebrew
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Norwegian
- Polish
- Portuguese (and Brazilian Portuguese)
- Russian
- Serbian
- Spanish
- Swedish

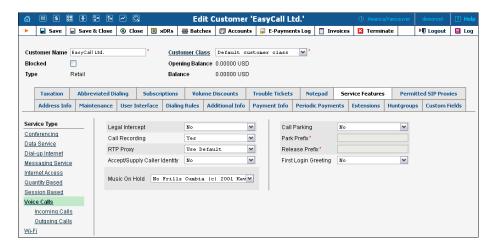


Tab controls

Some forms (e.g. customer or account information) contain so much information that it is not feasible to display it all on a single screen. The standard practice in this case is to divide the information between multiple tabs, each of which contains only a portion of the information and can be individually selected for display. To provide a better user experience with a high number of tabs, PortaBilling® provides two rows of tab controls.



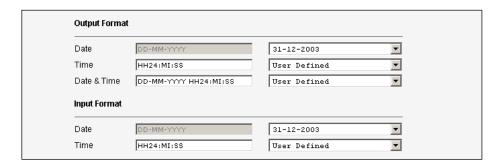
When you click on a tab's name, it is selected (black font on a white background) and you can see the associated information. Note that even if a tab from the upper row is selected, the row order does **not** change, and all the tabs stay in their original location. Thus you can always remember where a particular tab control is located on the form; see below for an example where a tab from the upper row has been selected.





Date & Time format

PortaBilling® allows users to define both the input and output formats for date and time.



Making changes to the date and / or time format on this page enables users to enter dates and times in the desired format throughout the entire PortaBilling® web interface. Correspondingly, all pages generated at a user's request will contain the date and time in the previously set-up format.

Date / Time format strings are composed using specifiers that represent the values to be inserted into the formatted string.

In the following table, the specifiers are given in upper case. Formats are case-insensitive.

Specifier	Value	Description
Date		
DD	01-31	Day of the month
D	1-31	Day of the month without a leading 0
MM	01-12	Number of the month
MON	Jan-Dec	Name of the month
MONTH	January-	Full name of the month
	December	
YYYY	2003 +	Year
YY	00-99	Last two digits of the year
		Time
HH, HH24	0-24	Hours
HH12	0-12	12-hour time format; requires AM/PM
		specifier
MI	0-60	Minutes
SS	0-60	Seconds
AM, PM,	AM, PM	
AM/PM		
		Separators
A separator can be any symbol except for letters and digits, or may be		

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left blank



Example	Value
DD/MM/YYYY	12/03/2003
MON-DD-YY	MAR-12-03
HH:MI:SS	12:30:00
HH12 MI:SS	WRONG! AM/PM specifier is missing
HH12mi pM	1230 AM

Current release and build information

In the bottom left corner of the main menu screen, you can see information about the maintenance release and build of the software currently installed, e.g. MR23-1 means "Maintenance Release 23" and "Build 1".





2. System Management



My Company

The **My Company** info screen allows the administrator to maintain corporate information relating to your business. This data will be included on reports such as invoices.



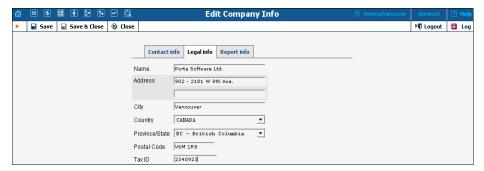
Contact Info

The information provided in the Contact Info tab is typically used on reports as the primary point of contact for your vendors and customers. This information is the same as that which appears on your letterhead and business cards, for example.

Field	Description
Company	The conventional form of your company's name. (For
Name	example, "EasyCall, Inc.")
Address	Street address of the company.
Country	The country may be selected from a drop-down list.
Phone	Primary telephone number for the company.
Fax	Primary fax number.
E-mail	Primary e-mail contact for the company. If defined, this email address will appear in the From: field of all outgoing emails, e.g. statistics / invoices or low credit warnings sent to your customers.
Web	Web address of the company.



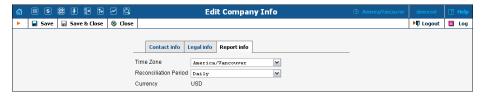
Legal Info



The Legal Info tab allows you to enter information about your company that could be used for any legal transactions, e.g. for taxation purposes.

Field	Description
Name	Proper, legally-recognized form of the company's
	name.
Address	Address where this company name is legally
	registered. Two lines are provided.
City	City in which the company is legally registered.
Country	The country in which the company is legally
-	registered.
Province/State	The province or state where the company is
	registered may be selected from a drop-down list,
	depending on the Country option selected.
Postal Code	Postal code for the company's registered location.
Tax ID	Locally-designated tax number.

Report Info



The data contained in the Report Info tab may be used for any financial reports, e.g. for invoicing or taxation purposes.

Field	Description
Time Zone	Time zone in which global reports for the
	environment (e.g. Cost / Revenue Report) will be
	generated.



Reconciliation	Defines how frequently the global reports (e.g.
Period	Cost / Revenue Reports) will be generated. This
	will also set up the periodicity of the Unresolved
	xDR Reports . (See the <i>Statistics</i> section below.)
Currency	The company's internal currency. You can use
	different currencies for your customers or
	vendors, but Cost / Revenue Reports will be
	generated in this currency. The value for this
	parameter is set permanently for the new
	environment, and cannot be changed later.

Access Levels

Introduction to the ACL System

Different types of users have different responsibilities within the billing system. Some users may not be allowed to use or see certain portions of the system. To this end, PortaBilling® supports the concept of **Access Control Lists** (ACL). ACLs allow the PortaBilling® administrator to decide, for example, that a particular sales representative can look at customers' data, but cannot create new customers.

ACLs allow you to control what users of your site can and cannot do. Without such restrictions, it is almost impossible to guarantee that users will see or change only the information that they are allowed to. There are default ACLs defined in the PortaBilling® system. You can use default ACLs or create new ones to fit your needs.

ACL Types

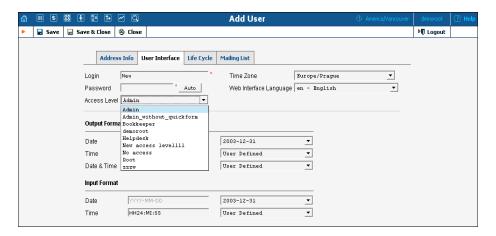
An access level can be of the following types:

- Account (to be applied to your account)
- CC Staff (to be applied to your customer care support)
- Component (cannot be assigned to users; used only as a building block to construct other access levels)
- Customer (to be applied to retail customers or sub-customers)
- Distributor (to be applied to your distributor)
- Representative (to be applied to your representative)
- Reseller (to be applied to your resellers)
- User (access level for users of the admin interface)
- Vendor (to be applied to your vendors)



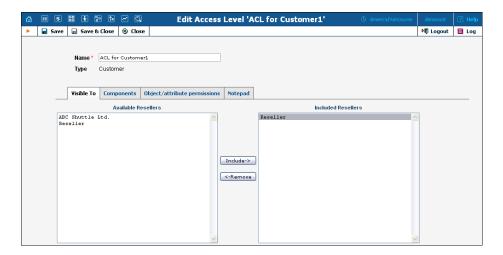
These access levels are composed of **permissions** and, optionally, other **components (as dependencies)**. Permission is a basic unit in the ACL system.

Newly created ACLs will be available in the **Access Level** select menu of the corresponding form when creating a new object or modifying an existing object's details. For instance, a User ACL will appear in the **Access Level** select menu of the **Add User** form (see below), a Customer ACL will be available when creating or editing a customer, and so on.



ACLs' Visibility under Reseller

Normally you would not want reseller A to be able to use ACLs, which were designed for reseller B. To ensure that this never happens, ACLs are not visible to resellers by default. To allow a certain reseller to use the ACL, include this reseller in the ACL's **Visible To** tab:



Visibility can be applied for Customers, Accounts, Representatives and CC Staff ACLs.

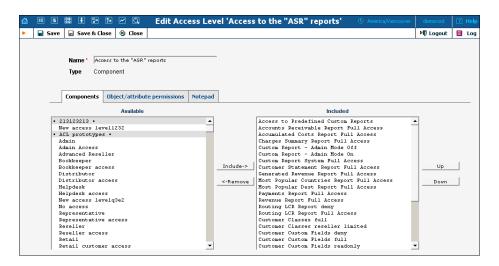


Components

As was mentioned before the system includes a set of default ACLs that consists of components. These are used as a building block for constructing other access levels. Components will be made up of zero or more permissions, and can include other components (as dependencies). If access level ACLX includes access levels ACL1, ACL2 and ACL3 (or, in other words, is *derived* from ACL1, ACL2 and ACL3), then ACLX will contain all the permissions defined in ACL1, ACL2 and ACL3 (along with all of the access levels they in turn are derived from).

What happens if there is a contradiction; for example, if ACL1 denies read access to Accounts.password and ACL2 grants it? In such a case, the first available definition will be used. Thus, in the example above, access will be denied according to ACL1, which is first in the list of included access levels. Keep in mind that the sequence of ACLs matching is held top-down. In addition to these, a component has several other aspects.

When editing a component, you will first see a screen as on the following screenshot:



Including components as dependencies within other components gives the system its power. Here we see that the "Admin access" level is defined by over a dozen dependent components. Note that this component does not actually define permission itself, but rather relies on the implementation of its dependents.

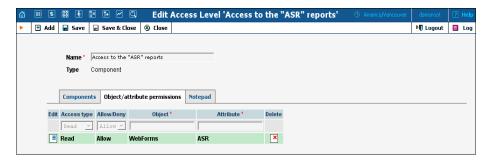
By deriving new components from the existing ones in the system, you can implement fine-grain access control and define User ACLs specific to your operational environment.



Permissions

Permission is the fundamental unit of exchange in the PortaBilling® security model. Permissions are composed of an access type, Allow / Deny permission (whether or not this is an allowed action), the relevant object, and the relative attribute of the object.

Let's take the example. An access level called "Access to 'ASR' reports" is provided within the PortaBilling® installation. It defines only one permission, which appears as in the following screenshot:



The "Access type" is set to "Read", and the permission to "Allow". This permission applies only to "WebForms" objects which have the attribute "ASR".

There are four possible access types:

- read view the specified resource
- update modify the resource
- **insert** create new instances of the resource type
- **delete** remove instances of the resource from the system

The field "Allow / Deny" defines whether this permission has been granted or withheld.

You should never have to provide fine-grain permission information yourself, as all possible permissions are already encapsulated in the components of your PortaBilling® installation. For this reason, we will not discuss the "Object" and "Attribute" fields further in this section. However, it may be useful to know that wildcards can be used in these fields. For example, to allow Read access to all web pages, an ACL could be defined with the following permissions:

Access type: "Read"
Allow/Deny: "Allow"

Object: "WebForms"

Attribute: "*"



As may be guessed, the "*" in the attribute field means "all attributes".

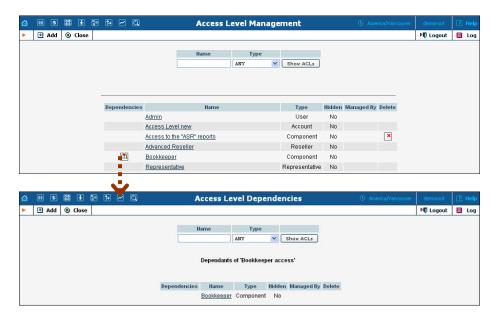
NOTE: Should you find it necessary to modify these basic components or create new ones, please contact PortaOne Support. We can provide you with a list of Object and Attribute resources, or otherwise assist you in maintaining ACLs.

Access Level Management Interface

In this discussion of the ACL system, we have proceeded by starting with the fundamentals and building up your skills from there. Now we will discuss the entry point for ACL management. On the PortaBilling® administrative interface you will find a link to "Access Levels". This link takes you to the Access Level Management main screen pictured below.

This screen is similar to many others in the PortaBilling® system, including a search interface at the top and a results listing at the bottom. (By default, all ACLs are shown in a paged format on this screen.) You may search for ACLs using any combination of Name and Type.

In the results listing, you may also see the **Dependencies** icon and **Delete** icon. ACLs can only be deleted when they are not in use. If a component contains any included components, you will be able to click on the dependencies and see search results for all dependents. The following screenshot shows all dependents for "Accounts full access". Note that some of the dependents have their own dependencies.





Add / Edit a New User ACL

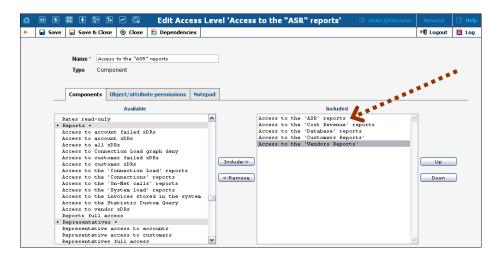
From time to time you will find that the predefined user ACLs (Admin, Helpdesk, and so on) offer too few, or too many, restrictions for a particular class of user. In such a case, it is time to create a new user ACL.

The easiest method is to take an existing access level and create a new one modeled on it, and then modify it to fit your needs. You should examine the permissions granted to the model access level, and verify that you want to grant access to those resources. Next, you can include other components to suit your needs. As a style recommendation, we suggest that you first create a component containing the dependent components you wish to utilize. Finally, create a new user ACL which includes only this new component. Now you can assign this ACL to new users.

The PortaBilling® ACL management system contains style conventions which you would be well-advised to follow:

- The name of a component should be descriptive, based on the actions which it allows. Examples are "Delete a node", "Currencies read-only", and "Access to Vendor Reports".
- By convention, when defining a new user ACL (for example, "DemoUser"), we append "access" to the name of a component ("DemoUser access") that includes dependent components.

We have already talked about the necessary parameters for creating or editing components, but we have not yet discussed component inclusion in detail. Each access level may have zero or more dependent components. These components are ordered, and likewise are applied in order until the first matching permission is reached. Keep in mind that the sequence of components matching is held top-down as shown on the screenshot:







In order to understand this better, we will use the previous example. Suppose a user is trying to view ASR reports. His access level must allow reading of "WebForms.ASR" (object "WebForms", attribute "ASR"). For the sake of simplicity, we will say that his access level includes "A", "B", and "C", where "B" allows this permission, but "C" explicitly denies it. In this case, the user's ability to view these reports is based on the ordering of these components. If "B" appears before "C", then it will work. In the opposite case, he will not have access.

This may sound complex, but in practice the user interface is quite simple. Two columns are shown on the "Components" tab of the edit screen for each access level. On the left, you have a list of the available components, while on the right are the included components. Between these two columns you have the "Include->" and "<-Remove" buttons, which move selected items between the two lists. As for ordering, the "Up" and "Down" buttons on the far right-hand side of the screen allow you to rearrange selected elements of the "Included" column.

You should now have the skills necessary to implement the PortaBilling® security model and customize it to suit your business environment.

Default ACLs

Default user ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs:

Name	Description
Root	Super User, read and write access to all PortaBilling®
	objects.
Admin	Like Root user, but with some limitations:
	- cannot create new users
	- cannot modify company info
	- read-only access to Destinations, Currencies, Nodes
Bookkeeper	Read-only access to billing information (Tariffs,
	Products); can change balances for
	Accounts / Customers, block / unblock; no access to
	xDRs; access to reports.
Helpdesk	Read-only access to billing information (Tariffs,
	Products); can modify Customer and Account
	parameters; access to Trace Call.

Default customer ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for customers (or sub-customers):



Name	Description
Retail	Access to xDRs, reports and invoices, ability to
	change customer information (such as password,
	address info etc), make online payments, access
	information about all accounts under this customer
	and view their xDR history.

Default reseller ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for resellers:

Name	Description
Reseller	Ability to set up online payment processors, change
	rates in the subscriber's tariff, modify parameters of
	the subscriber's product, create sub-customers and
	accounts under them, make online payments, and
	create CC staff accounts.
Advanced	Same as above, plus read-only access to customer's
Reseller	own tariff (the tariff used by the PortaBilling® owner
	to charge the reseller).

Default customer care ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for customer care administrators:

Name	Description
Customer Care	Maintenance tasks, such as changing password and
	personal info, ability to see subcustomer, distributor
	and account information and change service
	parameters, give refunds (daily and transaction limits
	applied) make payments towards accounts and in
	favour of subcustomers and distributors, and trace a
	call and see the call details.

Default vendor ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for vendors:

Name	Description
Vendor	Access to CDR data and the vendor's information.

Default representative ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for representatives:



Name	Description
Representative	Read-only access to customer information, customer's
	xDR records, and account information.

Default account ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for accounts:

Name	Description
Account	Access to xDR history, ability to change password
	and account info, make online payments and
	recharging using voucher.

Default distributor ACLs

PortaBilling® is supplied with the following predefined ACLs for distributors:

Name	Description
Distributor	Access to xDR history, reports and invoices, access to
	information about all accounts and customers, ability
	to change password and customer info, make
	payments towards accounts and customers, activate
	inactive accounts.

User Management

The User Management screen shows existing users registered in the system, and also allows you to edit current user information or add and delete users. To add a new user, select the Add button from the User Management screen. The user list table contains the following information and operations:



Column	Description
Login	The username for login and user identification. The
	username provides a link to the edit screen for that
	particular user.

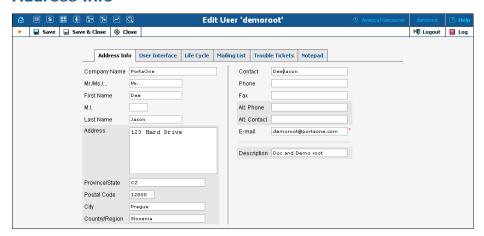


Access Level	The privilege level or role assigned to the user. See the	
	Access Levels section for more information.	
E-mail	An e-mail contact for the user. For convenience, this	
	is provided as a link, so you can send an e-mail to the	
	user directly from this screen.	
Description	A short description associated with the user.	
Delete	A delete button appears next to all users except for	
	the Root user created on installation. This	
	permanently deletes the user from the system.	

Add / Edit User

The Add User screen allows you to enter details to create a new user account. The Edit User screen allows you to change details for a particular user account.

Address Info

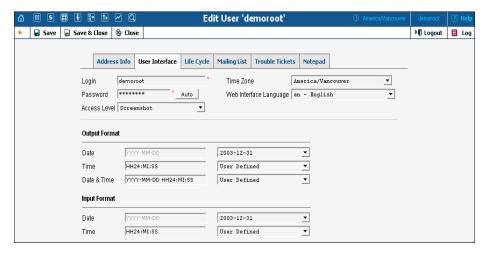


Mandatory fields for user contact information:

Field	Description
Description	A short description of the user that will be visible on
	the main User Management screen.
E-Mail	An e-mail contact for this user.



User Interface

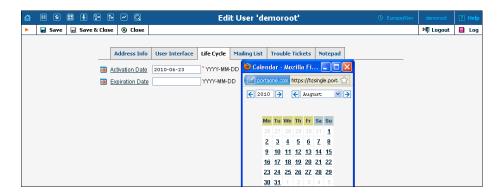


Field	Description
Login	The new user ID to be used at login and elsewhere
	throughout the system.
Password	The password for this login. A secure and easy-to-
	remember password may be automatically generated
	by pressing the "Auto" button.
Access Level	The privileges or role associated with this user. See the
	Access Levels section for more information.
Time Zone	The time zone in which this user will be operating.
Web Interface	The language to be used on the admin web interface
Language	for this user.

For a description of the input and output formats, please refer to the **Common Features** section.

Life Cycle

This allows the administrator to set up the user account's activation and expiration dates.



The account will not expire if the Expiration Date field is left blank.



Mailing List

PortaBilling® dispatches e-mail alerts (e.g. error messages and notifications) during normal production. E-mails are dispatched to each user according to the Mailing List settings.



To add different notifications for a specific user, check / uncheck one or more boxes on the left for the corresponding Subjects. The available alert types and their conditions of activation are as follows:

Alert Type	Description
Adaptive routing	The adaptive routing module detects that
penalty threshold	some qualitative parameters of the connection
reached	have dropped below the specified acceptable
	level. The vendor is penalized, and the
	connection is temporarily moved to the
	bottom of the routing list.
Adaptive routing	The adaptive routing module detects that
warning threshold	some qualitative parameters of the connection
reached	have dropped below the specified level.
CC Staff Error Reports	Customer care (your reseller's customer
	support) may discover a problem they are
	unable to solve themselves, and thus may need
	to escalate this problem to your support staff.
	When they send an error report from the CC
	web interface, it will be received by users
	subscribed to this mailing list.
Error in translation rule	A translation rule could not be properly
	applied, due to a programming error.
General billing	A debit account made a call that cost more
misconfiguration	than its available funds; an unresolved call was
	detected (unresolved calls may be normal
	when they are on-net calls, but in most cases
	they indicate connection misconfiguration);



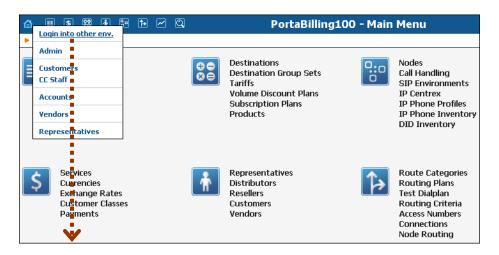
	and so on.
Merchant account error	An error was received from the online
	payment processor while trying to execute a
	transaction.
Mismatch in the	The cost of a call could not be determined,
Destinations or Rates	because no matching rate was found in the
table	specific tariff.
Missing critical billing	A call could not be billed due to missing
information (Account /	information (e.g. unable to identify the
Tariff)	account which is to be charged for the call).
No currency exchange	Unable to do cost / revenue reconciliation for
rate found	some calls, since no exchange rate is defined
	for the base currency and currency used for
	those calls.
No remote IP	It seems that your gateway accepts all
authentication on your	incoming VoIP calls. See the "Remote IP
gateway	authentication" section in PortaBilling® User
	Guide vol. I for more details.
No routes to	Customer attempted to place a call to a
destination	destination, which is covered by his tariff plan
	– but there are no valid routes for it in the
	system.
Not defined or empty	The Called-Station-ID (DNIS) field is empty
Called-Station-ID	in the request, so PortaBilling® is unable to
	determine which number was dialed. This
	might happen due to a firmware problem on
	Quintum.
Payment error	Unable to perform periodic payment (credit
	card is blocked or no funds are available).
Profit monitor event	Sends an alert if the call cost (amount charged
detected	by a vendor) is greater than the revenue
	(amount charged to the customer).
Rejected attempt to	Sends a notification if PortaBilling® cannot
authorize for	establish one more simultaneous session due
simultaneous use	to overdraft protection.
Replication problems	Database replication may be performing
	poorly or not at all, so that CDRs for the most
T 1 1 1 1	recent calls are absent from the slave database.
Task rejected	A deferred task (such as account generation)
	could not be run.
Time problems (NTP /	This alert may be generated if the time in the
Format / Suspicious)	accounting record is in the wrong format or
	seems suspicious (such as a point in the future,
	or one too far in the past).



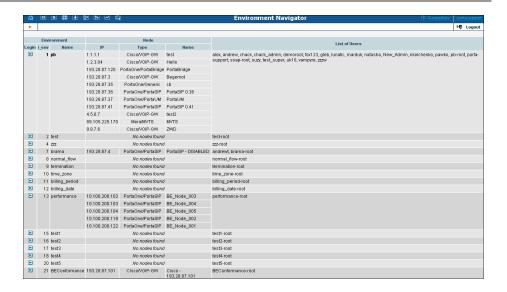
User error report	Your customer support may discover a
_	problem they are unable to solve themselves
	(e.g. only the network administrator can do it)
	and thus may need to escalate this problem to
	your technical staff. When they send an error
	report from the web interface, it will be
	received by the admin users subscribed to this
	mailing list.

Superusers

"Ordinary" administrator-level users can be promoted to "superuser" status – this is done by adding their numeric IDs (i_user) to the Superusers configuration variable in the Global section of porta-admin.conf. Superuser status permits certain operations that ordinary users do not have access to. One of the most important abilities of a superuser is switching between virtual environments. This is why superuser status cannot be configured via the web interface: by giving a virtual environment to someone, you allow him full control of that environment. However, he should not be able to re-configure his account to "jump" into another environment.







NOTE: Only user, who is on the superusers list, can modify the information about another superuser.

Mailing List

The Mailing List Management page allows you to define which e-mail alerts are to be sent to different users (see **Mailing List Subscription**).



Select a user from the **User** drop-down list to view which mailing lists a particular user is subscribed to. Select a mailing list from the **Subject** drop-down list to view all users subscribed to a particular mailing list.

Templates

The purpose of templates is to maintain all data downloaded from the system. Templates automate the processing of user input and create customized output in various data and media formats.



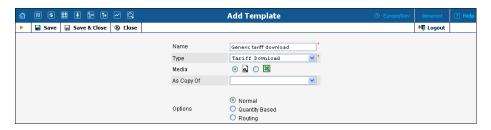


Read more about using the templates functionality in the PortaBilling® Template Guide, available for download from:

www.portaone.com/support/documentation/

Add a New Template

To add a new template, select the • Add button.



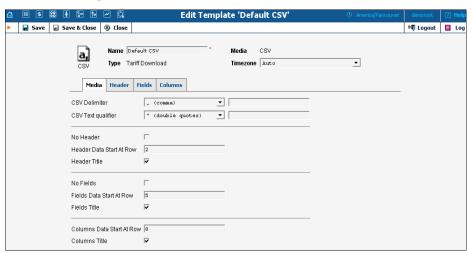
Field	Description	
Name	The logical name of the template object.	
Type	One of the following:	
	- Invoice	
	- Tariff Download	
Media	One of the following media types:	
	CSV – Comma Separated Values (only applicable for templates of the Tariff Download type)	
	XLS – Excel (only applicable for templates of the Tariff Download type)	
	Print format (HTML, PDF; only applicable for templates of the Invoice type)	
As copy of	PortaBilling® is supplied with a set of default templates for each type of document for information download. Documents in print format, e.g. invoices, can only be "downloaded" from the system. After selecting Type and Media , the list will be populated with the default template (always at the top of the list); all existing templates with the current Type and Media formats will be listed under the "" separator.	
Options (only for Tariff Download type)	Permits the changing / altering of the default column set for the created template. The following options are available: • Normal – This is a traditional-style template with a default column set. • Quantity Based – The template has a set of fields that are typical for the Quantity Based tariff	
	(e.g. Minimum Threshold, Rounding, Unit Price Initial, etc.).	



	Routing – When the option Routing is selected,		
	the fields Route Category, Preference and		
_	Huntstop are enabled by default.		
Pages	• Single – This is a traditional-style invoice. It		
(only for	consists of a single page with an invoice header		
Type	(your company name, customer name, etc.),		
Invoice)	invoice fields (invoice number, invoice date), and		
	invoice footer (subtotal, total).		
	Multiple – This template's first page is identical		
	to the single-page invoice template. Additionally,		
	it may contain multiple pages with details of calls		
	related to the invoice.		
Taxation	This allows you to choose the taxation method. The		
(only for	following options are available:		
Type			
Invoice)	Via Taxation Plug-in (The plug-in module will		
invoice)	be used to make tax calculations.)		
	• Tax Already Included in xDRs (In this case,		
	back calculations from the total amount are		
	made. If this option is selected, a list of taxes with		
	an inline-editor will allow you to create, edit and		
	delete up to 5 types of taxes.)		
Managed	By default – administrator only. The template can be		
By (only for	assigned to a reseller so that it is visible in the list of		
Type	available invoice templates on the Customer Self-		
Invoice)	Provisioning web interface.		

To enter editing mode for this template, save your input using the **Save&Close** button. Next, select the template you would like to edit from the Templates window.

Edit Template

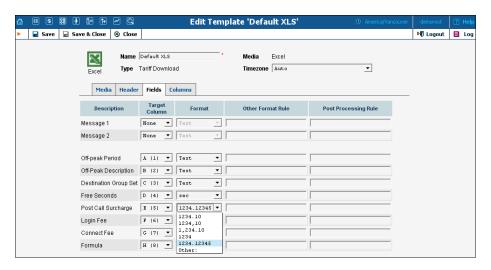




Once a new template is saved, the document's Media, Type and Managed By properties cannot be changed.

Each Template object consists of several logical components. For example, the Invoice Template's components are Media, Header, Fields, and Footer.

The Media tab is present for all types of templates, and shows the media available for download. For Tariff download in CSV format, it is important to know what delimiter was used, whether there is a header, or in what row the tariff information starts. For Invoices, the Media tab contains a link to the PortaBilling® Layout Designer, which allows you to customize the appearance of your invoices and receipts.



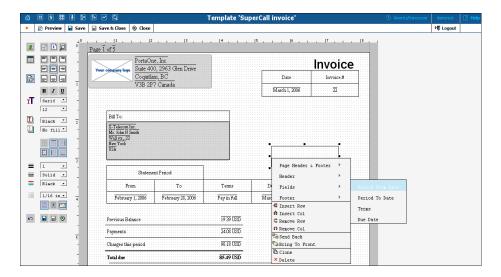
The content of the Header, Fields, Columns, and Footer tabs is arranged in a similar way, and allows flexible mapping of information related to user documents and information in the PortaBilling® database.

Column	Description	
Description	Description of template components.	
Target Column	Defines the mapping of template information	
	to the original / destination document.	
Format	Data format. Choose a format from the list,	
	or choose Other if the desired format is not	
	available. Provide a format definition in the	
	following field.	
Other Format Rule	Perl code. Active only if Format = "Other:"	
Post Processing Rule	Perl code.	



Layout Designer

The Layout Designer allows you to customize the appearance of all types of printed output in PortaBilling®.



Layout Designer (LD) Quick Start

To launch, click the **Layout Designer** button on the Media tab in the Template Management window. The sliding toolbar on the left side provides most of the controls for manipulating content in the editor window. There are three different states for most of the toolbar icons: normal, active, and not available.

Icon state	Description	
	Normal – Click to activate	
	Active – Click to deactivate	
回	Not available	

Icon	Description
*	Add Picture: Click to select a picture (e.g. your company logo) from a file select window. Click the Open button to place the picture on the worksheet. To remove the picture, right-click on it and choose Remove. Another way of deleting a picture is to press Delete on your keyboard.
	Lock Aspect: Fixes image proportions during scale operations.
	Preview: Click to preview your work in a browser window.
	Add Table: Click to place a table on the worksheet. A table can be removed by using the context (right-click) menu or by pressing Delete on your keyboard. Click the table cell to make it active. To add another table, click on the worksheet to deactivate



the currently active object. Read more about tables below.
Text Align: A section of nine buttons used to align text in an active table cell.
Word Wrap
Text controls: The tools and selects from this section control font attributes such as font style (bold, italic, underline), font family (serif, sans-serif, cursive, fantasy, monospace), and font size.
Foreground Color: Change the text color by selecting from this list.
Background Color: Change the color of the active table cell by selecting from this list.
Border: A section of six buttons for showing or hiding the border of the active table cell.
Stroke: A section of three controls for changing the active cell's border weight, style and color.
Grid: On by default; click to turn off the grid.
Snap to Grid: On by default; click to allow arbitrary positioning of elements on the worksheet.
Envelope Window: Two half-transparent gray boxes displaying the positions of envelope windows; click to turn off.
Undo: Click to cancel the last action.
Save and Close: For convenience in editing the bottom of the worksheet, these controls duplicate the main toolbar controls.



A straight line in the Layout Designer can be simulated by using a table with only one visible border.

Table

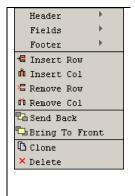
The main Layout Designer object is the table, which is a placeholder for all inserted information. A table or a table cell within a table can be moved and scaled by dragging the cell handlers. Double-click a table or a cell within a table to enter cell editing mode, where you can type in or edit a cell's text. To change the attributes of a cell's text, make sure the cell is selected (8 black square handlers are visible) and set the text attributes in the toolbar on the left.



Changing the text attributes of a cell in the toolbar will affect all text in the current cell. To change the attributes of part of the text, enter cell editing mode (double-click), select that part of the text, and use the keyboard shortcuts listed below.



Context Menu

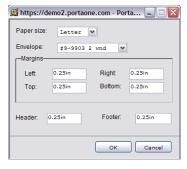


The context (right-click) menu provides you with greater control over tables and other objects, and allows certain data located in the PortaBilling® database to be displayed in the table cell. To show the menu, right-click on a table or cell. The three top elements of the context menu correspond to the template components (tabs); in the case of an invoice, for example, these would be Header, Fields and Footer. Users can also set the order of all objects in the window and clone or delete selected objects.

Select one of the menu elements to activate a submenu containing a list of all the fields specified in the template editing window. The selected item will appear in the selected cell as the item's value. Double-click the cell to enter editing mode; the cell now displays the corresponding variable.

Page / Print setup

The page context menu (right-click on the worksheet) provides access to the Web-Page Dialog for page, envelope and print setup.





Open your browser prior to printing. In your browser's **File** menu, select **Page Setup.** In the dialog window, set up the paper size (A4 or Letter), delete all Header and Footer symbols, and set all margins to zero or a value close to zero.

Envelope Formats: America

Envelope	Envelope Measurements	Window size	Window From Left	Window From Bottom
#6-3/4	3-5/8" x 6-1/2"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"
#7	3-3/4" x 6-3/4"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"
#7-3/4	3-7/8" x 7-1/2"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"
#8-5/8	3-5/8" x 8-5/8"	1" X 4"	1"	3 / 4"
#9	3-7/8" x 8-7/8"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"
#10	4-1/8" x 9-1/2"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"
#11	4-1/2" x 10-3/8"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"



#12	4-3/4" x 11"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"
#14	5" x 11-1/2"	1-1/8" X 4-1/2"	7/8"	1 / 2"

Double-window envelopes

Envelope	Window Size	Location	Placement	
	TOP WINDOW			
#9-9903	3 7/8" x 8 7/8"	From Left	3/8"	
	37/0 × 07/0	From Top	1/2"	
	BOTTOM WINDOW			
3 5/8" x 8 5/8"	1" x 4"	From Left	7/8"	
		From Bottom	5/8"	
	TOP WINDOW			
# 8-5/8	7/8" x 3-1/2"	From Left	5/8"	
		From Bottom	2 1/4"	
	BOTTOM WINDOW			
3 5/8" x 8 5/8"	1" x 4"	From Left	5/8"	
		From Bottom	5/8"	
	TOP WINDOW			
#9-13036	7/8" x 3-1/4"	From Left	3/8"	
	1,0 % 0 1,1	From Bottom	2-1/2"	
	BOTTOM WINDOW			
3 7/8 x 8 7/8"	1-1/8" x 4-1/2"	From Left	1/2"	
	,	From Bottom	7/16"	
TOP WINDOW				
#9-13037	7/8" x 3-1/4"	From Left	3/8"	
	.,,,,,,,	From Bottom	2-1/2"	
	BOTTOM WINDOW			
3 7/8 x 8 7/8"	1" x 4"	From Left	1/2"	
		From Bottom	3/4"	
	TOP WINDOW			
#9-13038	7/8" x 3-1/2"	From Left	3/8"	
	.,,,,,,,	From Bottom	2-3/8"	
	BOTTOM WINDOW			
3 7/8 x 8 7/8"	1-1/8" x 4"	From Left	3/8"	
	x	From Bottom	5/8"	

 ${f NOTE}$: Envelope #9-9903 (3 7/8" x 8 7/8") is QuickBooks compatible.

Envelope Formats: Europe

Format	Size [mm] Content Format	
C6	114×162 A4 folded twice = A6	
DL	110×220 A4 folded twice = $1/3$ A	
C6/C5	114×229 A4 folded twice = $1/3$ A4	
C5	C5 162×229 A4 folded once = A5	
C4	229 × 324	A4

DIN 680 specifies that a transparent address window should be 90×45 mm in size, and the window's left edge should be located 20 mm from the



left edge of the envelope. For C6, DL, and C6/C5 envelopes, the bottom edge of the window should be 15 mm from the bottom edge of the envelope. For C4 envelopes, the top edge of the window should be either 27 or 45 mm from the top edge of the envelope.

Keyboard shortcuts



Shortcut	Action
Arrow keys	Move objects with grid size increments.
Ctrl – arrow	Use to scale table cells or images with current grid size
key	increments.
	Cell editing mode
Ctrl-A	Selects all objects in the Template window if nothing is
	selected, or selects all text in an active table cell.
Ctrl-C	Copy selected text.
Ctrl-V	Paste clipboard text starting from the current cursor
	position.
Ctrl-X	Cut highlighted text.
Ctrl-I	Change selected text style to <i>Italic</i> .
Ctrl-B	Change selected text style to Bold .
Ctrl-U	Change selected text style to <u>Underline</u> .
Ctrl-K	Hyperlink selected text (opens hyperlink editing dialog).



Netscape or Mozilla users may experience the lack of a movable cursor allowing them to select text from the keyboard in cell editing mode. Press the **F7** button to turn the edit cursor (caret browsing) on and off.

Users with a small screen resolution may enjoy the benefits of their browser's full-screen mode. Simply press the **F11** button to switch your Mozilla, Netscape or IE into full-screen mode.

Web Interface

The Web Interface page is for managing various parameters that affect the look and feel of the information presented on the PortaBilling® web interface.

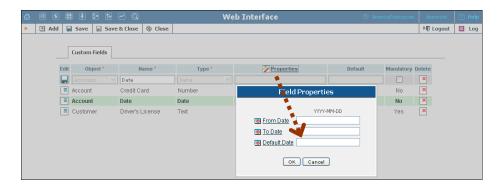
Custom Fields

It is possible to store a set of extra attributes (e.g. driver's license ID or tax code) to supplement the standard PortaBilling® information. This tab allows you to create your own custom fields and give them whatever name you like, set a field type, and so on. Custom fields are treated like any other field; they can be set on the Customer / Account Info page and used for search queries.



Administrators can manage extra user information with the help of the **Custom Fields** tab on the Web Interface page. For each new custom field, the following attributes must be set:

Field	Description		
Object	Defines whether the custom field applies to the		
	Customer or the Account.		
Name	The descriptive name of the field. This is the name		
	that will be displayed next to the custom field on the		
	Customer / Account Info page.		
Type	Choose the type of field:		
	 Text – basic single-line input field; 		
	Number – input field used to store and		
	validate numerical values;		
	 Date – field type used to store dates; 		
	• Date & Time – custom field that stores dates		
	with a time component;		
	List – single select list with a configurable set		
	of options.		
	NOTE: Once a custom field is created, the Type field cannot be changed.		
Properties	Enables you to customize properties of the field that		
_	define its form, appearance, or value. These properties		
	are specific to the field type. Click Properties or the		
	Wizard icon 2 to invoke the wizard. This will enable		
	you to define a new field format or change an existing		
	one and to specify the default value a custom field		
	should have.		
Default	Read-only attribute which must be specified in the		
	Properties attribute.		
Mandatory	Defines the mandatory status of the field.		





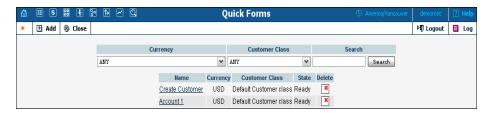
You can delete a custom field at any time. All records of its values will also be deleted then.



Quick Forms

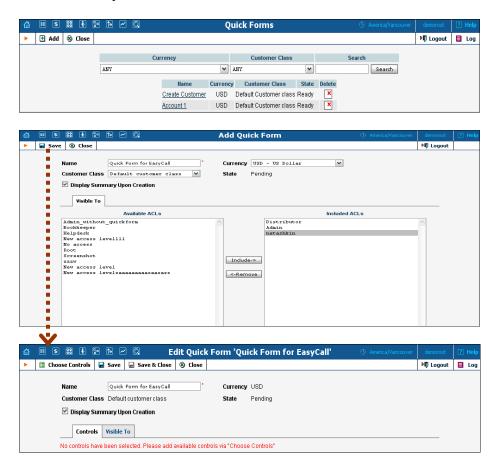
The **quick form** is used to simplify and make faster the process of creating new customers and accounts and avoid mistakes when filling in parameters. The administrator fills in most of the important parameters (e.g. customer class, currency or product for an account), so that later the person entering data only has to input a few remaining ones (e.g. customer name) to create a customer and an account (or multiple accounts) under it.

The Quick Forms screen shows the quick forms currently in the system.



Add a New Quick Form

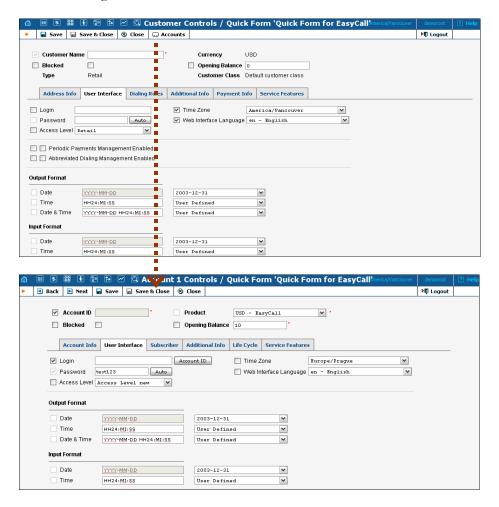
To add a new quick form, select the **Add** button.





After creating the initial quick form definition, you need to specify which fields in the customer and account information will be pre-populated, and which are to be filled in later by a data entry person. To do this:

- 1. Click on Choose Controls in the toolbar.
- 2. Fill in the information about the customer object.
- 3. Click Save in the toolbar to save the quick form information related to the customer.
- 4. Now click on **Accounts** in the toolbar to enter information about the account to be created by this quick form.
- 5. Fill in the parameters relating to the account, then click **Save** in the toolbar.
- 6. If you want to use this quick form to create several accounts, click **Next** in the toolbar to access the information screen for the following account, then press **Save**.
- 7. Repeat step 6 until all the information for all accounts has been entered.
- 8. Finally, click **Close** in the toolbar to return to the Quick Form management screen.





The checkbox next to the field defines its status with regard to data entry. If the box is checked, this means that the data entry person will be prompted to enter a value for this field (you can still specify a default value for this field). If the box is unchecked, you must provide a value for this field when defining the quick form, which will then be inserted into the database.

NOTE: Values for some fields must be entered by the data entry person, since they must be unique (e.g. Customer Name).

Please refer to the *Customer Management* and *Account Management* sections of this manual for a detailed explanation of individual fields in the forms.



3. Adjusting Billing Parameters



Services

Services in PortaBilling® define the naming and billing parameters of the physical services you offer to customers. Each service is associated with a particular service type (which defines what the customer is actually doing – making a phone call, sending a message, using WiFi, etc.). Services allow you to specify which parameters are used to calculate charges and, finally, what the rates for each service are.

For your convenience, PortaBilling® now provides a set of pre-defined services with all the required parameters. You can easily change an existing service name to make it more descriptive for your administrators and customers; or you can define new services.

Add / Edit Services Online

Click the Add button to add a new service. Services you create can be edited later by clicking the Edit icon. Standard PortaBilling® services cannot be changed, and are shown in gray. Press the Save button to save your work when done.



Column	Description
Name	Service type name (currently this is the only column
	which can be changed by the user).
Service Type	Choose the service type (physical service) supplied to
	the customer. See below for a description of the
	available service types.
Rating Base	Specification of which particular parameter is used to
	calculate charges, e.g. "session time", "amount of
	data transferred" and the like. Where applicable, the
	rating base selection also defines what is to be used as
	the base unit; e.g. for the Internet Access service you
	could use bytes, kilobytes or megabytes as the base
	unit.
Base Unit	A customer-visible name for the units in which
	service use is measured; this also would be the
	smallest possible unit you can use in the rating



	configuration.
Billing Unit	A customer-visible name for the units used to
	calculate service charges. You will use these units to
	specify your rating prices, and the usage details in
	xDRs will be shown in these units.
Billing:Base	If billing units are different from base units, this
Ratio	parameter defines how many base units make up one
	billing unit (for instance, 1024 bytes makes 1
	kilobyte). This parameter is extremely important, as it
	affects calculations in all xDRs for this service.
	If you decide to deploy a new service with a different
	ratio between units (e.g. 1 kilobyte equaling 1000
	bytes), a new service type must be created before you
	attempt to do any further configuration.

Supported Service Types

Once installed, PortaBilling® supports the service types shown in the table below. The Rating Base column refers to the applicable rating base options. S ("session-based") means that the service type is charged based on the duration of its use, while Q ("quantity-based") means that some other numerical parameter supplied by the network node is used, e.g. the amount of data transferred.

Name	Rating	Description
	Base	_
Conferencing	S	Rating conference calls via PortaBridge (or some
		other conferencing server).
Data Service	Q	Data transfers rated using the amount
		transferred as the billing parameter.
Dialup Internet	S	Dialup Internet access sessions, rated based on
		session duration.
Internet Access	S, Q	Internet access sessions (DSL, PPPoE, etc.),
		rated based on session duration or the amount
		of transferred data.
Messaging	Q	Rating messages (text, SMS, MMS, other) based
Service		on the number of messages sent.
Quantity-	Q	Generic quantity-based service type; can be used
Based		to apply charges for any service use expressible
		in numerical form (e.g. the number of pizzas
		ordered).
Session-Based	S	Generic time-based service type; it can be used
		to apply charges for any service use based on the
		length of time the service was accessed.
Voice Calls	S	Rating telephony calls (incoming or outgoing)
		made via PortaSIP®, VoIP gateways or other
		equipment.



Wi-Fi	S	Wireless Internet access sessions, rated based on
		session duration.

Currencies

The **Currencies** page allows you to define a method for determining exchange rates between currencies. Supported methods include explicitly defined exchange rates or the use of external services such as yahoo.com or xe.com.



NOTE: Before relying on an external exchange rate service, read its terms of use thoroughly, as the rates it provides are usually given at a delay of at least fifteen minutes from the actual values.

To define an exchange rate source for a currency, first click **Add** in the toolbar.









From the Exchange Rate Source drop-down list, choose "Manual", "yahoo.com", or "xe.com". (The specific exchange rate is defined in the popup window when adding a new currency or changing the exchange rate source for an existing one.)

The next drop-down list shows all payment systems registered by the system's administrator. Choose one which will be responsible for all payments in this currency using the payment methods chosen for it. If this is not required, select an empty value. It is possible to add multiple combinations of the same currency with different payment systems; in this case, all of them will use the same exchange rate source.



Please note that it is not allowed to have multiple payment systems assigned to the same currency using the same payment method. Because of charges for the use of online payment systems, it is recommended that a non-zero value be entered in the **Minimum Payment** field.

Column	Description
ISO 4217	
alpha	Official three-letter currency code (e.g. USD).
Num	Numeric currency code according to ISO standard.
Name	Commonly used name of the currency.
Dec. digits	Maximum number of decimal places allowed by the
	currency, e.g. for US dollars or euros it will be 2, since
	the smallest unit is one cent (0.01) , while for yen it will
	be 0, because an amount in yens can only be a whole
	integer.
Major	The main currency unit, e.g. dollar.
Minor	The lesser currency unit (if applicable), e.g. cent.
Exchange	Defines the method of entering the exchange rate for
Rate Source	this currency: updated either manually by an
	administrator, or by PortaBilling® from exchange rate
	sites such as xe.com or yahoo.com.
	For an existing row in the table, click on the underlined
	xe.com or yahoo.com line in a column to immediately
	fetch the current exchange rate.





Payment	Selects an online payment processor to process
System	payments in this currency.
Payment	Read-only column; lists all available payment methods
Method	(e.g. VISA) for the selected payment system.
Minimum	The smallest allowed amount for an online payment (in
Payment	the corresponding currency), in order to prevent
-	service abuse.

Select Save or click the Save icon in the Edit field to make your changes take effect.

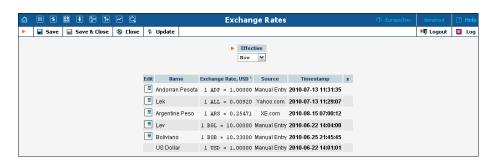
The ISO 4217 currency code is normally composed of a country's two-character ISO 3166 country code plus an extra character denoting the currency unit. For example, the code for Canadian Dollars is simply Canada's two-character ISO 3166 code ("CA") plus a one-character currency designator ("D"). Currency unit names (major and minor) are not defined in ISO 4217, and are listed in the table only for user convenience. Visit BSI Currency Code Service (ISO 4217 Maintenance Agency) website http://www.bsi-global.com/ for more information.

Obsolete currencies

In the course of time, some currencies become obsolete (e.g. coupons). The obsolete currency cannot be added to the system or selected as a base currency. But if it was added and used in the system before becoming obsolete the system will continue working with this currency as before. Note that when updating the list of exchange rates for existing currencies, if there are any exchange rates for obsolete currencies they will not be updated.

Exchange Rates

All exchange rates used within the system are listed. The **Effective** drop-down list allows you to define whether only current exchange rates ("Now") or all exchange rates ever used ("->Now") will be shown. The following information is provided in the exchange rate listing:





Field	Description
Edit	Click the Edit icon to modify the given exchange
	rate. Select Save or click the Save icon in the Edit
	field to make your changes take effect.
Name	The currency unit name (for example, "Canadian
	Dollar").
Exchange	Currency exchange rate. Defines the number of units of
Rate	the base currency equal to one unit of the foreign
	currency. (For example, with British Pounds as the
	foreign currency and U.S. Dollars as the base currency,
	the base currency units would be "1.5326" and the value
	of this column would be "1 GBP = 1.5326")
Source	Shows the exchange rate source for the given currency
	as defined on the Currency page.
Timestamp	The effective date for the given currency. Newer
	exchange rates supersede older ones.

Click the **Edit** icon to modify an existing exchange rate. This will copy the content of the current row into the table header. The source will be changed to Manual. Enter the new exchange rate, then select either save Edit, Save or Save&Close to save changes.

Customer Classes

A customer class is a definition of various properties (e.g. invoice terms) which can be easily applied to a large number of customers.

On the Customer Class Management screen, you can view a list of all currently defined classes. This list provides the following information:



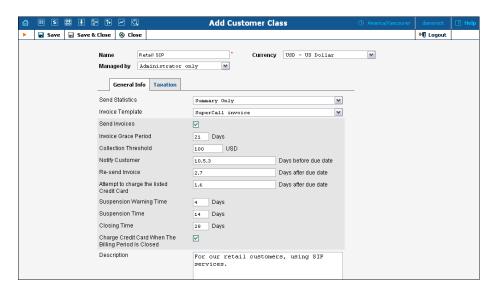
Column	Description
Name	The name of a specific Customer Class.
Currency	Currency that is used for a particular Customer Class.
Managed by	Administrator only (default) means that this class will
	be used for your direct customers, and is accessible only
	to your administrators. Select a PortaBilling® reseller to
	assign this class for use by a particular reseller.



Description A logical description of this Customer Class.

Add / Edit Customer Class

The Add Customer Class page allows you to define a new customer class within PortaBilling®.



The following parameters are available:

Field	Description
Name	Name of the specific Customer Class.
Currency	This is the main parameter that is used for
	a particular Customer Class.
	NOTE: Customer Class currency must be defined to set the Collection Threshold. Once saved, the currency cannot be changed.
Managed by	Administrator only (default) means that this class
	will be used for your direct customers, and is
	accessible only to your administrators. Select a
	PortaBilling® reseller to assign this class for use by a
	particular reseller.
The following specifie	s various parameters to be assigned by default to customers within
	this customer class:
Send Statistics	Defines what kind of xDR statistics should be
	delivered to the customer by email:
	 Full Statistics – Send a CSV file with a
	complete list of xDRs.
	Summary Only – Do not send a full list of
	xDRs, only a brief summary.
	Do Not Send – Do not send any statistics by email.



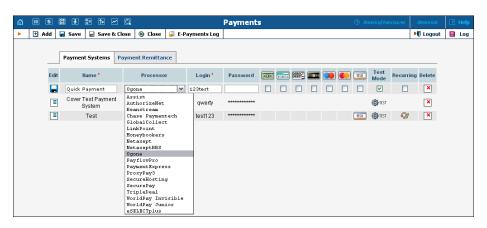
	For more details, see Additional Info in the Add / Edit
	Customer section.
Invoice	Choose either "Do not create invoice" (in this case
Template	no invoices will be created, only CSV xDR statistics)
_	or a particular invoice template.
Send Invoices	Defines whether a PDF copy of the invoice should
	automatically be sent to the customer when a new
	invoice is created.
Invoice Grace	Invoice terms, i.e. how many days after invoice
Period	generation payment is expected.
Collection	If the amount due on an invoice is lower than the
Threshold	specified threshold, notifications about the invoice
	will not be sent and no payment is required. If no
	payment is made, the balance is applied to the next
	invoice(s) until the amount due on a new invoice
	crosses the threshold. The status of such an invoice
	on the web will be reflected as Previous balance
	remaining.
	Be aware that the field Collection Threshold is only
	enabled when the currency for Customer Class has
	been defined.
Notify	Comma-separated list of numbers; each number
Customer	represents a number of days prior to the invoice due
	date when a notification regarding an unpaid invoice
	should be sent. For instance, 14,7,3 means that the
	customer should receive a notification 14, 7 and 3
	days before the due date. (Obviously, if the customer
	, , ,
	pays after the first notification, no further
	notifications will be sent).
	Leave this field empty to disable notifications
	completely.
Re-send	Comma-separated list of numbers; each number
Invoice	represents a number of days after the invoice due
	date when a notification regarding the overdue
	invoice should be sent. For instance, 0,7,14 means
	that the customer will receive a notification on the
	due date and then 1 and 2 weeks later. (Obviously, if
	the customer pays after the first notification, no
	further notifications will be sent).
	Leave this field empty to disable notifications
	completely.
Attempt to	Comma-separated list of numbers; each number
_	1
Charge the	represents a number of days after the invoice due
Listed Credit	date when an attempt should be made to charge a
Card	customer's credit card for the invoice amount due.
	For instance, 0,3,10 means that PortaBilling® will
	attempt to charge the customer's credit card on file



	on the due date and then 3 and 10 days later.
	(Obviously, if one of the charge attempts succeeds,
	no further attempts will be made).
	Leave this field empty to disable re-collect attempts
	completely.
Suspension	How many days after the due date will the customer's
Time	services be suspended if the invoice is still unpaid.
	Leave this field empty to disable service suspension.
Suspension	How many days after the due date should notification
Warning Time	of possible suspension of services be sent to the
	customer. Leave this field empty to disable such
	notification.
Closing Time	How many days after the due date will the customer's
	account be closed if the invoice is still unpaid. Leave
	this field empty to disable automatic account closing.
	Note that, if defined, the Suspension Warning
	Time must be less than the Suspension Time, and
	the Suspension Time must be less than the Closing
	Time.
Charge Credit	Automatically charge the customer's credit card on
Card When	file for the full amount due when his billing period is
Billing Period	closed; as a result, an invoice will be created with a
Is Closed	zero amount due.
Description	A logical description of this Customer Class.

Payments

The Payment Systems tab lists all existing payment systems, and allows you to enter information related to payment gateways used to receive payments from customers.





One or more payment systems may be utilized for electronic payments. In order to make use of these services, you must first register with one of the currently-supported* merchants, as shown below:

Name	Web Page
Assist	www.assist.ru
AuthorizeNet	www.authorize.net
Beanstream	www.beanstream.com
Chase Paymentech	www.chasepaymentech.com
GlobalCollect	www.globalcollect.nl
LinkPoint	www.linkpoint.com
Moneybookers	www.moneybookers.com
Netaxept	www.paynet.no
NetaxeptBBS	www.betalingsterminal.no/Netthandel-forside/
Ogone	www.ogone.com
PayflowPro	www.verisign.com/products-services/payment- processing/online-payment/payflow-pro/
PaymentExpress	www.paymentexpress.com
ProxyPay3	www.eurobank.gr
SecureHosting	www.securehosting.com
SecurePay	www.securepay.com.au
TripleDeal	www.docdatapayments.com
WorldPay Invisible	www.worldpay.com
WorldPay Junior	www.worldpay.com
eSELECTplus	www.moneris.com

To add a new payment system, click Add and enter the Account Name, Login, Password and Merchant in the edit row at the top of the listing. Choose one or several payment methods which will be used for payments made by these payment systems. To edit an existing account, click Edit and copy the information from the current row into the form above. Save changes using the Save button. A recurring payment allows customers to set up periodic payments on this payment system. Payment systems with recurring payment enabled are indicated by the

After adding the payment system, it is necessary to assign it to one or several currencies in which payments will be processed using the chosen payment methods (see the *Currencies* section). Only after doing so can this payment system be used for payments by customers and accounts defined in these currencies. Please note that several (more than one) systems may



^{*} Supported means that a corresponding Business: OnlinePayment plugin module is available at www.cpan.org. This does not guarantee that the module will support all the required features, and some extra work may be required to integrate it into the solution and perform testing. Please contact support@portaone.com for a current list of payment modules which have been thoroughly tested and work "out of the box", such as AuthorizeNet.



not be assigned to the same currency using the same allowed payment method, i.e. you cannot have two systems with VISA as the allowed payment method assigned to the currency USD. However, you can assign both a system with VISA as the allowed method and another with MasterCard as the allowed method to the currency USD. Similarly, you can assign one system with VISA to the currency USD and another with the same method to the currency EUR.

Test Mode is a special mode of interaction with the system. It is useful during the initial setup phase, when a merchant may want to test its setup without processing live card data.

What is a payment processor?

A payment processor is a real-time transaction processing system that functions as a payment service using a secure transaction server on the Internet. Merchants with a valid merchant account at an acquiring bank ("payment system") can use this system to submit, authorize, capture and settle credit card or eCheck transactions without the need for a separate transaction terminal.

Payment system basics

This section is provided for information purposes only. The terms and conditions of your payment system are subject to agreement between you and your bank or merchant service provider, and should be consulted for specific information relating to your payment system.

A payment system is required to accept credit cards using the system. A payment system is a special account with a bank that is a member of the Visa and MasterCard associations (American Express may also be part of your payment system). Such a bank has been certified by the Visa and MasterCard associations and can provide you, as the merchant, with all the services related to your payment system.

You *must* have a credit card payment system in order to use a payment processor for credit card transaction processing. The payment processor system is separate from your payment system, but it may be purchased at the same time from the bank or merchant service provider which is creating your payment system.

The merchant service provider normally does the following:

- Assigns you a payment system number.
- Sets up your payment processor account.
- Assigns you a login ID and password for use with your payment processor account.
- Acts as your main point of contact for basic issues regarding your merchant and payment processor accounts.



- Enables you to add certain types of credit cards to your payment system.
- If the merchant service provider is also your payment processor reseller, it also activates the processing capability for these cards on your payment processor account.
- Deposits credit card funds to your account.

Your merchant service provider may also provide you with MID and TID numbers. The payment processor does not need these numbers, but some third-party solutions (such as certain Shopping Cart providers) may require them.

Once your payment system is set up and "live" on the credit card system, you can begin accepting credit cards from customers. It is your responsibility to configure the payment processor to meet your own needs, and to provide a hosting environment which is appropriate for the choices you have made within the payment processor.

The **E-Payments Log** button in the toolbar allows you to access information about credit card or direct debit charge attempts for the whole environment. Please see the *E-payments Log* section for further details.



4. Rating



Destinations

Destinations are a list of all possible phone number prefixes to be used in your system, which will later be used in creating price lists (Tariffs). For convenience, destinations are grouped in alphabetical order by country.

In the case of a non-telephony service (e.g. video-on-demand), destinations define various service categories (e.g. VIDEO-NEWRELEASE and VIDEO-FOREIGN), and so a different rating may be defined. For some services (e.g. WiFi access) you would only need one destination for the whole service, since there is no further differentiation.

Destinations may be edited and, if a destination is not being used in any tariff, it will also have a Delete button. Of course, it is not necessary to include every destination in a given price list; only enter the prefixes (destinations) used by this particular vendor or customer.

PortaBilling® can support different numbering plans, but it is highly recommended to keep all of your destinations in the E.164 numbering space. The Destinations table contains the valid E.164 prefixes. Different standardization and governmental bodies control the E.164 numbering space, and some private numbering spaces also exist.

Click here to view the Official ITU Dialing Procedures document (PDF)

PortaBilling® is supplied with a file containing a basic set of destinations. It covers all countries of the world and some of the major destinations in each country, linking prefix information to:

- o country (if applicable)
- o subdivision (if applicable)
- o description

Of course, you can edit the supplied destinations list according to your needs. Also, you can always add more destinations later, if needed.

Add / Edit Destinations Online

To add new destinations, click the Add button. The Save New icon will appear on the Destinations form. Enter the prefix and choose a country from the drop-down list. After selecting the country, the subdivision field will be refreshed. Choose a subdivision if necessary. Click the Save New icon to save the new destination.





To edit an existing destination, enter a prefix, country or description (i.e. proper, mobile, etc.) in the search field and click the corresponding button. You can also select a country alphabetically from the top right-hand part of the interface. Choose the destination you wish to edit from the list by clicking the **Edit** icon. The content of the row will be copied into the Destinations form above, and the **Save Edit** icon will appear in the first column. Choose Subdivision from the refreshed drop-down list and type in the Description, if any. Save your work by clicking the **Save Edit** icon.

Destination access levels

User Type	Access Description
Root , or if ACL	Full access.
includes Use	
country code	
during upload	
ACL which allows	Can perform all types of operations with
read / write	destinations except for manually specifying a
operations on	country during upload. If Admin uploads a new
Destinations, e.g.	destination, the system chooses the appropriate
Admin	country automatically, using the longest match
	from the available destinations.
all other types	Read-only.

Destination Upload / Download Procedures

Upload

The CSV file header contains the following fields: Action, Prefix, iso_3166_1_a2, Description.



Field	Description
Action	Add or delete; encoded as "+" and "-" or "add" and
	"remove".
	Note: Only unused destinations that do not appear
	in the Rates table can be deleted. If the action is "+"
	and the prefix is already in Destinations, then the
	update action will be performed.
Prefix	Value to be stored in Destinations.
Two-letter ISO	Value to be stored in Destinations.iso_3166_1_a2.
Country Code	Note: Ignored if the uploader is not Root or does not
	have "Use country code during upload" in his ACL;
	in this case, the system chooses the appropriate
	country automatically, using the longest match from
	the available destinations. If you would like to set the
	Country property as "Not Applicable," then the value
	must be encoded as "". If the field is empty and the
	uploader's access level is Root, then the system
	chooses the appropriate country automatically, using
	the longest match from the available destinations.
Description	Value to be stored in Destinations.

Download

The CSV file header contains the following fields: Action, Prefix, Country Code (iso_3166_1_a2), Description.

Field	Description
Action	Add or delete, encoded as "+".
Prefix	Missing prefix
All other fields	Empty

NOTE: For tariff uploads, new destinations will be e-mailed as a CVS attachment in an error report using the Destinations Upload format: Action, Prefix, Country Code (iso_3166_1_a2), Description.

Uploading destinations

The system is supplied with a predefined set of countries and the most common destinations for those countries. If required, new countries may be inserted into the database manually. When uploading new destinations, a super user can specify the country using its ISO country code. If empty, the system tries to find a country via existing destinations.

For example, if "16045" is uploaded, the system finds that "1604" is already in the database as "Canada". If it is not possible to find the country in this way, or if the country is "N/A", the destination will not be



imported. An uploaded file with such a destination will be sent back for correction in a format suitable for upload.

ISO 3166-1 Country Codes

For more information on this standard, visit the **ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency website**.

The complete title of ISO 3166-1 is "Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions".

Country Codes

- o ISO 3166-1 gives coded representations of more than 230 names of countries or areas dependent on a country.
- o ISO 3166-1 contains a two-letter code (Alpha-2-code), a three-letter code (Alpha-3-code) and a three-digit numeric code, (Numeric-3-code) for every entry in its list of country names.

ISO 3166-1 does not code:

- o Names of languages (e.g. Gaelic)
- o Names of nations or peoples (e.g. Dutch)
- o Names of groups of countries (e.g. Scandinavia)
- o Names of continents (e.g. Asia)
- o Names of organizations (e.g. OAS, NAFTA, WHO)
- o Top-level Internet domains

Applications

ISO 3166-1 codes are used in many applications in all branches of industry, trade and statistics worldwide. One example of their use are the "code elements from ISO 4217" codes for currencies and funds, which are based on the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-2-Code (e.g. USD for US Dollars, where US comes from ISO 3166-1).

ISO 3166-2 Country Subdivision Codes

ISO 3166-2 "Country Subdivision Codes" establishes a code for the names of principal administrative subdivisions within countries coded in ISO 3166-1. ISO 3166-2 was published on December 15, 1998. The code elements used consist of the Alpha-2 code element from ISO 3166-1 followed by a separator and a further string of up to three alphanumeric characters.

The names of the subdivisions are given in more than one language if the country has more than one official language (and if the alternative language versions were available to ISO). In Uzbekistan, for example, there are two official languages, Uzbek (uz) and Russian (ru), so the subdivision names are also listed in these two languages. The



Romanization systems used to convert the country subdivision list from non-Roman to Roman script (e.g. from Cyrillic, in the case of Uzbekistan) are also given. The abbreviations and language codes (ISO 639) used in the header preceding the subdivision list for each country are explained in annexes to the standard.

Destination Group Sets

Very often a logical destination (e.g. Czech Republic – Mobile) will consist of multiple prefixes (420601, 420602, 420604, 420732 and so on). It would be quite inconvenient to repeat the same "create a new rate" operation for every individual prefix, since all of the price parameters are the same. Thus you could create a destination group "CZ-Mobile" and then perform "create a new rate" only once, with the rates for all of the prefixes being created automatically. However, since different carriers might include different prefixes in the "Czech Republic – Mobile" category, we need to be able to maintain different sets of destination groups.

Creating a new destination group set

To add a new destination group set, click the Add button. The Save New icon will appear next to the name.



After the destination group set has been saved, click on the hyperlinked name to manage the destination groups included in this set.

Creating a destination group



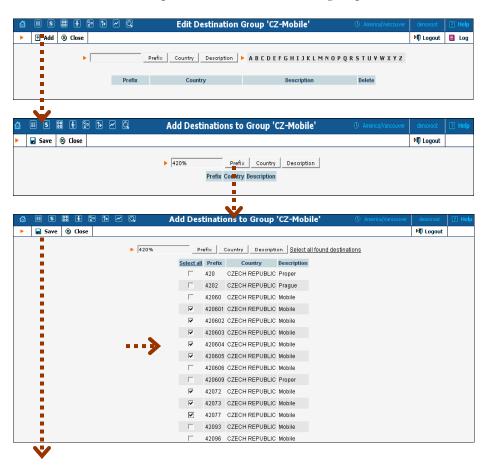




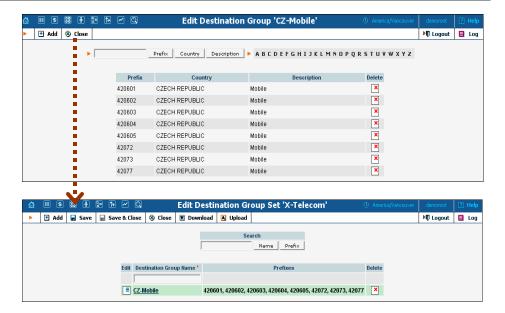
Column	Description
Destination	Convenient short name for the destination group, e.g.
Group Name	UK-Mobile . This will be used to enter new rates for
	this group of destinations.
Prefixes	List of prefixes included in this group. For a
	destination group with many prefixes, only the first
	few will be displayed. Click on Destination Group
	Name to see a complete list of destinations
	belonging to this group.

Managing destinations (prefixes) within a group

Click on the hyperlinked destination group name to edit its contents. Click on **Add** to add more prefixes to the destination group.







Tariffs

A tariff is a collection of individual rates, a rate being a per-destination price. Each tariff has its own set of rates. Call billing is based on billing units. You can define two billing units for each destination: the first billing unit (interval) and the next billing unit (interval). Billing unit precision is one second, and the minimum length of each unit is likewise one second.

Typical billing unit configurations include 60/6 (the first unit, i.e. the minimum charged call duration, is one minute, and subsequent intervals are one-tenth of a minute, i.e. six seconds) and 1/1 (per-second billing).

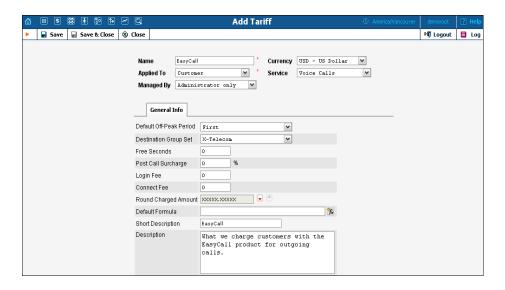


The main Tariff Management screen shows a list of all existing tariffs. Tariffs can be located using the Search form, by selecting a reseller from the drop-down list, or choosing the tariff's name. To edit a tariff, click on its name in the list. Click the **Edit Rate** icon to edit individual rates for the given tariff. The **Delete** icon will be visible only when the tariff is not in use (not assigned to any customer or vendor and not being used in any product's rating entry), and enables permanent deletion of the given tariff.



Add / Edit Tariff

To add a new tariff to the system, select **Add** to go to the Add Tariff screen. Existing tariffs can be edited by clicking on the tariff's name in the list.



Field	Description
Name	The logical name for the tariff object.
Currency	Indicates the currency in which pricing information is
	defined. All pricing information for a single tariff must
	be defined in the same currency.
Applied To	Designates whether this tariff will be used to charge
	your customers or resellers or to calculate costs
	associated with your vendors. You must select a value
	here to get access to certain fields that are available only
	for a specific type of tariff.
Service	Select the service for which this tariff will be used (by
	default the Voice Calls service type will be selected).
Managed By	(Only available for tariffs of the Customer type).
	Allows you to designate this tariff as managed by the
	administrator only (so this tariff will be applied to your
	direct customers), or by a specific reseller (so this tariff
	will be used to charge the reseller's sub-customers).
Routing	(Only available for tariffs of the Vendor type). The
	tariff contains information about the carrier's routing
	preferences, in addition to the usual cost data.
Default Off-	Allows to select one of the previously defined off-peak
Peak Period	periods. If you do not differentiate between peak and
	off-peak rates, just choose Not defined .
Destination	A set of destination groups (UK-Mobile, CZ-Mobile,
Group Set	etc.) you would like to use for more convenient rate
	entry.



Free Seconds Number of free seconds granted for each call. In order to claim free seconds, the length of the call must be at least one billing unit (i.e. the first interval; see the 'Enter Rates' section above). Post Call Increases the total call cost by the given value. Login Fee Amount to be charged immediately after the first user authentication. Connect Fee Amount to be charged for each successful call, in addition to other charges. Round Pattern that defines the rounding of a charged amount in an individual xDR. This pattern takes the form XXX000. An X (to the left) means that the digit in this position will be left unchanged, while a zero (to the right) means that this position will be rounded. For example, XXXXX.XX000 means that the amount will be rounded up to two decimal places, so that 1.2345 becomes 1.24. Note that rounding is always done upwards. Default Default call rating formula applied to new rates. Note that the value of this parameter is only used when a new rate is inserted. Modification of this parameter has no effect on existing rates. Short Description While the name of a tariff is for your internal use, and is usually created according to your internal rules, you can also add a name meaningful to your reseller. For example, for the tariff name aABC-SmartCall-USD-1800, the short description will be Smart call using a toll-free number. Description Tariff description.		
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Short Description While the name of a tariff is for your internal use, and is usually created according to your internal rules, you can also add a name meaningful to your reseller. For example, for the tariff name aABC-SmartCall-USD-1800, the short description will be Smart call using a toll-free number.	Formula	that the value of this parameter is only used when a new
Short Description While the name of a tariff is for your internal use, and is usually created according to your internal rules, you can also add a name meaningful to your reseller. For example, for the tariff name aABC-SmartCall-USD-1800, the short description will be Smart call using a toll-free number.		rate is inserted. Modification of this parameter has no
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also add a name meaningful to your reseller. For example, for the tariff name aABC-SmartCall-USD-1800, the short description will be Smart call using a toll-free number.	Short	While the name of a tariff is for your internal use, and is
example, for the tariff name aABC-SmartCall-USD-1800, the short description will be Smart call using a toll-free number.	Description	usually created according to your internal rules, you can
1800, the short description will be Smart call using a toll-free number.		
toll-free number.		example, for the tariff name aABC-SmartCall-USD-
		1800, the short description will be Smart call using a
Description Tariff description.		toll-free number.
	Description	Tariff description.

Free Seconds, Connect Fee and Post-Call Surcharge are only applied when the default rating method is used. For more about different call rating methods, see the **PortaBilling Administrator Guide**.

Web Upload & Download

Choose appropriate templates for web upload / download of tariffs. Read more about this in the **Templates** section.



Email Upload



Tariffs can be uploaded to the system from an e-mail received with an attached document in either CSV or XLS format.

Field	Description
Edit	Click the Edit icon to copy the current row in the form
	above for editing.
Type	Uploaded document type, either CSV or XLS file.
From	Sender's e-mail; to prevent unauthorized access, only
	trusted e-mail will be allowed.
Key	Security key; tariff will be accepted only if the correct
	key is specified in the message's subject line or body.
Template	Select a template to map information in the uploaded
	file using PortaBilling®. Read more in the Templates
	section.
Disabled	Disable receipt of tariffs from this source.
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove this source.

NOTE: Due to the security risk, the processing of incoming e-mails is disabled by default. To reactivate, enable e-mail forwarding to the mail processing script in the /etc/aliases file on your slave server. To do it, include into /etc/aliases something similar to:

tariff_upload: "| /home/porta-admin/email_processor/mailbot.sh" In this case tariff_upload@<slave server hostname> address will be used for Tariff Upload.

Off-peak periods

Peak and off-peak prices

It is possible to have two different sets of prices, one for peak and one for off-peak time. In fact, you can have two separate off-peak periods (e.g. nighttime and weekends), meaning there are three separate sets of prices. A call is always billed using one particular rate; this also applies to calls starting in the off-peak period and ending in the peak period, or vice versa, i.e. there is no proration.

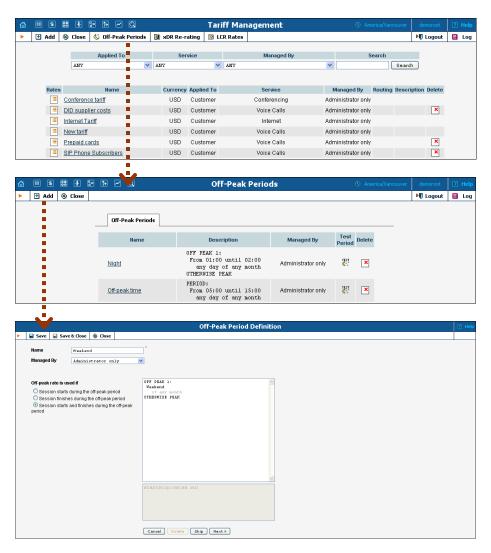


Off-peak periods are defined using the powerful yet flexible Time::Period module. The Off-Peak Period Wizard is also available to help you create a period definition easily.

You can create a master list of various off-peak periods (e.g. one from 9pm to 7am including weekends and another from 8pm to 8am daily) and then use these definitions for specific tariffs or rates inside the tariff.

Off-peak period definition wizard

To manage the available off-peak periods, select **Off-Peak Periods** on the **Tariff Management** screen.



The Off-Peak Period wizard provides users with a flexible tool for defining a new off-peak period. On a sequence of screens, the user may select a time interval, day of the week, day of the month, and month; multiple select is allowed. The following example illustrates the process of creating an off-peak period that starts at 6pm every day and lasts until



6am the next morning. Another off-peak interval is on weekends. We will also include some holidays, i.e. January 1st and December 24-26.

In the first screen, select 6pm in the **From** column, and 6am in the **Until** column. Now click the **Next** button. The two text areas on the right of the screen give the user a display of the current period definition. The top text area displays a verbal definition of the period -- From 6:00pm until 6:00am, and the bottom one contains this same information in a format that can be parsed by PortaBilling® -- hr{6pm-5am}. This sets up the first period; in order to continue, skip the following screens by pressing the **Skip** or **Next** button until the "Period definition completed" message is displayed, then press the **Add** button to add another definition to this period. The wizard now returns to the first screen.

NOTE: Time::Period treats all formula elements as "inclusive". Thus, in the example above, 6pm to 6am will be represented as hr{6pm-5am}. This is perfectly correct, since 5am actually means "all of the 5th hour – 05:00:00 ... 05:59:59".

Now for the weekends: pressing the **Skip** or **Next** button, go to the second screen and select *Weekend*, or, holding down the <Ctrl> key, select *Saturday* and *Sunday* from the list. Select the **Next** button and skip until the "Period definition completed" message is displayed. Press the **Add** button to add another definition to this period.

To include January 1st in the off-peak period definition, skip to the Day of Month screen, and select 1. Click the **Next** button. Now select *January*, click **Next**, skipping forward to the next screen. Follow the same steps to select the December 24-26 interval. Hold the <Ctrl> key down to select multiple entries.

On the next screen, you can choose how the system will charge calls which overlap with your off-peak period, i.e. cover both peak and off-peak time. There are three options you can choose from:

- If the call starts in the off-peak period, it will be charged using off-peak rates (even if part of the call was made during peak time).
 This method is the easiest and most transparent for end-user authorization of outgoing calls.
- If the call finishes during the off-peak period, it will be charged using off-peak rates; it does not matter whether it starts within the off-peak period or not.
- Or, the off-peak rate will only be used if the call both started and finished during the off-peak period. In this case, any call which partly extends into the peak period will be charged at the peak rate.

To evaluate your work, look at the top text area. The following text should be displayed:

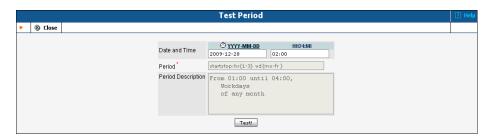


```
From 6:00pm until 6:00am
any day of any month
OR Sunday and Saturday
of any month
OR 1
of January
OR 24-26
of December
```

If the definition is correct, click the **Finish** button.

Test the off-peak period

If you are unsure whether you have created a correct off-peak period definition, you may use the test utility to check if a specific moment in time fits into the period or not. In order to run the off-peak period test, either click the cicon on the off-peak periods page, or use the **Test Period** button on the last page of the off-peak period wizard.



Now simply enter any time / date and click the Test button to check whether this moment fits into the off-peak period definition.

Rates

Managing rates online

Managing rates online is very convenient for maintaining existing rate tables and for reference purposes. In the case of new price lists or major updates, the offline method is better.





On the Tariff Management page, click the **Rates** icon for a tariff.

The filter at the top of the screen allows you to view rates depending on their Effective From date or Destination. The **Effective From** dropdown list allows you define whether only current rates ("Now") or all rates ever used ("->Now") will be shown.

To edit an existing rate, click the **Edit** icon next to it to copy rate details into the form. Note that if a tariff contains peak and off-peak rates there will be two rows of fields: the top one is for peak rates, and the bottom one is for off-peak rates.

Usually you will enter rate data for each destination separately. However, if the tariff has a **Destination Group Set** defined, by clicking on **G** in the Destination column header you can switch into Destination Group mode. Now you can enter a destination group name (e.g. UK-Mobile) instead of a prefix, and the system will automatically create rates for all of the destinations in that group.

Field	Description
Destination	Destination prefix. May be entered directly, e.g. "47" for
	Norway; or you can access the destinations directory by
	clicking the Destination link. In the destinations
	directory pop-up window, you can search for the
	desired prefix by country name.
Country	Country corresponding to the current destination.
Description	A short description of the specified destination.
First interval	First billing unit in seconds.
Next interval	Next billing unit in seconds.
Price first	Per minute price for first interval.
Price next	Per minute price for next interval.
Off-peak	First billing unit in seconds for off-peak time.
First interval	-



Off-peak	Next billing unit in seconds for off-peak time.
Next interval	
Off-peak	Per minute price for first interval in off-peak time.
Price first	
Off-peak	Per minute price for next interval in off-peak time.
Price next	
Effective	Exact time when the rate becomes effective. Click the ①
Time	icon to make the rate effective immediately. Click the
	DD-MM-YYYY link to set up the desired date using the
	pop-up calendar.
%	Indicates if this rate uses a call rating formula. The
	icon indicates that there is no formula, thus old-style
	rating is used. The 🍱 icon indicates that the rate already
	has a formula defined. Click on the icon to invoke the
	call rating formula wizard.
Rate	Payback Rate. This means that the customer
Properties	is credited for using certain services, rather than paying
	for them (e.g. the service provider receives
	the termination fee for his own subscribers and wants
	to encourage his users to receive more calls by passing
	on a certain portion of these savings).
	Hidden. This means that the rate is excessive (e.g.
	there are usually more than 500 rates for Argentina
	mobile because of different prefixes). This flag does not
	affect usage of the rate by the billing engine. It simply
	indicates that this rate may be omitted when making a
	list of rates for the end user.
	Discontinued . Note that marking a rate as
	discontinued takes effect immediately; you cannot
	discontinue a rate sometime in the future.
	Forbidden. This means that no calls are authorized
	for this particular destination.
Delete	Click the Delete icon to delete this rate. Only rates
	which are not yet active can be deleted.
	willou are not yet active can be defected.

Call rating formula wizard

Because of the extreme flexibility of the call rating formula, it has a quite complex syntax. To avoid possible errors, the call rating formula wizard allows you to design a call rating formula easily.

The top table allows you to edit rate parameters (such as interval or price per minute) directly; below it, the current formula is displayed (read-only); and, finally, there are three tabs for managing different formula parameters:



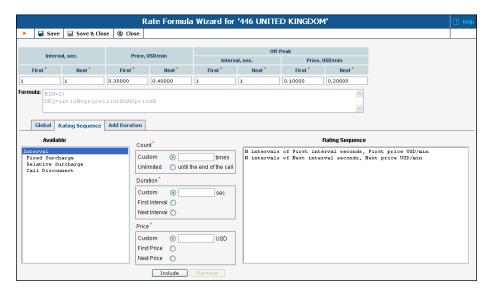
Global:

o **Do not bill calls shorter than** - For a detailed description of this feature, see the **PortaBilling Administrator Guide**.



Rating Sequence:

Here you can construct the actual call charge plan by defining a sequence of time intervals and surcharges.



- 1. Choose the element type from the list on the left (**Available**).
- 2. Fill in the element parameters (such as interval duration, price, etc.).
- 3. Click the **Include** button to add this element to the formula.

Add Duration:

NOTE: This option must be enabled in the config; by doing so, you accept the responsibility for any legal issues related to use of this billing feature.





- o Interval, sec. The duration of a specific call interval to which "add duration" should be applied. Initially there will be only one row in the Add Duration table, defining the rule to be applied to the whole call. Click the Add button to add a rule for another interval. Intervals are interpreted according to the order in which they appear in the table, e.g. the first row covers the *first* 300 seconds, the second row covers the following 300 seconds, and so on.
- o **Extend By,** % Defines how the call duration for this interval should be changed (increase in percentage; a 0 value means that the call duration should not change).

Managing rates offline

The rates table may be prepared using a spreadsheet processor (e.g. MS Excel) and easily imported into PortaBilling®. This is very convenient if you are going to make many changes. For example, you might increase all prices by 10%. To upload your rates file, proceed as follows:

- 1. On the Tariff Management page, click on the tariff name.
- 2. In the Edit Tariff window, click the **Upload** .CSV icon.
- 3. In the Upload Rates window, click Browse...
- 4. Locate the Tariff-sample.csv, then click Open.
- 5. In the Upload Rates window, click Next.
- 6. On the Review File Parsing page, verify whether the file was parsed correctly and, if necessary, change file parsing parameters such as delimiters.
- 7. On the Review Data Fields Definition page, specify where individual data fields (e.g. destination, price or payback rate) are located in the file.
- 8. On the Review Rate Information page, view information about rates, adjust the value of prices and mark the desired rates as Payback, then click Next. If there are new destinations in the uploaded file, assign a country and destination group to these destinations on the Create New Destinations page.
- 9. On the Summary page, view information about the number of rate records to be processed. You can also save the rate import



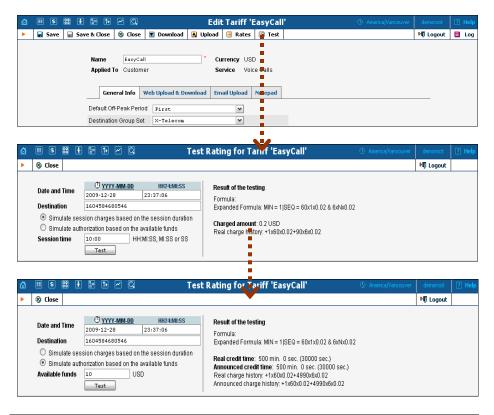
options you have defined as a template, so that you can re-use them in the future.

- 10. In the Rate Upload window, click Start Import.
- 11. In the Edit Tariff window, click Close.

You can verify your work using the **Rates** feature.

Test Rating

This screen allows testing of the rating formula and shows the resulting cost and duration of the call. The formula can be used both ways: either to calculate the call's cost given its duration, or to see how long a call ought to last given its cost.



Field	Description
Date and Time	The date and time when the call is initiated.
	Click on Cicon to set the current time. The
	"YYYY-MM-DD" opens a calendar that can
	be used to select a date.
Destination	The phone number to call.
Session time	Simulate rate for the specified call duration.
Available funds	Simulate authorization for the situation, when user has the entered amount of available funds.



	Results of the testing
Formula	The rate formula used for the given
	destination.
Expanded Formula	The rate formula with the real interval and
	price values.
If the formula o	calculates the call cost based on its duration
Charged amount	Charged amount for test call
Real charge history	A short description of how the Charged
	amount was calculated
If the formula calcu	lates the call duration based on available funds
Real credit time	The true maximum call duration.
Announced credit	The announced maximum call duration.
time	
Real charge history	A short description of how the Real credit
	time was calculated.
Announced charge	A short description of how the Announced
history	credit time was calculated.

xDR Re-rating

The xDR-rating page allows you to fix the most common problem: incorrect pricing information entered into a tariff. This may happen, if, for example, someone sends you the wrong pricelist, or your administrator simply clicks the wrong button, resulting in incorrect charges in the database.

To run the re-rating task, click the **12 xDR Re-rating** button on the Tariffs page.







Field	Description
From Date	Specify the start of the time interval for xDRs
	to be re-rated. Click the iii icon to set up the
	desired date using the pop-up calendar.
To Date	Specify the end of the time interval for xDRs
	to be re-rated. Click the iii icon to set up the
	desired date using the pop-up calendar.
Tariff Type	Select a specific type of tariff. Can be of the
	following type: Customer, Reseller or
	Vendor.
Customer / Reseller /	Select the specific customer, reseller or vendor
Vendor	due to the Tariff Type specified to narrow
	the set of xDRs to be processed.
Service	Choose the service for which xDRs should be
	re-rated.
Wrong Tariff	Select the "original" tariff with incorrect
	pricing information entered.
Correct Tariff	Select the tariff with correct pricing
	information entered. This tariff should be of
	the same type as the Wrong Tariff one.
Rates Effective	Choose the time when the rates associated
	with Correct Tariff become effective.

Click the **Create Task** button to launch the re-rating task.

Re-rating and volume discount counters

If volume discounts are used when calculating call charges, it is no longer possible to treat such calls separately from others, since the way one call is charged affects all other calls made subsequently. For instance, if a call is charged \$5, this is the amount added to the volume discount counter. If the charged amount is then changed to \$1 during re-rating, this will affect all other calls in the same destination group, since they can now be charged at a different discount rate.



To overcome possible confusion when volume discount counters are involved in re-rating, this process should always be run from a specific moment in the past (when the error occurred) to the present moment. In this case, all discount counters will be rolled back before recalculation actually starts, and then updated with each re-rated call.

NOTE: Re-rating with volume discount counters only works with XDRs generated following an upgrade to the MR16 version, since older versions of XDR data do not have the full information required to roll back volume counters.

LCR Rates

You may click the **LCR Rates** button on the toolbar to quickly create a new "Routing info - LCR blending" report.

NOTE: This type of report is available for root and admin users only.

Please consult the *Routing Info - LCR Blending* section of the **PortaSwitch Handbook: Wholesale Services** for more details.

Volume Discount Plans

Volume discount plans allows you to dynamically modify your rates depending on how much traffic a customer has already sent you. For instance, after he makes calls for 200 minutes (charged at the normal rate) he will get a 10% discount for every minute he calls over this limit.

A discount plan includes one or more discount schemes applicable to a certain destination group. "First 200 minutes for free, then normal rate with 10% discount over 500 minutes" is one such discount scheme, and it may be applied to the destination group "Asia", which includes China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and other countries.

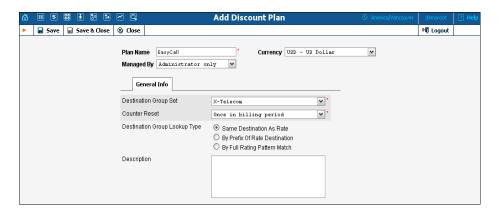


Use the main Discount Plan Management screen to list all existing plans. Plans can be located using the search form, by selecting a reseller from the drop-down list, or entering the plan's name. To edit a discount plan, click on its name in the list. The **Delete** icon will be visible only when a discount plan is not in use (not assigned to any customer, account or product), and enables permanent deletion of the discount plan.



Add / Edit a Discount Plan

To add a new discount plan to the system, select Add to go to the discount plan creation screen. An existing discount plan can be edited by clicking on its name in the list.



Field	Description
Name	The logical name of the discount plan object.
Currency	Indicates which currency is used for billing calculations.
	All discounts in a plan are to be defined in this currency.
	A discount plan can only be assigned to customers,
	accounts and products using the same currency.
Managed By	By default – administrator only. The plan can be
	assigned to a reseller (Managed by NNN) so that it is
	manageable from the Customer Self-Provisioning web
	interface.
Destination	Discounts can be defined for individual groups (e.g.
Group Set	US&Canada, Asia, Western Europe) within this set.
	Once chosen during discount plan creation, they cannot
	be changed later on.
Counter	Each discount has internal counters associated with a
Reset	corresponding account or customer. These counters
	store the current value in minutes (or charged amount)
	of calls made to a specific destination group. The
	counters go up according to the customer's or account's
	billing.
	Never means the plan counters will never be
	reset (zeroed). This is convenient if you wish to
	provide a special promotion such as "500 free
	minutes of calls to Western Europe". In this
	case, the counter will always go up, and the
	normal rate will be applied after it reaches 500
	minutes.
	Once in billing period means the counters of
	the plan will be reset when the customer's next



	billing period begins. If you have defined a "first 500 minutes for free" discount, then the
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	customer will have 500 free minutes in every
	billing period (month, week, etc.).
	Once chosen, this setting cannot be changed later on.
Destination	• Same Destination As Rate – This requires
Group	exactly the same prefix as the one in the tariff in
Lookup	order to be used in the destination group for the
Type	volume discount definition. For example, if the
	tariff has a rate for destination 4202, and this
	rate is used to charge the call, while the volume
	discount only contains a destination 420, this
	discount will not be applied.
	• By Prefix Of Rate Destination – This
	provides more flexible matching: the destination
	used in the tariff must be equal to or more
	specific than the destination used in the volume
	discount definition; so in the example above, the
	discount would be applied. This puts more load
	on the billing engine, since an extra pattern
	match must be performed.
	1
	By Full Rating Pattern Match – Match the
	originally dialed phone number against all
	available destinations in the volume discount
	plan. Needless to say, this is the most resource-
	intensive option.
	See the details below regarding the different matching
	models.
Description	Short description of discount plan.

Phone number matching in discount plans

When volume discounts are involved alongside "normal" rating as per the tariff plan, the billing engine must obviously match the ID of the service used (e.g. the phone number dialed) with one of the destination groups used in the volume discount definition.

The fastest and the most efficient way is to check whether the destination in the customer's tariff applicable to this call is included in any destination groups in the volume discount plan, and then keep using this volume discount. For instance, if a customer makes a phone call to 4206025551234 and a matching rate is defined in his tariff for 420602 (Czech Republic, Mobile), the billing engine will search whether any discounts in the volume discount plan are assigned to a destination group containing 420602.

But what if you would like to include the whole Czech Republic in your volume discount? One option would be to simply list all applicable prefixes (420, 4202, 420602, etc.) in a destination group, then use this



group in the volume discount definition. Alternatively, you could use the other discount plan lookup option – "by prefix". In this case, the billing engine will look not for the exact same prefix, but rather for a destination group which contains a **matching** prefix. So if a call is made to 4206025551234 and there is a 420602 rate applied in the tariff, the billing engine will search for a destination group in the volume discount plan that includes a prefix matching 420602; such matching prefixes could be 420602, 420, or even 4. In this case you could just enter 420 in your volume discount definition, and it will then be used for calls rated by different tariff rates (e.g. 4202 and 420602).

Such extensive lookups put a higher load on the billing engine, so they should be used with caution, and only in volume discount plans where they are truly needed.

Another possibility is a full rating pattern match. This method disregards the destination used in the tariff entirely, and simply performs a lookup of applicable destinations in the volume discount plan using the phone number dialed by the customer. This is done in the same way as a rate lookup is done in a tariff; thus if the customer dialed 4206021345678, the billing engine will choose a discount with a destination group that includes 420, 420602, or any other destination matching the dialed number. Since several matches can potentially be found (e.g. a first discount is defined for destination group A, which includes 420, and a second discount for destination group B, which includes 420602), the longest match is used (in our example, this would be the second discount). As noted above, this is obviously the most resource-intensive option.

Defining Discounts for Individual Destination Groups

After a volume discount plan has been saved, the Discounts tab will become available. To add a new discount to the plan, click the **Add** button. An existing discount can be edited by clicking the **Edit** icon on the row containing its details.



It is possible to define a volume discount plan which will have a different structure of thresholds / discounts for the service used in a peak, off-peak, or second off-peak period. You can also "synchronize" the definition of the thresholds, so that the discount will be applied irrespective of whether the service was used in a peak or off-peak period



(this is the default behavior, providing backward compatibility with earlier releases). It is also possible to create a volume discount plan which would offer discounts on service use during one time period (e.g. off-peak), but not in another (peak) period. In this case, you are basically defining an empty list of discounts for one of these periods.

Field	Description
Destination	Enter the name of a destination group manually, or click
Group	the column header link (Destination Group) to choose
	a group from a searchable list inside the pop-up
	window.
Service	Choose a specific service (voice calls, messaging, data
	transfer, etc.) that this volume discount will apply to.
	You can bundle discounts for multiple services into the
	same volume discount plan.
Type	Select the threshold type: will you use thresholds based
	on the charged amount, or on the total call time?
	Amount means the threshold is measured in
	currency units (e.g. USD), and the counters will
	go up by the amount which the customer should
	have been charged for the call before the
	volume discount was applied.
	• Volume means the unit is minutes, and the
	counters will go up by the same value as the
	charged call duration. Note the difference
	between call duration and charged call duration. For
	instance, if a rate specifies 5 minutes rounding
	and a customer has spoken for 3 minutes 42
	seconds, he will be charged for 5 minutes and
	the counter will go up by 5 minutes as well.
Peak Level	N/A indicates that the discount is provided regardless
	of whether the service is used in a peak or off-peak
	period. Otherwise, this column contains the period
	names, and the next column (Discount Scheme)
	contains a definition of the discount structure for each
	period in a separate row.
Discount	Since the discount formula is complex, you cannot edit
Scheme	it directly. Click on the column header or the 💆 icon in
	order to launch the discount definition wizard (see the
	section below).
Exclusive	Defines whether an account should be granted exclusive
	free calls, i.e. calls to which a 100% discount is applied
	(these calls do not affect the customer's counters). See
	the PortaBilling Administrator Guide for more
	details.



Discount Definition Wizard

The discount wizard provides users with a flexible tool for defining threshold values and corresponding discount values. A threshold defines the maximum counter value (call duration or charged amount) within which the current discount may still be applied. If the last available discount is to be applied regardless of the counter value (e.g. first 200 minutes – normal rate, up to 500 minutes – 10% discount, and 20% discount after that) then this last discount will be created with a special unlimited threshold.



Field	Description
Threshold	The threshold value is measured either in currency units
	or time units (minutes), according to the type of
	discount. The value entered must be numeric (with a
	period allowed) and greater than zero. To provide a
	special unlimited value for the threshold, check the
	Unlimited box. You cannot have two discount rows
	with the same threshold values.
Discount	The percentage discount value must be numeric (with a
	period allowed) in the $0 - 100$ range. A 0% discount
	means "standard rate applied", while a 100% discount
	means "free call".
Notification	Send an email notification to the customer when the
	threshold is crossed and the discount no longer applies.
Split xDRs	If it is checked, then a session divided into several
	portions (e.g. when a session spans several rating
	periods) will produce multiple xDR records. Each xDR
	record is linked to the applicable discount level / rate.
Service	This column is only available for services based on the
Restriction	Internet Access service type. In this case, when the
	discount period is active and the threshold has been
	crossed, the level of service provided can also be
	adjusted. The possible values are:
	No restriction.
	Limit usage (customer can still use the service,
	but with limits, e.g. the upload / download
	speed is significantly decreased).
	Block service - Refuse to provide any further
	service.



	Typically, this is done to reduce the amount of available
	bandwidth when the data transfer quota has been
	reached.

The billing engine decides which discount is to be applied, depending on whether the counter for the given destination has reached one of the defined thresholds. Note that the "charged amount" counters record charges as they are defined in the tariff, i.e. before a volume discount is applied. If there is no "Unlimited" threshold discount, and the counter exceeds the last (i.e. biggest) threshold, any further calls will be billed according to the standard tariff rate.

For example:

Discount type - Volume, minutes

The discount is defined as 0..100 - 50%; 100..200 - 20%; 200..unlimited - 10%

The first 100 minutes are billed at a 50% discount (half the price specified in the tariff), the next 100 minutes are billed at a 20% discount, and thereafter all calls receive a 10% discount.

The discount is defined as 0..100 - 100%

The first 100 minutes are free; all minutes above that are billed at the tariff rate.

Discount type - Amount, USD. The tariff rate for the given destination is a flat 0.5 USD per minute.

The discount is defined as 0..10.00 - 0%; 10.00..20.00 - 10%; 20.00..unlimited - 20%

When the customer begins making calls, each call is charged according at the normal rate until the total charged amount exceeds \$10.00. After that, the customer is given a 10% discount on calls.

NOTE: Let's look at a situation in which a customer's balance is \$10.00 (and the volume discount counter is also \$10.00). The customer makes a 30-minute call, and the tariff rate is 0.20/min. The call is charged as 30 * 0.20 - 10% = \$5.40, and this value is stored in the CDR for the call. Thus the customer's balance will be modified by \$5.40, to become 15.40. At the same time, the volume discount counter will go up by the amount without the discount. Thus the counter will go up by \$6, to become \$16.00.

Subscription Plans

Subscription plans enable automation of recurring non-call related charges applied to your customers: for instance, basic monthly fees or fees for additional services such as voicemail or hardware rental.

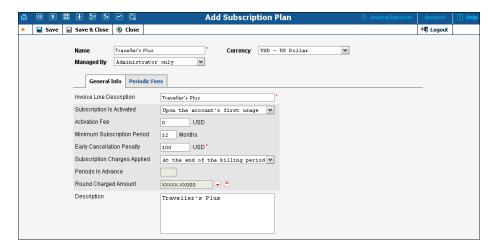




Use the main Subscription Plan Management screen to list all existing plans.

Add / Edit a Subscription Plan

To add a new subscription plan to the system, select Add to go to the subscription plan creation screen. An existing subscription plan can be edited by clicking on its name in the list.



Field	Description
Name	The logical name of the subscription plan object.
Managed By	By default – administrator only. The plan can be
	assigned to a reseller (Managed by NNN) so that it is
	manageable from the Customer Self-Provisioning web
	interface.
Currency	Indicates which currency is used for billing calculations.
	All fee amounts in the plan are to be defined in this
	currency. A subscription plan can only be assigned to
	customers, accounts and products using the same
	currency.



General Info tab

Field	Description
Invoice Line	The subscription plan name as the end-user will see it
Description	on the invoice.
Subscription	Specifies from which date subscription charges will
Is Activated	apply:
	• At the given start date – the first billed day is the
	subscription start date.
	Upon the account's first usage – charges are
	applied only from the later of the subscription
	start date or the account first usage date.
Activation	A one-time fee applied when the subscription is
Fee	activated.
Minimum	Time interval (in months) during which the subscription
Subscription	must remain uninterrupted so as to avoid penalties.
Period	
Early	A one-time fee applied if the subscription is cancelled
Cancellation	earlier than the minimum subscription period.
Penalty	
Subscription	Defines the way subscription charges are applied to a
Charges	customer's account:
Applied	At the end of the billing period - The customer
	is charged the full subscription fee at the end of
	the billing period.
	Progressively - A prorated service charge is
	applied on a day-by-day basis, depending on the
	time the service was used during this period. For
	example, if the monthly subscription fee is
	\$9.99, a progressive charge of \$0.33 will be
	made daily, so that on the 10 th day the
	subscription charges will total \$3.33.
	In advance - Subscription charges are applied in a gual way that when a billing paried is alonged.
	a such way that when a billing period is closed,
	the customer is charged for N consecutive
	billing periods following the current one. For instance, if N is set to 2, and the customer has a
	monthly billing period, subscription charges for
	May and June will be made when the April
	billing period is closed.
Periods In	Only available for subscription plans charged in
Advance	advance; specifies for how many periods advance
	charges should be made.



Round	A matter that defines the normaline of the amount
Kouna	A pattern that defines the rounding of the amount
Charged	charged for a billing period (e.g. when the monthly
Amount	subscription amount is \$10.00, but the service was only
	used for 10 days, it is desirable to round the applicable
XXX000. An X (to the left) means that this position will be left unchanged, while	charge of \$3.33333). This pattern takes the form
	XXX000. An X (to the left) means that the digit(s) in
	this position will be left unchanged, while a zero (to the
	right) means that this position will be rounded. For
	example, XXXXX.XX000 means that the amount will
	be rounded up to two decimal places, so that 1.2345
	becomes 1.24. Note that rounding is always done
	upwards.
Description	An extended description of this subscription plan.

Periodic Fees tab

In this tab you may define recurring fees which are applied to your customers while a subscription is active, as well as special promotion periods. The rate structure is organized as a table, where columns define the rates for different billing periods, and table rows specify the rates for different phases of the customer's lifetime. The table of periodic fees must include at least one row (marked **Default Rate**) which specifies the normal rates applied by default. If you wish to define a special promotion (e.g. a reduced rate for the first three months), you may insert an extra row into the table to cover this period.



Field	Description
Default/Promotional	Specifies whether this is a rate which applies for a
rate	certain initial period, which rate which follows it
	(additional promotion), or if it is a default rate.
N	Promotion span – the number of billing periods
	covered by this fee.
Fee	Amount of the fee.



After you have edited a specific row, click Save to confirm that you have finished editing this row. (You still need to save the whole form – use Save in the toolbar for this.)



For your convenience, the periodic fee table in Edit mode provides autopopulation of the fields:

- If you type a value in one of the span (**N**) columns, a re-calculated value will be entered automatically in all other empty columns. For instance, say you plan to define a special promotion for the first month. If you type 1 in the **N** column under the **Monthly** billing period, the **N** columns for Bi-Weekly, Weekly and Daily billing periods will be automatically filled with 2, 4 and 30 respectively.
- If you type a value in one of the Fee columns, a re-calculated value will be entered automatically in all other empty columns. For instance, when defining a special promotion for the first month as mentioned above, if you type 9.99 in the Fee column under the Monthly billing period, the Fee columns for Bi-Weekly, Weekly and Daily billing periods will be automatically filled with 4.995, 2.331 and 0.333 respectively.

Also, below the table in which you enter periodic fees you may see another table providing an extended explanation of the fee structure.

Products

A product is a combination of services that you provide to a customer for a price. For example, you decide to sell calling cards with 10 cents/minute calls to the Czech Republic for calls to a local access number in New York, and 15 cents/minute + 50-cent connection fee for calls to a toll-free line. In this case, your product will include two types of service:

- access via the local New York number, and
- access via the toll-free line,

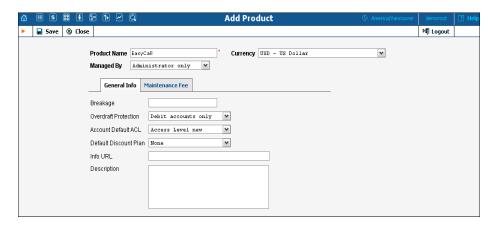
with price parameters associated with each service.

Rating entry is the main component of a product definition. It specifies where your customers are allowed to use a service and how they should be charged for it. Rating entry allows you to specify the following parameters which define an access point:

- 1. The type of service provided.
- 2. The node on which the service is used. What exactly does "node" mean in this context? If, for example, a customer calls to gateway A, enters his PIN, and makes an outgoing call which is terminated on gateway B, is he using a service on node A, node B, or both? The correct answer is that the service is regarded as having been provided at the point where authorization was performed. In this



- example, since PIN authorization is performed on node A, it is node A which must be listed in the rating entry.
- 3. Identification of the access code (method) on that node. This parameter allows you to use different rate plans for the same service. For example, you may choose a rate plan according to the PSTN access number (local or toll-free) that the customer has dialed. Or you may use different rate plans for outgoing, incoming and forwarded calls in your IP calls service. (While for services such as prepaid cards the access code is a number, for other services any string may be used, so long as it is one provided by the application handling the call).
- 4. Originating line information (this is applicable only to the voice call service, where the call originates on the PSTN network). You can separate rating entries based on originating line information (e.g. whether the call was made from a home phone or a pay phone). Make sure your telecom provider supplies you with this information in the call setup.



The basic information for defining a product is as follows:

Field	Description	
Product	The logical designation of the product.	
Name		
Managed By	Administrator only (default) means that this product	
	will be used for your direct customers and is accessible	
	only to your administrators. Select a PortaBilling®	
	reseller to assign this product for use by a particular	
	reseller.	
Currency	The currency in which the product will be maintained.	
	To edit a currency, delete all rating entries for this	
	product.	
General Info		
Breakage	This value should be set by the administrator based on	
	the currency and minimum price per minute. It is used	
	in Account Management to obtain a summary of	



	"depleted" (practically unusable) accounts.		
	How it works: An account user could have a very small		
	balance, e.g. 0.015. This is not enough to make calls to		
	most destinations, except perhaps calls to technical		
	support and certain local calls. Thus, even though the		
	account's balance is not yet zero, the account is basically		
	unusable (and the customer will probably never use it).		
	The administrator is interested in how many accounts		
	are in this state, i.e. how many accounts are depleted.		
Overdraft	No protection – When the locking of funds is		
Protection	requested, this will be done separately for each		
	session, and will not affect other sessions; so,		
	effectively, there will be no "locked" funds. This		
	method provides backward compatibility with		
	"Fraud Protection Off" mode in previous		
	releases. For obvious reasons, it is not		
	recommended for general use.		
	Debit accounts only – Fund locking is done		
	only for debit accounts. This is identical to		
	PortaBilling's default behavior in Maintenance		
	Release 18 and older.		
	All accounts – Fund locking is done for all		
Account	account types.		
Account	Which ACL should be assigned to new accounts created		
Default ACL	with this product.		
Default	Which Discount Plan will be used with all the product's		
Discount	accounts by default.		
Plan			
Info URL	URL to an external website describing product features.		
	Customers can access it by clicking on the Product		
	Info link in the main menu of their self-care interface.		
Description	Product description.		

Maintenance Fee

Maintenance Fee is an obsolete feature and can be removed in further releases. Please use subscription plans to apply periodic charges to your customers. If you still use maintenance fee functionality, then it will be charged on the first day after an account is used for the first time, or on the date specified in the Effective From field, and thereafter according to a specified period, e.g. every week.





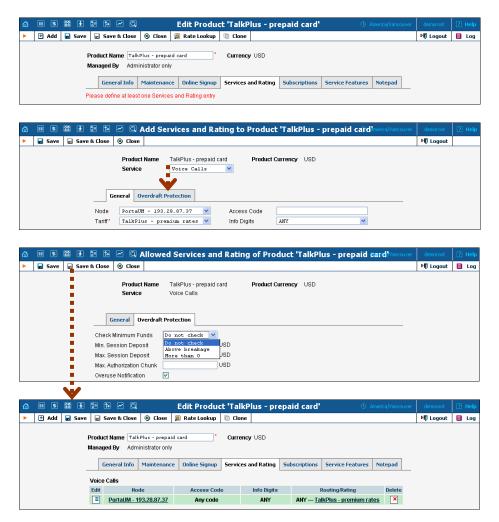
Field	Description
Period	Defines how often to apply the maintenance fee.
Fee	Only defined when a maintenance period is set; the
	amount of each maintenance fee, when charged.
Effective	Defines when the maintenance fee starts to be applied.
From	

Product Services and Rating Tab

Rating list on **Services and Rating** tab defines where users of this product can use the service, and how they will be charged for it.

Tariff per access point

By default, you define different ways of charging for your service based on the way the service is accessed (a combination of parameters such as node, access code, etc.). For example, when a user calls your gateway via a toll-free access number, a different (more expensive) tariff will be applied than if he were calling via a local access number.





NOTE: The Services and Rating tab is invisible in Add New mode and will appear only when editing an existing product. If other fields of the product were changed but not saved, a notification message will be shown before the add / edit Services and Rating operation appears.

To add rating entry:

- 1. Click the Add button to access the Add Services and Rating screen.
- 2. Choose a **Service**.
- 3. Choose a **Node** where the service will be provided.
- 4. Type in the **Access Code** value (if required) and select the appropriate value from the **Info Digits** menu.
- 5. In the **Tariff** drop-down list, you can choose a specific tariff that should be applied to the customer.
 For the **Voice Calls** service, you can also choose the special entry **Assign Tariff per Routing Plan**, in order to define additional tariff routing plan combinations. A specific tariff will be applied based on which routing plan was used for a particular call.
- 6. Configure overdraft protection for this product on the **Overdraft Protection** tab.
- Click the Save button.

Overdraft Protection tab



Before MR23, authentication and authorization of new sessions for accounts with low available funds was controlled via the global options (i.e. CheckAvailableFundsOnAuthorization, CheckAvailableFundsDebit and CheckAvailableFundsCredit). These options didn't provide enough flexibility since they could not accommodate different service scenarios at the same time, e.g.:

- debit accounts are rechargeable via IVR, thus should always be granted access to the top-up IVR application (usually accessible via a call to *12)
- debit accounts should stop working entirely for making calls (even free ones) when balance reaches 0
- debit accounts should stop working completely before the balance reaches 0, e.g. when the balance is less than \$0.1

Since MR23, Overdraft Protection can be configured separately for every service scenario using the following parameters:



• Check Minimum Funds – When set to More than 0, account should have some available funds to use the service, regardless of the service itself being provided for free (e.g. free call). Switching this option to **Above breakage** allows you to set the minimum available funds required for using the service to the product's breakage value. The option **Do not check** allows a session to start without first checking the account's available funds.

NOTE: This option will not have an effect on simple authentication requests, such as SIP-UA registration, when no session is open.

• **Min. Session Deposit** – Sets the deposit amount for each individual session to be locked to a specified value (effective only if the specified value is higher than the computed deposit amount required for the session authorization).

If an account's available funds fall below a certain value, you can use this option together with the **Check Minimum Funds** option to restrict usage to only one session at a time (even for free sessions), thus providing additional overdraft protection. Or you can use this option together with **Max. Authorization Chunk** to provide additional protection for simultaneous session use. (E.g. set **Min. Session Deposit** > **Max. Authorization Chunk** and more funds will be locked without changing the sessions' duration).

Max. Session Deposit – Reduces the deposit amount to be locked for each individual session but does not restrict the session itself (effective only if the specified value is lower than the computed deposit amount required for session authorization). This option weakens the strictness of overdraft protection, so the user can use funds above the limit to initiate several simultaneous sessions. (E.g. set Max. Session Deposit < Max. Authorization Chunk and fewer funds will be locked without changing the sessions' duration).

You can use this option to fine tune the strictness of overdraft protection for postpaid services where a certain overdraft can be allowed. In this case, the funds above the limit can be used for several simultaneous sessions.

NOTE: If NAS declares support for dynamic reauthorization for the session, this option is ignored.

• Max. Authorization Chunk – In the case of a single session, this determines the maximum amount of account funds to be used for the session, and in the case of dynamic reauthorization, this determines the extension (chunk) of already consumed funds.



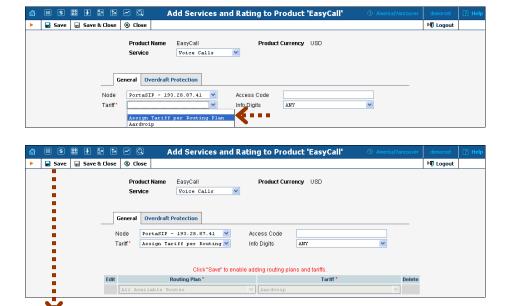
This option limits the maximum amount of funds requested by the NAS, thus allowing more strict protection. It may be used for static authorization in order to leave some account funds unlocked and accommodate simultaneous usage of other services.

If dynamic reauthorization is unavailable and there is a big price difference in the tariff, the Max. Authorization Chunk option can't be applied effectively (e.g. if Max. Authorization Chunk has low value, expensive calls would be limited to very short durations; if it has high value, cheap calls would be authorized with overly long durations, unnecessarily blocking the account from simultaneous usage). In this case, you can use the Max. Session Deposit option to fine tune the strictness of overdraft protection.

• Overuse Notification – Attempts to use the services simultaneously while all funds are locked by a session can signal a fraud attempt (for services such as calling with prepaid cards). This can be the result of inaccurate overdraft protection constraints. Turn this option on in order to receive real-time email alerts about these attempts.

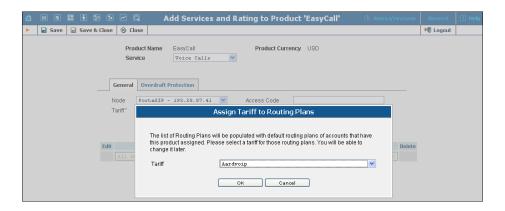
Assign tariffs per routing plan

For a voice call service, you can also choose to apply a different tariff based on which routing plan (i.e. which set of vendors – cheaper or more expensive ones) was used to terminate the call to the PSTN network. Thus if a customer chooses to use premium routes, he will be charged more, while if he uses a routing plan that includes low-cost carriers, he will be charged less.





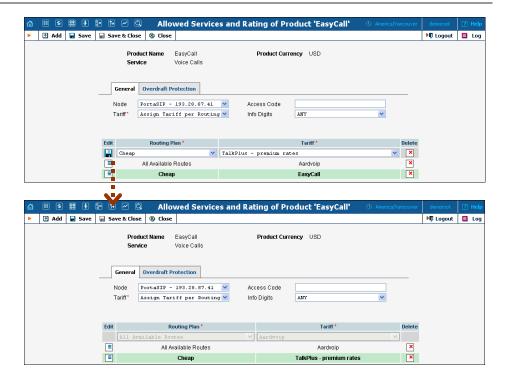




Switching from the "simple" use of one tariff for outgoing calls, regardless of the routing plan, is a step that requires attention to detail. You are already able to assign any routing plan to any customer; and in MR19 all accounts will automatically be assigned the same routing plan that was previously assigned to their customer. If the administrator now reconfigures the product to use "tariff per routing plan", but does not take into consideration that some customers had a particular routing plan assigned to them, and thus omits that routing plan from the rating list, an unpleasant situation may arise. Now when a customer with an account whose routing plan has been omitted tries to make a phone call without specifying a selection code, the call will be rejected, since the product's rating list effectively says: "We don't want customers of this product to use this routing plan!" In order to prevent this happening through an operator error, PortaBilling® pre-populates the table for routing plan / tariff mapping with all the routing plans currently assigned to accounts of this product. You then have a clear overview of all the routing plans that are being used, and can decide which tariff should be applied to each of them.







To edit the rating list:

- 1. Click the (**Edit**) button.
- 2. Choose the service, node, info-digits and tariff from the drop-down lists.
- 3. Type in the Access Code value, if any.
- 4. Change the overdraft protection parameters, if necessary.
- 5. Click the **Save** button.

Subscriptions

This tab allows you to define a list of subscription plans which are mandatory for this product, so that these subscriptions will be automatically applied to every account to which this product will be assigned.



NOTE: The Subscriptions tab is invisible in Add New mode, and will appear only when editing an existing product.



To add a new Subscription entry:

- 1. Click the **Add** button.
- 2. Choose a subscription plan from the drop-down lists.
- 3. Click the 🗖 Save button.

Online Signup

Online signup allows automated creation of accounts (and customers, if necessary) when an end-user fills in a subscription form and payment card information and then, having successfully completed the subscription process, receives the credentials necessary to make phone calls.

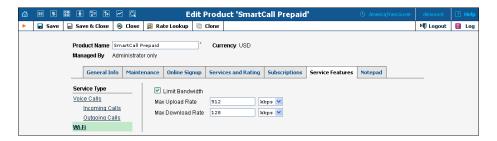


Numerous online signup frontends can be developed using a combination of the "HTTP_REFERER" and "Validation Module" fields.

Read about "How to configure online web signup" in the **PortaBilling Administrator Guide**.

Service Features

You can define the default values of service attributes for all accounts which this product will be assigned to (naturally, you can override them at the account level later on).

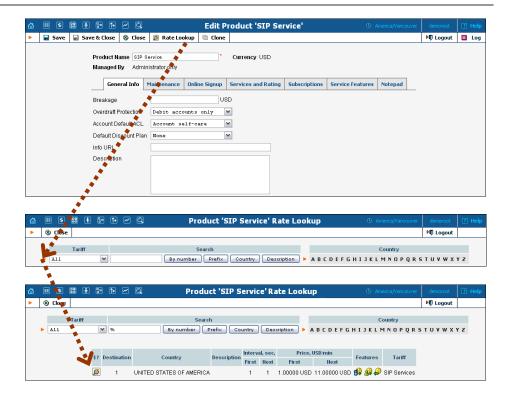


Rate Lookup

PortaBilling enables you to use the Rate Lookup feature, with which you can easily view rate information for a tariff(s) of a particular product. To use this feature, click the **Rate Lookup** button on the Edit Product page.

Alternatively, you can click on the icon next to the product name on the Product Management screen. Then on the Product Rate Lookup page use search filters to display (a) specific rate(s):





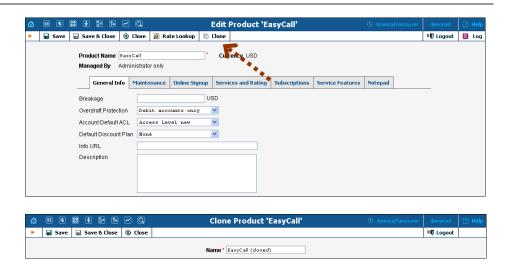
In addition to the mandatory rate information (e.g. Destination, Country, Interval and Price) there may also be icons that indicate features which have been applied to the rate, such as Maintenance Fee, Surcharges, Payback Rate and Call Rate Formula (this indicates if the rate uses a call rating formula). To get more information click the icon.

Clone product

Product configuration is an important step, since you need to specify all the rating entries properly in order to ensure the correct functionality. To minimize the amount of work required to create new products, PortaBilling® allows you to create them as clones of existing ones. In this case, PortaBilling® will copy all the tariffs used in an old product and generate a replica of it. The new product will have exactly the same rating entries, except that they will now refer to the newly created tariffs. Administrators can clone all existing products within the environment, while resellers are limited to cloning only those products they have access to. Any modifications in the newly created product will not affect tariff or rate data configuration within the old product.

To clone a specific product, click the Clone button in the toolbar on the Edit Product page. Give the new product a name, then click the Save button.





NOTE: Cloning may take a significant amount of time, depending on the amount of data involved. The new product will appear in the product list only after the cloning is complete.



5. Participants



Representatives

You may need to track income associated with people with whom you have a business relationship. These people may sometimes be employees, while in other cases they are dealers, partners at a law firm, or independent contractors.

NOTE: Representatives do not participate in billing or revenue sharing. They are listed for information purposes only, as required when PortaBilling® is integrated into back-office CRM for calculating commissions and the like.

Each sales representative is assigned initials. Their names and initials appear on sales forms, allowing you to associate specific sales reps with specific sales in order to track their income.



NOTE: Once a new representative is created, the **Currency** and **Managed By** properties cannot be changed.

Distributors

The Distributor model is designed to expand sales activities by involving extra agents and enlarging the point-of-sale network without significant costs and risks.

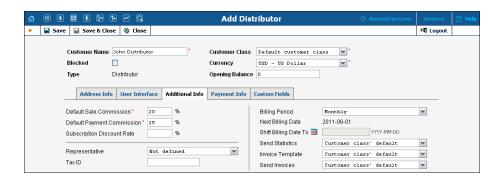
The Distributor Management screen shows the distributors currently in the system.





Add a New Distributor

To add a new distributor to the system, click • Add to go to the Add Distributor screen.



The following are associated with a distributor:

- **Default Sales Commission** (this is applied when an account is created or a distributor is assigned);
- **Default Payment Commission** (this is applied when payment is entered).

To save the new distributor, click \blacksquare Save.

When a customer or account is created or activated under the distributor, the distributor's balance increases by the account's balance, minus his commission. For example, if the distributor's commission percentage is 15% (default sales commission), and a new account with a \$10 balance has been created, then the distributor is charged \$8.5 and has a \$1.5 profit. When the distributor applies payment of \$10 towards an account, and his payment commission is 10% (default payment commission), then the distributor is charged \$9 and has a \$1 profit.

When the distributor makes a payment in favor of his customer, the batch commission rate is used by default, except in the following cases:

- The batch has not been assigned a commission rate;
- The debit account does not belong to any batch.

In these cases, the distributor's commission rate is used.

The distributor will be charged:

• when he applies payment toward a customer or an account;



- when he is assigned to an active account;
- when an account to which he has been assigned is activated (or when a new account is created in the active state).

To generate a batch of accounts, you can use the account generator and assign the distributor to these accounts. The account generator only permits the creation of an inactive debit when a distributor has been selected.

Customer Management

On the Customer Management screen, you can view a list of all registered customers, or use search filters to display a specific set of customers only.

Filter value	Description
Direct Customers	Customers directly owned by your company
	(who have a business relationship with you,
	receive bills from you, and pay to your
	accounts). This may include both resellers and
	retail customers.
All Retail	All retail customers; this includes your own
	retail customers and those of your resellers.
Direct Retail	Only retail customers who are owned by your
	company.
Sub-customers of	All sub-customers of a specific reseller.
Reseller NNN	
Customers of	All customers of a specific distributor.
Distributor NNN	
Representative	Only customers related to a specific
	representative.
Search	Filter by name and contact details. When you
	enter a value in the search field, all customers
	who have the search string in their customer
	name, company name, first / last name or
	contact info (e.g. state, city, country, zip code,
	phone, email, login) will be displayed.
Advanced Search	Allows you to specify complex search
	conditions (see more info below)
3	g search filter is only available for Resellers:
All Resellers	Only customers of the reseller type.
	search filter is only available for Distributors:
All Distributors	Only customers of the distributor type.
Distributors of	All distributors of a specific reseller.
Reseller NNN	



The screen provides the following information and activities:

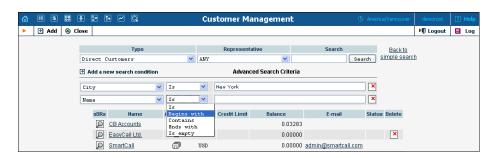


Column	Description
xDRs	Click the View icon to go to the xDR view page.
Name	The customer's name.
Owned By	The name of the reseller owning the customer (none
	are displayed if the Direct Customers filter is
	applied).
Accounts	Click the Accounts icon to go to the Account
	Management screen (for retail customers).
	If there are no accounts under the customer, the
	icon changes accordingly to , so that you can
	easily see this.
Currency	The currency in which the customer's account is
	maintained and billed.
Credit Limit	The credit limit applicable to the customer's account
D 1	(if any).
Balance	The customer's current balance.
E-mail	E-mail contact for this customer.
Status	The status of the customer's account.
	The <u>a</u> icon will appear if the customer's credit has
	been exceeded. The customer blocked cicon
	means that all accounts of this customer have been
	administratively blocked. The 🛂 icon means all
	services to this customer have been suspended
	because of an overdue invoice, and the 🖟 icon
	means that this customer was closed.
	The frozen 👺 icon means that periodic payments
	for this customer have been suspended due to
	repeated errors (for instance, the customer canceled
	his credit card and did not enter the information for
2.1	his new card in PortaBilling®).
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove the customer.
	The delete icon will only appear if there are no
	xDRs, accounts or sub-customers owned by the
	customer, or other entities (products, tariffs, etc.)
	managed by the customer.



Advanced Search

In advanced search mode, you can specify an unlimited number of search conditions. Every condition applies to a particular field (e.g. customer's ZIP code). Click on **Add a new search condition** to add another condition.



Operation	Description
Is	The value of the field in the customer information
	must match the search criteria exactly.
Begins with	The value of the field in the customer information
	must start with the specified value (e.g. if you enter
	the filter value "John", customers with the names
	"John" and "Johnny" will be selected).
Contains	The value of the field in the customer information
	must contain the specified value somewhere (e.g. if
	you enter the filter value "Eric", customers with the
	names "Eric", "Erica", "Maverick" and "American"
	will be selected).
Ends with	The value of this customer information field must end
	with the specified value (e.g. if you enter the filter
	value "smith", customers with the last names "Smith"
	and "Hammersmith" will be selected).
Is empty	The corresponding field in the customer information
	must be empty.

All search operations are case-insensitive, so you can enter "Eric" as a search criteria and, even if the customer's name was originally entered as "eric" or "ERIC", you will still see him in the list.

All conditions work in conjunction, so in the case of multiple search criteria the customer's record must satisfy all of them in order to appear in the result list.



During a search operation using auxiliary fields (e.g. fax) or the "contains" comparison, the database cannot use indexes. This will result in a full table scan, meaning an increased load on the server and a longer time to produce the final result. Please avoid using such search operations if not necessary.

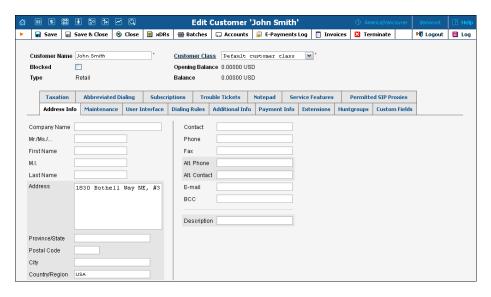


By clicking on **Back to simple search** you can switch the form to its original mode.

Add / Edit Customer

To add a new customer manually, select **Add** in the toolbar and then (if a quick form selection dialog – select **Manually** at the bottom of the list).

The Add Customer page allows you to define a new client entity within PortaBilling®. The information required is divided into four tabbed sections: Address Info, Additional Info, Payment Info, and self-care Info. The information on the top of the form is required. Information on all the other tabs is optional, and need not be provided when creating the customer. Once created, the customer cannot be changed from a retailer to a reseller, or moved under another reseller.



Field	Description
Customer	Defines the customer name as it will appear in the
Name	PortaBilling® system. This is distinct from the
	Company Name field in the Address Info tab.
Blocked	Blocks all accounts of this Customer.
Currency	The currency must be specified by selecting it from the
	drop-down list of available currencies. Once saved, the
	currency cannot be changed.
Opening	The starting balance for this customer.
Balance	
Type	This can be either "Reseller", "Retail" or
	"Distributor".
Customer	The Customer Class assigned to this customer. In
Class	order to change any parameters of the particular
	Customer Class, click on the link "Customer Class".



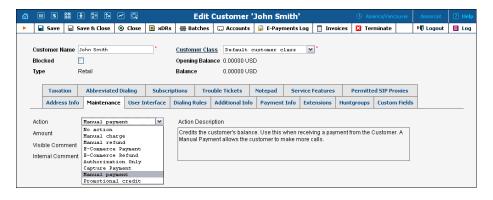
When **adding** a Customer, be aware that if you select a class with a defined currency, the field Currency will show the corresponding value and this cannot be modified; if the class without a predefined currency is selected, then a list of currencies will be available. When **editing** the Customer, the field Customer Class will only contain classes with the *same* currency, or classes with no defined currency.

Address Info

The Address Info tab provides most of the commonly required contact information. Also note that you may enable your account manager to receive a copy of every e-mail sent to the customer by entering his e-mail address in the **BCC** field.

Maintenance

The Maintenance tab allows the administrator to correct a customer's balance (this tab is only available in **Edit Customer** mode).



Field	Description
Action	Manual Charge: Debit (increase) the customer's
	balance in PortaBilling®; for instance, if you are
	selling SIP phones to a customer. This means the
	balance will be changed so that the customer is able
	to make fewer calls.
	Manual Refund: Credit (decrease) the customer's
	credit balance in PortaBilling®; for instance, if the
	customer files a complaint and you agree to give
	him credit toward future service use. This means
	the balance will be changed so that the customer is
	able to make more calls.
	E-Commerce Charge: Transfers a given amount
	from a customer's e-commerce account to a
	company merchant account and issues credit
	toward the customer's balance in PortaBilling®.



	E-Commerce Refund: Transfers a given amount
	from a company merchant account to a customer's
	e-commerce account; for instance, if a customer
	files a complaint and you agree to a refund.
	Authorization Only: Verifies whether the
	customer's e-commerce account is valid and
	reserves a given amount. This will return a
	transaction ID, which may be used later in a
	capture payment transaction. This transaction will
	not affect the customer's balance in PortaBilling®,
	nor the customer's e-commerce account. Note: the
	transaction ID will be written to the customer's
	Notepad entry.
	Capture Payment: Transfers a given amount from
	a customer's e-commerce account to a company
	merchant account and issues credit toward the
	customer's balance in PortaBilling®. This requires
	the transaction ID obtained via an Authorization
	Only transaction. The amount must be equal to or
	less than that in the corresponding Authorization
	Only transaction.
	Manual Payment: Credits the customer's balance.
	Use this when receiving payment from the
	customer. Manual payment allows the customer to
	make more calls.
	Promotional Credit: Credits the customer's
	balance. Use this when giving the customer credit
	toward future service due to a sales promotion. A
	promotional credit allows the customer to make
	more calls.
Amount	Amount to charge / refund.
Visible	A comment on this transaction visible to the
Comment	administrator as well as the customer, in the xDR
	browser or on the invoice.
Internal	An internal comment on this transaction; not
Comment	visible in the xDR browser, and accessible only
	from the database directly.



Additional Info



Description
Volume discount plan to be applied to this customer.
Amount of discount applied by default to all
subscriptions of this customer (assigned either directly
to a customer or to one of his accounts).
Assigns a distributor to this customer. See the
Distributors section for more information.
Assigns a representative to this customer. See the
Representatives section for more information.
Customer's tax ID.
The date and time the customer was created (read-
only).
Defines the frequency of invoicing for this customer.
Read-only field; displays the date when the customer's
current billing will be closed (and invoice and statistics
generated).
Applicable only for "monthly anniversary" and 30-day
billing periods; allows you to set the billing date to a
different day of the month in the future (see below for more details).
Defines what kind of xDR statistics should be
delivered to the customer by email:
Customer class default – Use the settings for
the customer class.
Full Statistics – Send a CSV file with a
complete list of xDRs.
Summary Only – Do not send a full list of
xDRs, only a brief summary
Do Not Send – Do not send any statistics by
email.



Invoice	Defines the invoice template for this customer.
Template	Choose Customer class default in order to apply the
	invoice template defined for this class, and so avoid
	defining an invoice template for each customer
	specifically. See the Templates section for more
	information.
Send Invoices	Defines whether new invoices should be delivered to
	the customer by email. Customer class default – Use
	the settings for the customer class.

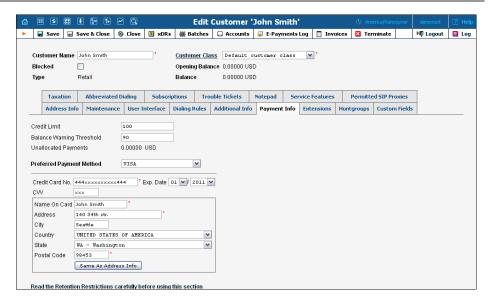
Regarding statistics, the default choice is **Full Statistics**, whereby the customer receives an e-mail after the billing period has closed, including an attached CSV file containing all the calls made by his accounts. If invoices are generated for this customer and invoice delivery is enabled, an invoice will also be attached to the e-mail. The CSV file containing all the calls may be rather large, so it is possible to use the **Summary Only** option. In this case, the customer receives only a brief summary of calls by e-mail. Finally, it is possible to disable e-mail statistics by choosing the **Do Not Send** option. Note that these options only affect the delivery of xDR files by email. The actual statistics files will always be generated and accessible for download from the administrator interface or customer self-care.

Shifting the billing date may be required if, for instance, your customer has a monthly anniversary billing cycle in which his billing period closes on the 3rd day of each month. Since this may be inconvenient either for customers or your administrators (who are busy with corporate reports during the first week of the month), it may be desirable to change the billing date to some other day of the month. In this case, you can specify a new date between today's date and the date when the current billing period will close. Upon reaching this date, an "intermediate" invoice will be created (covering the period from the end of the previous billing period to that date), and subsequent billing will start from that date in the normal way.

Payment Info

The Payment Info screen defines customer payment characteristics. In addition to customary payment information (e.g. preferred payment method, credit card number), there is also a **Credit Limit** field. If left empty, no credit limit is enforced. Otherwise, if Radius authentication is enabled, calls exceeding the limit can be denied. Also, if a **Balance Warning Threshold** is defined and the customer balance reaches this value (defined either as an amount or as a percentage of a positive **Credit Limit** value), an alarm e-mail will be sent to the customer's email and BCC.





The **Preferred Payment Method** drop-down contains a list of available payment methods. Some of these, e.g. Cash and Cheque, are "virtual" methods that do not allow manual e-commerce transactions from the administrator interface, payments from customer self-care, or running periodic payments. Any other online methods will be available only if a payment system with such methods has been defined, and is assigned to the same currency as the customer's currency. Other Payment Info fields depend on the currently selected **Preferred Payment Method**, and may vary accordingly.

NOTE: There are a few payment systems which use external authorization. If such a system has been chosen as a preferred method, no other payment information details may be entered. This is because the payment processor does not allow the system to store and reuse customer payment credentials. For example, if you add a payment system with the Moneybookers payment processor and VISA payment method, and then assign it to the currency USD, customers defined in the USD currency and using VISA as their preferred payment method will not be able to enter their payment credentials. Therefore, it will not be possible to run periodic payments for them or make manual e-commerce transactions with them.

NOTE: Only resellers, direct retail customers, and their accounts are allowed to use a company's payment systems and payment methods for e-commerce payments, both manual and periodic. A reseller should define his own payment systems and assign these to the appropriate currencies in his self-care, so that those payment systems will be used by his sub-customers and their accounts.

Retention Restrictions



IMPORTANT! A merchant may not use account and transaction information for any purpose other than assisting completion of a payment card transaction, or as specifically required by law. Merchants may collect a payment card number and expiration date independently of a payment card transaction only with the express consent of the cardholder. A merchant may only retain this information for the sole purpose of



facilitating future payment transactions. A merchant must not provide this information to any other person, except for the sole purpose of assisting completion of a payment card transaction.

You may click the **Invoices** button in the toolbar to quickly access the list of all customer's invoices.

User Interface

The login and password information for Customer self-care refer to the credentials required on the self-care web page. An easy-to-remember yet secure password may be generated automatically by clicking the **Auto** button.

Check the "IP Centrex Self-Care enabled" option to enable the customer to use a new type of self-care interface called IP Centrex Self-Care. In order to return to the default customer self-care interface, simply uncheck this option.

NOTE: IP Centrex Self-Care is only a demo-version, and any changes made on the interface will not be saved to the database.

Check the "Periodic payment management enabled" option to enable the customer himself to manage periodic payments on the Customer self-care interface (this does not prevent the administrator from editing this information!). The **Periodic Payment** tab will appear only if the customer's currency can be processed by at least one of the existing payment systems, and if the customer's preferred payment method has been set to any available online method which allows storage of his payment credentials.

Check the "Abbreviated dialing management enabled" option to enable the customer himself to manage abbreviated dialing on the Customer self-care interface. This option is not available for resellers and distributors.

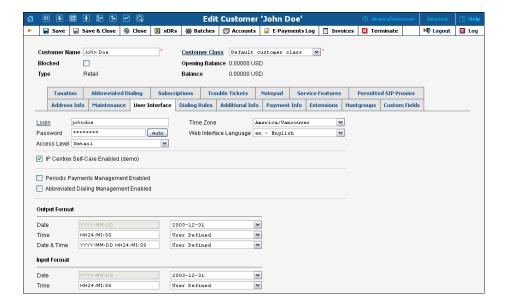
Date & Time Format

PortaBilling® allows the administrator to define both input and output date and time formats for each customer registered in the system.

By making changes to the date and / or time format on this page, customers will be able to enter dates and times in the desired format throughout the entire PortaBilling® Customer Self-Provisioning Interface, on invoices, and so on (see the screenshot below).

See the **User Management** section for examples of date and time format usage.





Periodic Payments

NOTE: The Periodic Payment tab will appear only if a suitable payment system has been set up, and the appropriate online payment method has been selected as the customer's preferred payment method.

Periodic payment management allows the administrator and customers to set up the following parameters for automated periodic payments. All registered payments for a customer are listed. The **Effective** dropdown list allows you to define whether only current payments ("Now") or all payments ever processed ("->Now") will be shown.

Choose ("Now->") to see "future" payments, or "All" to list all payments. ("Now") is the default value for this filter. The information in the chart below is provided in the payments listing. To add a new payment, click the **Add** button.

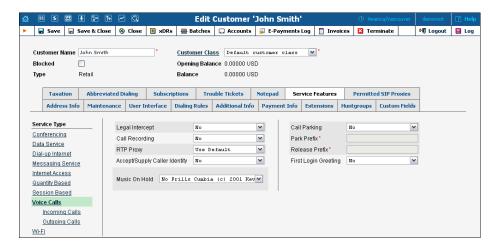




Field	Description
Amount	Specify a fixed amount to be paid, or click the Pay
	Balance icon (not available when the frequency is
	balance-driven) to pay the current balance with a
	certain periodicity.
Frequency	Balance-driven, weekly, or monthly.
Balance	Only available when the frequency is balance-driven.
Threshold	Payment will be triggered when the balance is higher
	than the specified threshold.
From, To	Dates when the payment will remain active. Click the
Date	stopwatch U icon to make the payment active
	immediately.

Service Features

Using this tab, the administrator can activate / deactivate various features of the services provided to customers. Note that features are defined per *service type* (the physical service provided to the user) rather than per *service* (the name used in the billing configuration and "visible" to the end-user). Thus if you decide tomorrow to bundle your VoIP services under a different name, and create a new service called "Internet Telephony" rather than the old name, "Voice Call", you do not actually have to change the configuration settings for any of your customers.



The **Service Type** links on the left allow you to specify for which service type you would like to define parameters.

Parameters for the Voice Calls service type

Field	Description
Legal Intercept	Intercept all incoming and outgoing calls of this
	customer for law enforcement purposes.
Call Recording	Enable to automatically record all calls made
	or received by accounts of this customer.



Call Parking	Enable call parking for this customer's IP Centrex.
Park Prefix	Only appears if Call Parking is activated; allows you
	to specify a key combination to park a call.
Release Prefix	Only appears if Call Parking is activated; allows you
	to specify a key combination to dial from the original
	phone which parked a call in order to remove the
	call from parked status and continue the
	conversation.
First Login	When a new account (phone number) in this IP
Greeting	Centrex environment is provisioned and registers for
	the first time, call this phone back and play a pre-
	recorded voice message confirming service
	activation, giving information about various available
	options, and so on.
RTP Proxy	Specifies the RTP proxying policy for this particular
	customer. For a description of possible values, see
	the Connections with Voice Calls service type and VoIP
	section.
Accept / Supply	Indicates trust. If set to Yes, PortaBilling will
Caller Identity	indicate the trust level in each route of the
	authorization reply for the customer / account.
Music On Hold	Defines the music on hold to be used with the IP
	Centrex environment. Choose None to disable this
	feature, or select the default setting for the customer.
	To upload your own music, select a file on your local
	file system using the Browse button. To rename the
	music, enter the desired name in the Music Name
	field; otherwise the local file name will be used. The
	uploaded music will replace the previous entry in the
	list, and is usually enabled within 10 minutes.
	For a list of supported audio file formats, see the
	Audio File Formats Supported by Music on
	Hold Feature chapter.

Parameters for the Incoming Calls service type

Field	Description
Ext-to-ext	For incoming calls from phones within the IP Centrex
call	environment, use a ring pattern different from the
distinctive	default one.
ring	
Group	Activates the Group Pickup feature, which allows
Pickup	phones in the same IP Centrex environment (all
	accounts under the same customer) to answer each
	other's calls by dialing a Group Pickup Prefix on their
	phones.



Group Pickup Prefix	Only appears if Group Pickup is activated. Specify the special code for picking up calls here.

Parameters for the Outgoing Calls service type

It is possible to set the following options for handling identity information: No restrictions (Do not modify) — Accept and continue relaying any identity value supplied by the remote party. This assumes that the remote party is trusted and assumes full responsibility. Account ID Only — It only allows an identity that is the same as the ID of the account which is already authorized for placing a call. Account ID or Account Alias — The identity could be the ID of the account that is authorized for the call or any of the aliases assigned to this account. Specified Number Only — The identity will always be set to a specific phone number, stored in the Default Valid CLI attribute of the account. Any Account of the Same Customer — An identity is considered valid if it matches an account ID (or account alias) of any account belonging to this customer. Any Account of the Specified Batch — This is a more restrictive option than the one above as it requires that the account that places the call and the account that matches the supplied identity are from the same batch. This allows you to create "groups" under the same customer (within the same IP Centrex environment). Batch This allows you to specify the batch (this field is only available when Any Account of the Specified Batch has been selected). This field can be used to designate one of the other phone numbers in the same IP Centrex environment as the identity CLI.	Field	Description	
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i die idelitity dini	Identity		
Allowed CLI The "Caller number" value that will be placed in the	Allowed CLI	· ·	
From: header is controlled by the Allowed CLI		_	
property. The possible values are:		,	
• No restrictions (Do not modify) – This will			

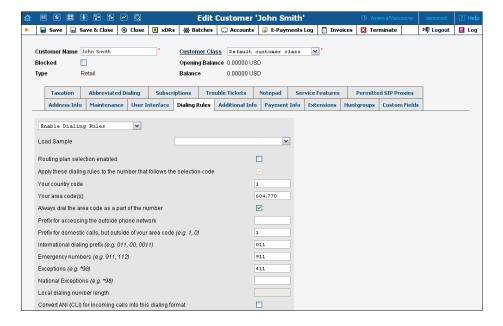


	allow the remote IP phone or IP PBX to supply any CLI / ANI number.
	Use the Same Rule – will apply the same restrictions as the ones placed on the identity information (described above).
	• Fix to Identity — similar to the above, but makes it obligatory for the displayed number to always be the same as the identity CLI, so if a remote party provides a CLI that is valid, but not identical to the identity - it will be replaced with the identity CLI.
Override Display Name	Replace the original account number with the desired name.
Hide CLI	Remove CLI (ANI) information for outgoing calls. The following options are available:
	Never - Always show CLI. Privacy service is not even permitted for an account
	Always - Always hide CLI. Privacy service is
	permitted and in effect (all calls private)
	Automatic - Allows flexible configuration for CLI hiding. It depends on the prefix number dialed and the privacy headers provided by the UA
Hide CLI	Prefix to be dialed before an outgoing number in order
Prefix	to prevent the called party from seeing your phone number (Only available when Hide CLI option is set to "Automatic").
Show CLI Prefix	Prefix to be dialed before an outgoing number in order to allow the called party to see your phone number
Tienx	(Only available when Hide CLI option is set to "Automatic").
Limit Simultaneous	Engage real-time checks of the number of concurrent outgoing calls made by accounts under this customer.
Calls	outgoing cans made by accounts under this customer.
Max number	Allow only a specific number of concurrent calls for
of simultaneous	accounts of this customer.
calls	
Paging /	Enable the intercom feature for accounts under this
Intercom	customer.
Paging /	Only appears if Paging / Intercom has been
Intercom	activated; allows you to specify a key combination to
Prefix	answer a call on someone else's extension.



Dialing Rules

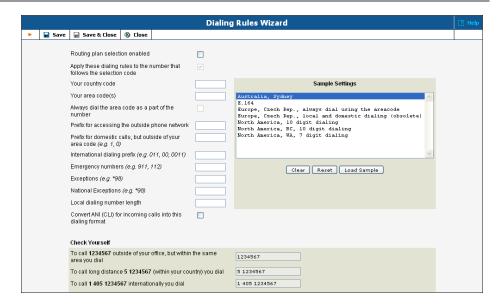
Using this tab, the administrator can define how phone numbers are dialed by users in this customer's IP Centrex environment.



By default, a new customer will have dialing rules disabled. This means that the system regards calls arriving from him as being in the E.164 format. If you wish to define the way in which your customer dials phone numbers, you can use the **Enable Dialing Rules** option. This will allow you to enter various dial plan parameters such as an international dialing prefix or area code. You may type your own number translation rules instead (as Perl regular expressions) if you select the **Use Custom Translation Rules** option.

To define the phone number format which is used by this customer's accounts, click **Dialing Rules Wizard** to activate the wizard.





The upper part of the wizard screen allows you to enter important dialing parameters, such as your international dialing prefix. Several sample settings are provided for your convenience. For instance, in order to load sample settings for "traditional" North American dialing, select "North America, WA, 7 digit number dialing" and click **Load Sample**. Click **Clear** to reset all parameters. Click **Reset** to revert to the last saved settings.

In the bottom part of the wizard screen you can check whether you have described the numbering format correctly. Make sure for all three examples provided (local, domestic and international call) that this is the way you want to dial the numbers.

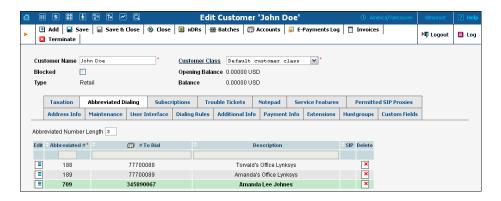
Abbreviated Dialing

Here the customer may define a list of phone extensions for his IP Centrex environment, plus create abbreviated dialing for external phone numbers. The **Abbreviated Dialing** feature works with both SIP and H.323, with adequate support from either the SIP Server or Cisco TCL IVR.

A PortaBilling® customer can set up dialing rules as an international prefix, outside prefix, direct number (e.g. 911), or abbreviated dialing for his accounts.

NOTE: To be able to add extensions / abbreviated numbers, you should enter the maximum length of anticipated digits (e.g. 3 in the case of 123-like numbers) in the **Abbreviated Number Length** field.





To add a new abbreviated dialing number, click the **Add** button and enter the following information:

Field	Description	
Abbreviated #	The number the end-user will dial on his phone	
	(extension number).	
# to Dial	The number that the call will be forwarded to. You	
	may enter the ID of one of the customer's accounts	
	(use the 🗐 icon for a pop-up window where you can	
	see all of them) or any phone number. If you leave this	
	field blank, then the abbreviated number is considered	
	to be a direct number, or "dial as is". This is useful for	
	making sure that special numbers (e.g. 112) are never	
	converted by other translation rules.	
	Note: Phone numbers must be entered in the E.164	
	format.	
Description	Description of this abbreviated number, e.g.	
	"Andrew's IP phone".	
SIP	If # to Dial represents the ID of one of the customer's	
	accounts, you will see the SIP "lamp" icon here. It will	
	light up if the account is currently being used by a SIP	
	UA to register with the SIP server; otherwise it will be	
	gray.	

Taxation

On this tab you can choose which plugin module will be used to make tax calculations and set up parameters that affect taxation.





Since these parameters depend on the specific taxation module and your local tax laws, please consult your tax attorney for details regarding their use.

Permitted SIP Proxies

On this tab you can choose to which external SIP proxies customer can forward calls using "SIP URI forward" feature.



Extensions

Using this tab, the customer can define a list of extensions for phone lines within his IP Centrex environment. The customer can add new extensions or change existing ones without any actual phone configuration.



To add a new extension number, click the **Add** button and enter the following information:

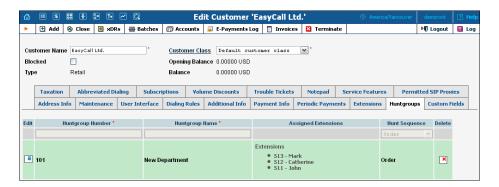


Field	Description	
Extension	The number the end-user will dial on his phone (an	
Number	extension number should contain only digits).	
Extension	Logical name for this extension (e.g. name of the	
Name	person using this line: "John").	
Assigned	The number that calls will be forwarded to. Here you	
Account	should specify the ID of one of the customer's	
	accounts (this can be selected from the drop-down	
	list).	
	NOTE : Each account should have only one extension; thus it is possible to add an extension only if an unassigned account exists.	
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove the extension	
	from the list.	

NOTE: The account assigned to the extension should have the VOICEONNET or VOICEONNETRX rate in its tariff, otherwise calls cannot be made.

Huntgroups

On this tab, the customer can configure a scheme for call distribution in such a way that incoming calls are delivered to one or more assigned extensions.



To add a new huntgroup, click the **Add** button and enter the following information:

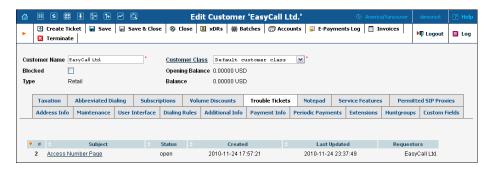
Field	Description	
Huntgroup	The number the end-user will dial on his phone to	
Number	reach one or more assigned extensions.	
Huntgroup	Logical name for this group of extensions, e.g. "New	
Name	department".	
Assigned	Specify one or several extensions that calls will be	
Extension	delivered to. Click the Assigned Extensions link to	
	invoke the window for extensions selection, and check	
	the boxes next to the desired extensions.	



Hunt	Specifies the order for delivering a call to one or more	
Sequence	extensions.	
	Order: Call every extension one by one from the first	
	(topmost) number to the last until the call is answered.	
	Random: Use a random order.	
	Simultaneous : The call goes to every extension from	
	the list simultaneously until the call is answered.	
	Least Used : Sort the accounts in descending order of	
	their last usage, and deliver the call to their extensions	
	accordingly. (For example, account 777111 with	
	extension 111 was last used on 2010-12-11, and	
	account 777222 with extension 222 was last used on	
	2010-12-12; in this case the call goes to extension 111	
	and then, if not answered, to extension 222.)	
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove the huntgroup	
	from the list.	

Trouble Tickets

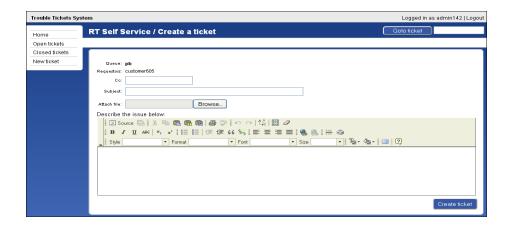
Using this tab you can view the list of recent tickets and automatically open a specific ticket in RT interface by just clicking on it.



To create a new ticket, click **Create Ticket** in the toolbar.







Resellers

A reseller is a partner who provides "white label" services using your PortaSwitch® platform, i.e. he sells his own products, manages his own price lists, and works with his own customers.

Add / Edit Reseller

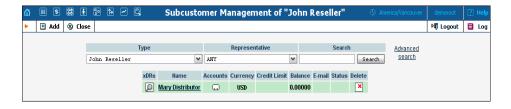
The Add Reseller page allows you to create a new reseller. The form is very similar to that for Add Customer, as described above. See below for a description of additional fields not available in the Add Customer form.

Additional Info

Field	Description
Default Tariff	When you are subsequently creating products
for Voice Calls	managed by this reseller, this tariff will be assigned by
	default for calculating charges to him for calls made
	by his sub-customers using this product.

Add / Edit Customer under a Reseller

This is essentially the same as management of customers as described above, the difference being that you can only create sub-customers of the Retail type. See below for a description of additional fields not available for direct retail customers.





Additional Info



Field	Description	
Callshop	Defines whether callshop features (timer, receipt, etc.)	
Enabled	are available. To use the callshop functionality with	
	accounts of a particular sub-customer, you should first	
	enable this option for the reseller, and then enable it	
	for the sub-customer as well.	

Account Management

An account is a user of a product such as prepaid cards, voucher-based cards, or credit calling plans. Each account in PortaBilling® is associated with a customer. The Account Management screen, accessible from the Customer interface by clicking the **Accounts** button, shows you a query screen for listing existing accounts.

Account Listing

Search filter

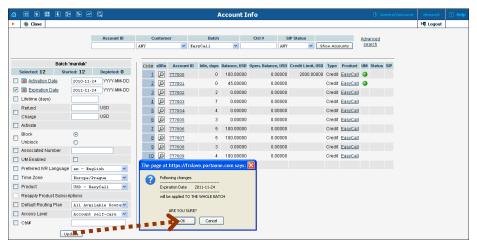
There may be a very large number of accounts in the system, so it is advisable to limit your search using the filter functionality.

Field	Description	
Account ID	The primary identification for this account; an	
	alphanumeric string.	
	Note: the % wildcard symbol may be used.	
Batch	Logical name for a group of accounts. Select from a list	
	of all the customer's batches to enable the batch update	
	pane.	
Ctrl#	Enter control numbers and / or number ranges separated	
	by commas (for example: 1,3,8-12).	



SIP Status	Default – ANY; this function allows you to display either
	logged-in or logged-out accounts only.

Batch update pane



Field	Description	
Account ID	The primary identification of this account; an	
	alphanumeric string.	
Ctrl#	Enter control numbers and /	or number ranges separated
	by commas (for example: 1,3,	8-12).
ACCOUNTS		
Status	🛕 Zero balance	▲ Expired
	Not active	Blocked
	🛕 Credit exceeded	Customer blocked (see
		Edit Customer)
Ctrl#	Click using Ctrl#, or enter control numbers and / or	
	number ranges separated by commas (for example: 1,3,8-	
	12).	

The batch update pane can be activated by selecting a batch in the filter at the top of the interface, or by selecting the batch name from the list of customers' accounts. The basic functionality of this update pane allows users to specify which attributes of all accounts in the results set should be modified. For example, in order to increase the balance of all accounts by 10 USD, users should:

- Check the box next to **Refund / Charge** to indicate that this is one of the updates that should occur,
- o Enter "10" next to **Refund**,
- o Click the **Update Batch** button at the bottom, and
- o Approve the changes when the confirmation dialog appears.

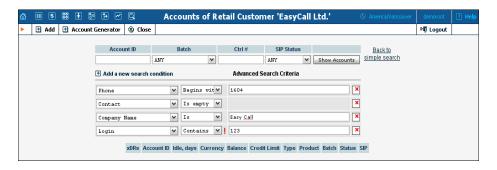
When the page refreshes, the changes will be reflected in the result listing.



NOTE: If you perform a balance adjustment *before* an account is used, it will be regarded as a change to the opening balance, and will not be reflected in the CDRs. For example, if you create a prepaid account worth \$10, then realize you have actually sold it to the customer for \$20, and so add the extra \$10 to the card, it will look to the customer as if the card originally had \$20 on it.

Advanced Search

In advanced search mode you can specify an unlimited number of search conditions and the system will fetch the relevant accounts. Click on •• Add a new search condition to add another condition.



Operation	Description	
Is	The value of the field in the customer information	
	must match the search criteria exactly.	
Begins with	The value of the field in the customer information	
	must start with the specified value (e.g. if you enter	
	the filter value "John", customers with the names	
	"John" and "Johnny" will be selected).	
Contains	The value of the field in the customer information	
	must contain the specified value somewhere (e.g. if	
	you enter the filter value "Eric", customers with the	
	names "Eric", "Erica", "Maverick" and "American"	
	will be selected).	
Ends with	The value of this customer information field must	
	end with the specified value (e.g. if you enter the	
	filter value "smith", customers with the last names	
	"Smith" and "Hammersmith" will be selected).	
Is empty	The corresponding field in the customer	
	information must be empty.	

All search operations are case-insensitive, so you can enter "Eric" as a search criteria and, even if the customer's name was originally entered as "eric" or "ERIC", you will still see him in the list.

All conditions work in conjunction, so in the case of multiple search criteria the customer's record must satisfy all of them in order to appear in the result list.



During a search operation using auxiliary fields (e.g. fax) or the "contains" comparison, the database cannot use indexes. This will result in a full table scan, meaning an increased load on the server and a longer time to produce the final result. Please avoid using such search operations if not necessary.

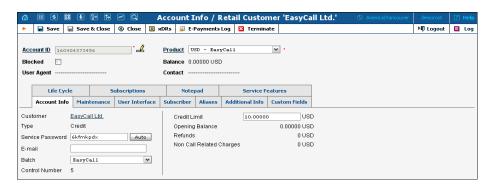
By clicking on **Back to simple search** you can switch the form to its original mode.

Account Info / Add Account

To add a new account manually (this allows you to access all available properties of an account), select **Add** in the toolbar and then (if a quick form selection dialog – select **Manually** at the bottom of the list). For bulk account generation, select **Account Generator**.

The Account Info page provided for the administrator is similar to the Add Account interface; however, some account details are read-only. The administrator is unable to modify Type, Batch, Control Number and Opening Balance. When making changes, the administrator can use the Notepad tab to provide a comment detailing the reason for these changes (for example, "product changed, credited \$50").

Changes can be confirmed by selecting **Save** or **Save&Close**.



Field	Description
Account ID	The primary identification of this account. The ID is
	read-only by default; you can modify it by clicking the
	Edit ID 🚅 icon. The maximum allowed ID length is 32
	characters.
Blocked	Specifies whether the account is blocked or unblocked.
	If this is checked, the account will be unusable; it is
	usually unblocked automatically when the account is
	used for the first time.
Product	The product providing pricing plans for this account.
Balance	The balance for this account.



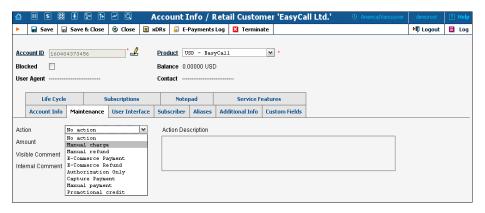
User Agent	If this account is currently used by a SIP UA to register with the SIP server, the user agent identification info is displayed.
Contact	The URI of the user agent used by the SIP Proxy to contact the IP phone.

Account Info

Type	The account type may be "Debit", "Credit", or
	"Voucher". Debit is usually associated with prepaid
	cards. Credit is an account that will be invoiced for
	incurred costs. Voucher accounts are "refill coupons"
	for other types of accounts.
Credit Limit	Only available when the account type is set to "Credit".
	Defines the credit allowance in the account's currency.
Service	The password used to authenticate any calls made using
Password	this account.
E-mail	If an account has e-mail info associated with it, the
	owner of the account can reset the password for self-
	care access, and the new password will be sent to this e-
	mail address.
Batch	If a new batch name is provided in the text field, a new
	batch will be created when you add the account.
	Alternatively, an existing batch could be selected from
	the drop-down list. If you leave this field empty, the
	created account will not be tied to any specific batch.
Control	Read-only. The sequential number of the account in the
Number	current batch. Batch name and control number uniquely
	identify an account, and are often used for prepaid
	calling cards.
Zero	Applicable only for debit accounts; specifies when the
Balance	account has used up all of its available funds.
Date	
Opening	The opening balance for this account.
Balance	
Refunds	The amount refunded to the account owner.
Non-Call	Charges not directly associated with calls the account has
Related	made; for instance, a maintenance fee or login fee.
Charges	



Maintenance

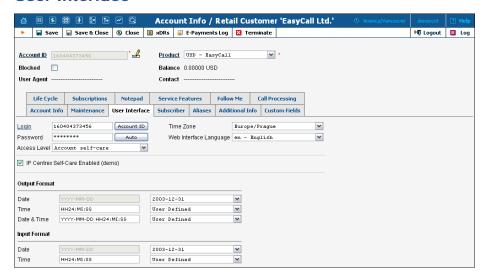


Field	Description
Action	Manual Charge: The debit account balance in
	PortaBilling®; for instance, if you are selling SIP phones
	to a customer. This means the balance will be changed
	so that the account is able to make fewer calls.
	Manual Refund: The credit account balance in
	PortaBilling®; for instance, if the account files a
	complaint and you agree to give credit toward future
	service use. This means the balance will be changed so
	that the account is able to make more calls.
	E-Commerce Charge: Transfers a given amount from
	an account's e-commerce account to a company
	merchant account and issues credit toward the account's
	balance in PortaBilling®.
	E-Commerce Refund: Transfers a given amount from
	a company merchant account to an account's e-
	commerce account; for instance, if a customer / account
	files a complaint and you agree to a refund. This
	transaction will not affect the account's balance in
	PortaBilling®.
	Authorization Only: Verifies whether the account's e-
	commerce account is valid and reserves a given amount.
	This will return a transaction ID, which may be used
	later in a capture payment transaction. This transaction
	will not affect the account's balance in PortaBilling®,
	nor the account's e-commerce account.
	Capture Payment: Transfers a given amount from an
	account's e-commerce account to a company merchant
	account and issues credit toward the account's balance in
	PortaBilling®. This requires the transaction ID obtained
	via an authorization only transaction. The amount must
	be equal to or less than that in the corresponding
	authorization only transaction.
	Manual Payment: Credits the account balance. Use this



	1
	when receiving payment from the account owner.
	Manual payment will allow the account to make more
	calls.
	Promotional Credit: Credits the account balance. Use
	this when you are giving the account owner a credit
	toward future service due to a sales promotion. A
	promotional credit will allow the account to make more
	calls.
Amount	Amount to charge / refund.
Visible	A comment on this transaction visible to the customer
Comment	in the xDR browser.
Internal	An internal comment on this transaction; not visible in
Comment	the xDR browser, and accessible only from the database
	directly.

User Interface



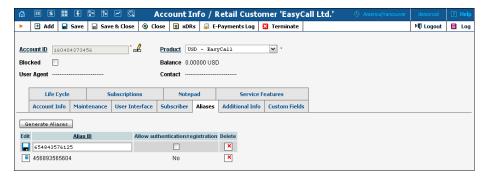
Login	Account login for the account user interface. Click the
	Account ID button to make the login identical to the
	Account ID.
Password	User interface password for the account.
Access	Access level assigned to the account.
Level	
Time Zone	Time zone for the account.
Web	Displays the account user interface in a particular
Interface	language.
Language	
IP Centrex	Switches the default account self-care interface to a new
Self-Care	one - IP Centrex Self-Care.
Enabled	
(demo)	NOTE: IP Centrex Self-Care is only a demo-version, and any
	changes made on the interface will not be saved to the database.



Subscriber

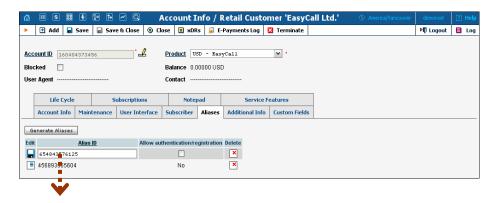
The Subscriber tab provides most of the commonly required contact information for the account's owner.

Aliases



Alias ID	Contains alternative IDs for this account.
Allow	Defines whether this ID can be used independently
authentication /	for authentication and registration (e.g. having two
registration	IP phones concurrently registered to PortaSwitch®,
	one using the main account ID and the other using
	an alias) or, alternatively, it can only be used to
	forward calls to the main account (since only it can
	register).

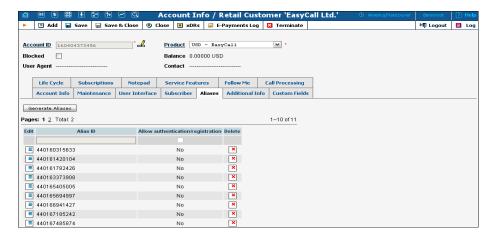
If you need to create multiple aliases (e.g. a customer with his own IP PBX who buys a range of DIDs to be forwarded there) you can use the Alias Generator to produce aliases in a similar way as with the Account Generator.



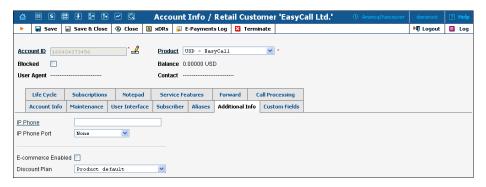




NOTE: Aliases are generated as a background task, so it may take a few minutes before they appear in Account Info.



Additional Info

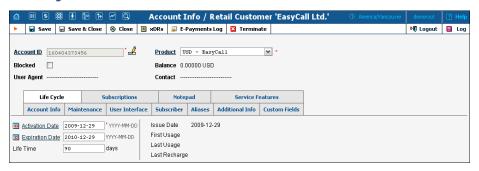


IP Phone,	Indicates the IP phone and associated port assigned to
IP Phone	the account. Default – not set.
Port	
Download	The link to download the profile for PortaOne
PortaPhone	Softphone (only available when this account is assigned
Profile	to an entry from the IP Phone inventory, provisioned
	with PortaPhone profile type).
E-commerce	Allows the account's owner to make online payments or
Enabled	set up periodic payments on the account self-care page.



	Note: Configuring the account to enable online
	payments (both manual and periodic) is done in exactly
	the same way as for customers. First you should set up a
	suitable payment system.
Discount	Assign a discount plan to this account. When a new
Plan	account is created, it will be assigned by default a
	discount plan associated with the account's product.

Life Cycle



Activation	The date from which the account is usable.
Date	
Expiration	The date from which the account will be unusable. If
Date	you do not want the account to expire, leave this field
	blank.
	Note: This date is assumed to be in the billing server's
	time zone, not the account's one.
Lifetime	Relative to the activation date, the account will expire on
	first usage date + lifetime days. If you do not want to
	use this feature, leave the field blank.
Issue Date	The date when the account was created.
First Usage,	The date when the account was in use for the very
Last Usage	first / last time.
Last	Specifies the last time the account was recharged using a
Recharge	voucher (either via the self-care page or IVR).

Service Features





You have the option of expressly specifying the value of a given parameter or using the "Customer default" option. In the latter case, this parameter is assumed to be the value defined in the customer's configuration (the global value for this IP Centrex).

Field	Description
	The Voice Calls section
Associated	Specifies the number to be sent back to the IVR in
Number	an authorization confirmation. For example, this
	might be a redirect to a technical support number in
	an IVR application. Another example might be a
	quick-dial number for prepaid accounts. (In this
	case, the redirect number may be maintained via web
	self-provisioning.)
Legal Intercept	Intercept all incoming and outgoing calls of this
	customer for law enforcement purposes.
Call Recording	Enable to automatically record all calls made
	or received by this specific account.
RTP Proxy	Specifies the RTP proxying policy for this particular
	customer. For a description of possible values, see
	the Connections with Voice Calls service type and VoIP
	section.
Accept / Supply	Indicates trust. If set to Yes, PortaBilling will
Caller Identity	indicate the trust level in each route of the
	authorization reply for the customer / account.
Music On Hold	Defines the music on hold to be used with the
	account. Choose None to disable this feature, or
	select the default setting for the account's customer.
	To upload your own music, select a file on your local
	file system using the Browse button. To rename the
	music, enter the desired name in the Music Name
	field; otherwise the local file name will be used. The
	uploaded music will replace the previous entry in the
	list, and is usually enabled within 10 minutes.
	For a list of supported audio file formats, see the
	Audio File Formats Supported by Music on
	Hold Feature chapter.
	The Incoming Calls section
UM Enabled	Allows the account user to access the unified
	messaging system. See the PortaUM Administrator
	Guide for more details.
	Please note that if an account has UM Enabled
	activated, there will be an additional link next to it
	on the administrator interface: Manage UM Account.
	By clicking on this you will go automatically to the
	account's UM administration pages. This is



Forward Mode Maximum Forwards	extremely useful for helpdesk people, since they can quickly check the configuration of an account's autoattendant, call queues, and the like. Also note that it may take a few minutes before an account is fully provisioned in PortaUM®. Thus if you click on the link immediately after activating UM Enabled, it most likely will not work yet. Assigns a call forwarding mode to this account: No Forwarding: Disables call forwarding entirely. Follow-me: Enables standard follow-me forwarding. Advanced Forwarding: Activates advanced call forwarding mode. Forward to SIP URI: Replaces the Follow-me tab with a simplified Forward tab, where you can enter a forwarding destination as a CLD@IP. Simple Forwarding: A simplified type of forwarding where you specify a single phone number to which calls will be sent. When you select follow-me or advanced call forwarding, you must also provide a value for the Maximum Forwards parameter, so as to limit the number of concurrently active forwarding destinations allowed. Please note that you do not have to limit the total number of phone numbers entered, but rather the number of phone numbers active at any given moment of time. For instance, a user may have a list of 20 numbers, each active in its own time period, some temporarily turned off, and so on. When call forwarding is done, PortaBilling® will compute a list of numbers which may be used at that moment, and choose only the first N in the list, where N is the number specified in Maximum Forwards.
Timeout, sec	How long the IP phone will ring before a call goes to follow-me numbers (if any) or voicemail.
Call Processing	Enables selective call processing / conditional call
Enabled	forwarding features.
Default Answering Mode	Specifies the method of processing incoming calls to this account if selective call processing has been disabled, or if none of the selective call processing rules apply.



10	T ' 11 C 1 '11' 1 TF	
Ext-to-ext call	For incoming calls from phones within the IP	
distinctive ring	Centrex environment, use a ring pattern different	
	from the default one.	
Present Caller	Display caller info on incoming calls.	
Info	Display cance and on meeting cance	
Disable Call	Forcibly disables call waiting (even if it has been	
Waiting	enabled on the phone).	
The Outgoing Calls section		
Allowed	It is possible to set the following options for	
Identity	handling identity information:	
•	• No restrictions (Do not modify) – Accept	
	and continue relaying any identity value	
	supplied by the remote party. This assumes	
	that the remote party is trusted and assumes	
	full responsibility.	
	Account ID Only – It only allows an identify the interpretation of the ID of the	
	identity that is the same as the ID of the	
	account which is already authorized for	
	placing a call.	
	Account ID or Account Alias – The	
	identity could be the ID of the account that	
	is authorized for the call or any of the aliases	
	assigned to this account.	
	Specified Number Only – The identity will	
	always be set to a specific phone number,	
	stored in the Default Valid CLI attribute of	
	the account.	
	• Any Account of the Same Customer – An	
	identity is considered valid if it matches an	
	account ID (or account alias) of any account	
	belonging to this customer.	
	Any Account of the Specified Batch –	
	This is a more restrictive option than the one	
	above as it requires that the account that	
	places the call and the account that matches	
	the supplied identity are from the same	
	batch. This allows you to create "groups"	
	under the same customer (within the same	
D 1	IP Centrex environment).	
Batch	This allows you to specify the batch (this field is only	
	available when Any Account of the Specified Batch	
	has been selected).	
Default Valid	This field can be used to designate one of the other	
Identity	phone numbers in the same IP Centrex environment	
-	-	



	as the identity CLI.
Allowed CLI	The "Caller number" value that will be placed in the
	From: header is controlled by the Allowed CLI
	property. The possible values are:
	• No restrictions (Do not modify) – This
	will allow the remote IP phone or IP PBX to
	supply any CLI / ANI number.
	• Use the Same Rule – will apply the same
	restrictions as the ones placed on the identity
	information (described above).
	• Fix to Identity – similar to the above, but
	makes it obligatory for the displayed number
	to always be the same as the identity CLI, so
	if a remote party provides a CLI that is valid,
	but not identical to the identity – it will be
	replaced with the identity CLI.
Override	Replace the original account number with the
Display Name	desired name.
Display Name	This allows you to specify the desired name for the
	account.
Preferred IVR	The language the user prefers when interacting with
Language	an IVR application.
Favorite	Allows you to define a list of phone numbers for this
Numbers	account, so that calls made to these numbers by the
Enabled	owner of the account will be charged according to a
E011	special FAV rate.
E911	Activate emergency services for this account
Hide CLI	Remove CLI (ANI) information for outgoing calls.
	The following options are available:
	Customer's Default – Assumes the value defined in the quaternar's configuration.
	defined in the customer's configuration
	Never - Always show CLI. Privacy service is not even permitted for an account.
	not even permitted for an account
	Always - Always hide CLI. Privacy service is now mitted and in affect (all calls private).
	permitted and in effect (all calls private)
	Automatic - Allows flexible configuration for CLI hiding. It depends on the profix
	for CLI hiding. It depends on the prefix
	number dialed and the privacy headers provided by the UA
Hide CLI	Prefix to be dialed before an outgoing number in
Prefix	order to prevent the called party from seeing your
TICHA	phone number. (Only available when Hide CLI
	option is set to "Automatic".)
	option to the manual of



Show CLI	Prefix to be dialed before an outgoing number in	
Prefix	order to allow the called party to see your phone number. (Only available when Hide CLI option is	
	set to "Automatic".)	
Call Barring	Activates the Call Barring feature (a new Call Barring	
Enabled	tab will appear, where you can configure destinations	
	which this user is not allowed to call).	
Default Routing	The routing plan to be used for outgoing calls when	
Plan	the end-user dials a number without using a specific	
	selection code.	
The Internet Access section		
Limit Bandwidth	The most common option is Product default . In	
Danawiath	rare cases, you may need to define special bandwidth values for an account that will override the product's	
	parameters. In such cases, select Yes to define these	
	values, or No if you do not want to limit the	
	bandwidth for this account.	
Max Upload	There are several options in this drop-down box:	
Rate	No Limit – Select this option if you want to	
	limit only the download rate	
	Custom – Define the required value and a	
	measurement unit in the two smaller boxes	
	This drop-down box can also contain the other	
	predefined bandwidth limits that are set in porta-	
	admin.conf. These allow you to set different	
M D 1 1	bandwidths for different times of day.	
Max Download Rate	There are several options in this dropdown box:	
Nate	No Limit – Select this option if you want to limit only the valend rate	
	 limit only the upload rate Custom – Define the required value and a 	
	measurement unit in the two smaller boxes	
	This drop-down box can also contain other	
	predefined bandwidth limits that are set in porta-	
	admin.conf. These allow you to set different	
	bandwidths for different times of day.	
Hotlining	Select Yes if your NAS supports hotline (default	
Support	setting is Product default).	
Hotline to	By default this value is set to Yes . This means that	
Portal on	the account is hotlined.	
Connect Statio ID	Colort Von if way want to assist a static ID to di	
Static IP Enabled	Select Yes if you want to assign a static IP to this account (the default setting is No).	
Static IP	If you have selected Yes for the previous field, type	
otatic II	in an IP.	
Static IP	Type in a netmask, or leave the default value:	
Netmask	255.255.255	
	ı	



Enabled	Allows you to define a specific number of concurrent sessions initiated by the account.
	Specify the maximum allowed number of concurrent
Simultaneous	sessions from one account (Only available when the
Sessions	Session Limit Enabled is checked).
The Conferencing section	
Conformaina	Allows the account user to use voice-conferencing
Conferencing Enabled	services. Note that if an account has Conferencing
	Enabled activated, an additional link will appear
	next to it on the administrator interface: Manage
	Conferences. By clicking on it you will automatically
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	go to the account's PortaBridge self-care interface
	where multiple conferences can be managed. Specify the number of concurrent connections for
Simultaneous	the conference.
	the conference.
Participants	'편! II77' E' '.'
	-
	± = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =
	There are several options in this drop-down box:
Rate	• No Limit – Select this option if you want to
	limit only the download rate
	• Custom – Define the required value and a
	measurement unit in the two smaller boxes
	This drop-down box can also contain other
	predefined bandwidth limits that are set in porta-
	admin.conf. These allow you to set different
Max Download	·
Rate	-
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	<u>*</u>
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	ž – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – –
Limit Bandwidth Max Upload Rate Max Download Rate	The Wi-Fi section The most common option is Product default. In rare cases, you may need to define special bandwidth values for an account that would override the product's parameters. In such cases, select Yes to define these values, or No if you do not want to limit the bandwidth for this account. There are several options in this drop-down box: No Limit – Select this option if you want to limit only the download rate Custom – Define the required value and a measurement unit in the two smaller boxes This drop-down box can also contain other predefined bandwidth limits that are set in porta-



Follow Me



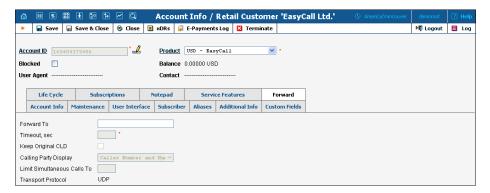
This tab is only available when **Forward Mode** on **Service Features** tab is set to **Follow-me** or **Advanced Forwarding**.

Order	Specifies the order for redirecting a call.
	As listed: call every active follow-me number from the
	first (topmost) number to the last, until the call is
	answered.
	Simultaneous: call every active follow-me number from
	the list at the same time until the call is answered.
	Random: use a random order.
Edit	Click the Edit icon to edit the follow-me number
	details. To add a new number to the list, click the Add
	button.
Up / Down	Click these buttons to move a row before the previous
_	one or after the next one in the list.
Name	The name of the follow-me number (e.g. "Mobile
	Phone'').
Destination	Specify a number for redirecting calls, formatted
	according to the customer dialing rules.
Keep	(This field is only available in Advanced Forwarding
Original	mode.) When forwarding a call to another account, this
CLD	ensures that the originally dialed number is still present
	in the call information. A remote IP PBX, which
	registers only a single account (phone number) to
	PortaSwitch®, but receives incoming calls to multiple
	phone numbers (all of which are forwarded to the main
	account), can then correctly deliver these calls to internal
	extensions.
Calling	Allows you to choose how to display the caller's info
Party	during forwarding. The following options are available:
Display	• Caller Number and Name – The call is
	forwarded with the phone number and the name
	of the original caller (e.g. if A calls B, but the call
	is forwarded to C, C will see that it is A who is



	calling).
	 Caller Number and Forwarder Name – The phone number of the caller and the forwarder name are put in the CLI of the forwarded call (e.g. if A calls B, but the call is forwarded to C, C will see A's phone number and B's name). Forwarder Number and Name – The call is forwarded with the phone number and the name of the forwarder (if A calls B, but the call is forwarded to C, C will see that it is B who is calling).
SIP Proxy	(This field is only available in Advanced Forwarding
	mode.) Enables you to choose one of the SIP proxies
	defined in the Permitted SIP Proxies properties for the
	customer.
Active	Defines the period when the number is active, i.e. is
	allowed to receive a forwarded call. Click the Active link
	or wizard icon to create the first period definition or
	add the next one using the Period Wizard (this is
	virtually the same as the Off-peak Period Wizard in Edit
	Tariff). Click the Always button in the wizard to make
	the follow-me number active permanently. Click the
	Test Period 🐯 icon to run a period test.
Timeout	Specify the amount of seconds to wait until a call is
	answered. Following timeout, the call will be redirected
	to the next follow-me number or disconnected.
Off	Check this option to temporarily disable forwarding to a
	follow-me number.

Forward



This tab is only available when **Forward Mode** on **Service Features** tab is set to **Forward to SIP URI** or **Simple Forwarding**.



Forward To	Here you will enter CLD or two parts of the SIP URI:
/ SIP URI	The CLD part may contain only digits, the
	letters A-D, and the signs # and *.
	The address part should contain a valid IP
	address (four numbers separated by dots, e.g.
	12.34.56.78)
Timeout	Specify the amount of seconds to wait until a call is
	answered. Following timeout, the call will be redirected
	to the next follow-me number or disconnected.
Keep	Allows you to preserve the originally dialed number
Original	during forwarding. This is useful when forwarding a call
CLD	to a remote IP PBX. For more details, see the
	PortaSIP Administrator Guide.
Calling Party	Allows you to choose how to display the caller's info
Display	during forwarding.
Limit	Only the specified number of concurrent calls will be
Simultaneous	allowed. When an account tries to place a call beyond
Calls to	the allowed limit, it will be rejected.
Transport	Choose the UDP or TCP transport protocol. You can
Protocol	use the TCP protocol instead of UDP for SIP
	communications for PBXes which do not support
	UDP.

Call Processing



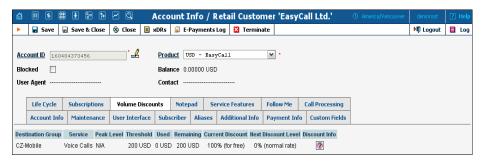
This tab allows you to define a list of rules for handling incoming calls to this account. It is only available when **Call Processing Enabled** box is checked on **Service Features** tab.

From	Allows you to select a condition applicable to an
	incoming phone number (phone number of a person
	trying to contact you). Click on the column header with
	the corresponding rule to invoke the wizard, which will
	enable you to define a new rule or change an existing
	one.



То	Allows you to select a condition applicable to a dialed
	phone number (one of your phone numbers that a
	person trying to contact you has dialed).
Time	Allows you to select a condition applicable to the time
Window	when a call is made.
Action	Specifies which actions should be taken if a particular
	phone call satisfies the conditions for this rule.
Off	Allows you to temporarily disable a rule without actually
	deleting it (so it can be used later on).

Volume Discounts



Destination	Information about discounts used and remaining is
Group	shown, grouped by Destination Group names. Each
	name represents one group included in the volume
	discount plan assigned to the account.
Threshold	The threshold value for the currently used discount
	level. When an account's internal counter reaches this
	value, the next level discount will start to be applied
	according to the discount scheme. When the counter
	reaches the last numeric threshold value, it will be shown
	here. N/A means that there is no numeric threshold
	defined in the scheme, or no scheme has been defined at
	all.
Peak Level	N/A indicates that the discount is provided regardless
	of whether the service is used in a peak or off-peak
	period. Otherwise, this column contains the period
	names.
Used	The current value of the account's counter associated
	with this destination group.
Remaining	The amount remaining before the threshold value.
Current	The value of the discount currently applied to the
Discount	account.
Next	The value of the next level discount.
Discount	
Level	
Discount	Click the information icon for a textual
Info	representation of the discount scheme.
	1 <u>1</u>



Subscriptions



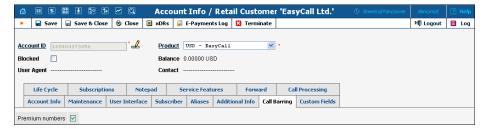
This tab displays the subscription plans currently applied to this account. Subscriptions are divided into three groups

- **Pending Subscriptions** displays subscriptions which are not active yet (i.e. they will be activated sometime in the future).
- **Active Subscriptions** displays currently activated (and billed) subscription plans.
- **Closed Subscriptions** displays subscriptions which have already been closed.

Subscription	Choose one of the available subscription plans from the
	list.
Discount	Enter a discount rate for this subscription. If you leave
Rate, %	this field empty, it means that the discount rate defined
	in the customer information should be applied. If you
	enter any value, it will override the customer discount
	rate. 0 means no discount (i.e. the rate defined in the
	subscription plan is applied).
Start Date	Enter the desired subscription activation date:
	immediately, or sometime in the future.
Activation	(Read-only) Displays the date when the subscription was
Date	activated.
Finish Date	Enter the date when this subscription should be
	automatically canceled.
Billed To	(Read-only) The date to which subscription charges have
	already been applied.
Mandatory	A flag indicating that this subscription comes from the
	account's product, and so cannot be closed until the
	account has this product assigned to it.
Close	Allows you to close one of the optional subscriptions.



Call Barring



This tab is only available when the **Call Barring** feature for **Voice Calls / Outgoing** has been activated on the **Service Features** tab. Here you can enable call barring for specific classes of phone numbers.

Account Generator

The Account Generator should be used when large numbers of accounts are to be generated (for example, when issuing prepaid cards) so that individual accounts need not be entered manually. The account IDs will be generated either sequentially or randomly, as will the web password, so as to prevent possible defrauding. The generation process will run offline, so that the accounts are not visible from the Account Management page until the process is complete. The customer will then receive an e-mail notification regarding completion of the task, as well as another e-mail listing all the accounts in CSV format, including the values "Batch", "Control Number" (a sequential index), "PIN" (account ID), "Web login" (by default identical to the account ID) and "Password" (web password).



The **Account Generator** interface is very similar to **Add Account**, with the following exceptions:



Field	Description
Number of Accounts	The number of accounts to be generated.
(replacing Account ID)	
	Account Info tab
Generation method	Random will produce unique unpredictable
	account IDs with a specified length and prefix.
	Sequential will create accounts with
	incremental IDs, e.g. if the starting ID is
	specified as 55540000, it will create accounts
	55540000, 55540001, 55540002 and so on; see
	below for more details.
	DID Inventory will generate accounts by
	assigning account IDs from the available
	DIDs in a specific DID batch; the user has the
T .*	option of choosing the starting DID.
Inactive	Only available when the account type is set to
	"Debit" or "Voucher". Check this box if
IDC	you'd like to create an inactive account.
ID prefix	Preset leading digits in the account ID; leave
ID longth	empty to make the account ID totally random.
ID length	Total ID length, including ID prefix.
Starting ID	Only available in sequential generation, and always numeric.
Service Password	Can be generated automatically, or left empty
Scivice i assword	to allow end-users to login using account ID
	only (typically used for prepaid cards). The
	"Auto-generated digits only" option allows
	you to create sufficiently secure passwords
	(with a specified password length) consisting
	of digits only, so that they can be entered from
	a phone's touchpad.
Batch	Accounts are grouped into batches. If a new
	batch name is provided in the text field, a new
	batch will be created when you add the
	account. Otherwise, an existing batch should
	be selected from the drop-down list.
	User Interface tab
Login	Can be set as identical to the account ID, or
	left empty to disable access to the account
	self-provisioning interface.
Password	Can be generated automatically, or left empty
	to allow end-users to login using account ID
	only.



Assigning an account ID

Choose Random if you want a relatively small amount of unpredictable IDs within a large enough range of possible numbers. Please note that "random" means not only "generated randomly" but also "difficult to guess"; therefore, the ratio between the number of generated PINs and the number of total possible PINs should be sufficiently low. For instance, PortaBilling® will refuse to generate 5,000 PINs with ID prefix 33333 and ID length 9, because in this case there are 10,000 possible PINs; if we generate 5,000 actual pins, there is a 50% chance of using someone else's PIN just by entering one wrong digit. Thus, in the example above, the PIN length should be set at 10 or even 11 digits (with a 5% or 0.5% chance of guessing the PIN, respectively). Note that random account PINs are never generated with leading zeroes, as these zeroes could be truncated when working with PIN data in programs like Microsoft Excel.

Choose Sequential if you want to generate a large number of accounts at once. You can choose the starting ID for the first account to be generated, and the system will generate IDs sequentially by an increment of one. If a given account ID is already used, it will be skipped and the system will continue until it generates the specified number of accounts. For example, if you requested 100 accounts with the starting ID prefix "1000000", and there are already three accounts within the defined range (1000010, 1000011, 1000012), the first generated ID will be 1000000, the second 1000001, and the last 1000103. Account ID length is always the same for all generated accounts. So if there is not enough room to generate the specified number of accounts (e.g. you request 1,000 accounts with starting ID 999900), generation will not begin and a warning e-mail will be sent immediately.

Callshop Features

The account list screen can be used by a callshop operator to track calls made in callshop cabins, to block an account after a call has been placed, and to print receipts for services provided. When a user wants to place a

call, the operator clicks the Start Timer icon, which automatically unblocks the account. After the call, when the user is ready to pay, the operator clicks the Stop Timer icon, and the **Print Receipt** icon appears. Clicking this icon will initialize the receipt pop-up.

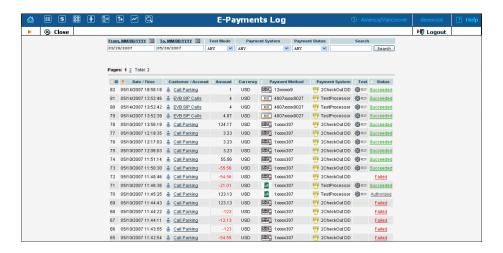
NOTE: Callshop features are not available for accounts of direct retail customers. In order to enable these features for accounts of a reseller's sub-customer, both the reseller and the sub-customer must have "Callshop enabled" on.

E-payments Log

This form is not directly accessible from the main menu, since it should be accessed in the specific context of:

- the whole environment (accessible from **Payments**) this allows you to see charge attempts for any direct customer;
- a specific customer (accessible from Customer Info) this allows you to monitor charge attempts related to a particular customer;
- a specific account (accessible from **Account Info**) this allows you to monitor charge attempts related to a particular account.

Adjust the search parameters to see a list of all transaction attempts (by default, only transactions for the current day will be displayed, so the values in the From / To fields may need to be changed) and then press the **Search** button.



Column	Description
Date / Time	Specifies when the charge attempt occurred.
Customer /	Specifies to which customer or account the charge was
Account	applied.
Amount	Gives the total amount of the transaction.
Currency	Specifies the currency used in the transaction.



The icon on the left specifies which type of payment
method was used (e.g. VISA or MasterCard); the actual
card / account number is displayed in the "safe" form
(some of the digits are masked by an x).
Specifies the payment system used to carry out this
transaction.
Indicates whether this transaction was done in "test"
mode.
Indicates the result of the transaction:
Succeeded – the transaction was successful,
funds were transferred.
Failed – the transaction has failed (click on
Failed to get further information, such as the
error code or a response from the remote
payment processor).
Authorized – a "check funds" transaction was
successful (but no actual charges were applied to
the credit card and no balance modification in
the billing was done).
Incomplete – when using payment systems with
"external authorization" it is possible that a
transaction was interrupted (e.g. user has
pressed the "cancel" button when entering
credit card info on the remote processor
website).

Batch Management

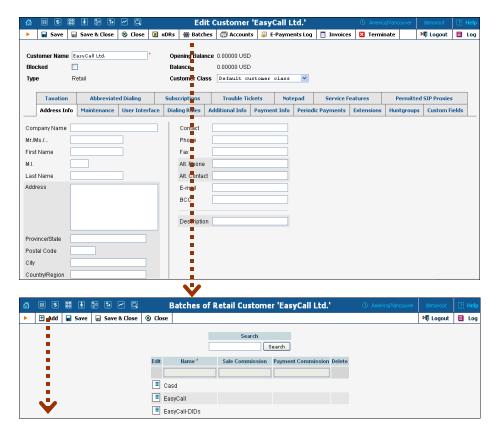
Batch is a logical name for a group of accounts, which simplifies account management procedures. Accounts can be grouped into batches, but also can exist without being tied to a specific batch. The Batch Management screen, accessible from the Edit Customer page by clicking the **Batches** button, shows you a screen for listing existing batches for a specific customer.





Adding a New Batch

To add a new batch, select **Add**.



When you add the account and provide a new batch name in the text field, the new batch will be also created.

On the Batches page, you can create a new batch, edit the existed batches (e.g. change batch's name) and set two parameters: Sale Commission and Payment Commission. These parameters are associated with Distributor (see **Distributor** section for more information).

Vendor Management

Vendors are your service providers, e.g. termination partners or incoming toll-free line providers. Every time a call travels from your network to a vendor (via telephony or VoIP) there is a cost associated with it, and at this point PortaBilling® will charge the account and customer for the call, as well as calculate your termination costs.

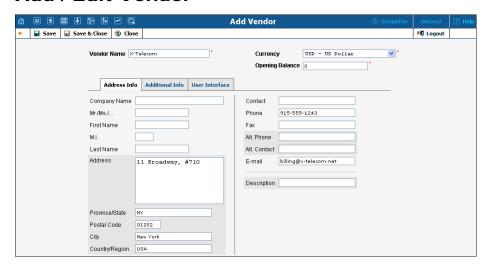


On the Vendor Management screen, you can view a list of all registered vendors. This list provides the following information and activities:



Column	Description
xDRs	Click the View icon to go to the xDR view page for
	this vendor.
Name	The vendor's name.
Connections	Click the connections icon to be taken to the
	connections management page for this vendor. The
	number next to the icon shows the number of
	connections defined for this vendor.
	Read more in the Connections section below.
Currency	The currency in which the vendor's account is
	maintained and paid.
Balance	The vendor's current balance.
E-mail	E-mail contact for the given vendor.
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove the vendor. The
	delete button will only appear if there are no xDRs or
	connections defined for the vendor.

Add / Edit Vendor



The Add Vendor page allows definition of a new client entity within PortaBilling®. The information required is split into two tabbed sections: Address Info and Additional Info. The Edit Vendor page also contains



the Notepad tab for making notes. The following information is required at the top of the form:

Field	Description
Vendor Name	Defines the vendor name as it will appear within the
	PortaBilling® system. This is distinct from the
	Company Name field in the Address Info tab.
Currency	A currency must be specified by selecting it from the
	drop-down list of available currencies.
Opening	The starting balance for the vendor.
Balance	_

The information in all the other tabs is optional, and need not be specified when creating a vendor.

Maintenance

The Maintenance tab allows the administrator to correct a vendor's balance.

Field	Description
Action	Manual charge: Use this transaction to adjust
	the vendor's balance in case of non-call related
	charges from the vendor. For instance, if the
	vendor is charging you for an equipment
	purchase.
	Manual refund: Use this transaction if you
	have received credit to your account. For
	instance, if you complained about the vendor's
	service quality and have agreed for certain
	funds to be credited toward future services.
Amount	Amount to charge / refund.
Visible comment	A comment on this transaction visible to the
	vendor in the xDR browser.
Internal comment	An internal comment on this transaction; not
	visible in the xDR browser, and only accessible
	directly from the database.

Additional Info

Field	Description
Billing Period	Defines the frequency of generating xDR reports for
	this vendor.
Offset Balance	Defines the customer for automatically offsetting the
with Customer	vendor's balance (if this vendor also sends you traffic,
	i.e. he is also your customer). You may only choose a
	reseller or retail customer defined with the same
	currency.



Minimum	When the balance reaches the threshold value, the
Amount to	current vendor's balance will be applied as credit to
Offset	the chosen customer and reduced to zero. xDR
	records for both the vendor and the customer will be
	created for this transaction.

User Interface

The User Interface tab content is identical to that described in the *User Interface* subsection of the *User Management* section of this guide.

Accounts

When you send traffic to the vendor's network, both parties are interested in securing the connection so that no one else can send traffic to the vendor, as this would then be billed to your account. When using SIP, it is possible to do this in a very convenient and secure way: by using digest authentication. In this case, the vendor will provide you with a username / password, which will be used to authorize every outgoing call from your network to this vendor. Here you can enter information about such accounts, so that they can be provided automatically by billing to the SIP server.





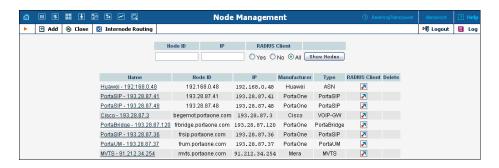
6. Networking



Nodes

The Node Management screen enables registration, removal and maintenance of the gateway list. Nodes are gateways which provide accounting records to PortaBilling® or exchange authentication / authorization requests with it. On this screen the user is provided with a list of all nodes currently registered.

The search form at the top of the screen allows filtration by any combination of H.323 ID, IP address and / or whether or not the node is a Radius client. Providing any of this information and selecting **Show Nodes** will refresh the Node listing according to the new filtration criteria.

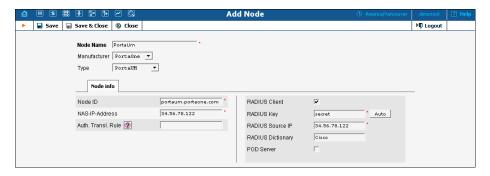


To add a new node to the system, click • Add in the toolbar. The following information is provided within the listing:

Column	Description
Node ID	Logical name of the node. This is also a link to the
	edit screen for the given node.
IP	IP address of the node.
Manufacturer	Choose "Cisco", "Quintum", "PortaOne" or another
	from the drop-down list, depending on the
	manufacturer of the equipment.
Type	Select what role the node plays in the network from
	the drop-down list. The options are as follows
	(according to Cisco naming conventions):
	voip-gw: the node functions as a gateway
	• нз23-дw: the node is an H.323 proxy
	• нз23-gк: the node is an H.323 gatekeeper
	PortaSIP: PortaSIP® server
	PortaUM: PortaUM® server
	MVTS: Mera Networks VoIP Softswitch



Add / Edit Node



In order to register a new node in PortaBilling® or edit an existing one, the following information must be provided:

Field	Description
Node Name	The logical name of the node for use within PortaBilling®
Node ID	For a VoIP node, this is equivalent to a hostname for an internet server (e.g. maill.cyberdyne.com), i.e. a descriptive, human-readable name used for identification purposes. Make sure the value you enter here matches the "hostname" parameter configured on the gateway, since that value is returned from this node in the h323-gw-id attribute, and the ability to match these values with data in billing significantly simplifies troubleshooting.
NAS-IP- Address	The IP address of the node.
Auth. Transl. Rule	The authentication translation rule used to transform a dialed phone number into the E.164 format used in PortaBilling®. Node translation rules have become obsolete with the introduction of customer-based translation rules.
Manufacturer	Choose "Cisco", "Quintum", "PortaOne" or another from the drop-down list, depending on the manufacturer of the equipment.
Type	Select what role the node plays in the network from the drop-down list. The options are as follows (according to Cisco naming conventions): • VOIP-GW: the node functions as a gateway • H323-GW: the node is an H.323 proxy • H323-GK: the node is an H.323 gatekeeper • PortaSIP: PortaSIP® server • PortaUM: PortaUM® server • MVTS: Mera Networks VoIP Softswitch Note that only types applicable to the chosen



	manufacturer will be shown.
RTP	Describes the NAT traversal capabilities of this node:
Proxying	Direct – RTP stream should be send directly to
	this node; RTP proxy should not be used.
	Optimal – this node is capable of NAT
	traversal; no RTP proxying is required unless
	specifically requested.
	OnNat – this node is not capable of NAT
	traversal; engage RTP proxy if the other party
	is behind the NAT.
	Always – when sending a call to this node,
	always engage RTP proxy, so that no direct
	media stream goes to it.
VoIP User-	Defines which parameters (e.g. ANI, IP, DNIS, etc.)
Name	should be used to identify which account the call
	should be billed to. This applies to calls that arrived to
	this node from the IP network (values taken from the
	answer / VoIP call leg).
	Note that this parameter is only applicable to Quintum
	gateways.
Telephony	Defines which parameters (e.g. ANI, port ID, DNIS,
User-Name	etc.) should be used to identify which account the call
	should be billed to. This applies to calls that arrived to
	this node from PSTN (values taken from the
	answer / Telephony call leg).
	Note that this was a second of a substantial black of Collections
	Note that this parameter is only applicable to Quintum gateways.
Radius Client	Check this box if the node will provide accounting
	records to the Radius server.
Radius Key	This input will be available only if the node has been
,	designated as a Radius client. This is the authentication
	key for all Radius interactions. An easy-to-remember
	password may be generated automatically by selecting
	the Auto button.
Radius	More than one interface can be present on the node;
Source IP	specify the IP address of the one that communicates
	with the Radius server.

Internode Routing

The Internode Routing screen enables the creation of rules for routing calls between nodes. This screen shows a list of all the rules currently in the system.



NOTE: The Internode Routing page appears only if there is a MVTS node in the environment, and is accessible only to administrators and root users

The search form at the top of the screen allows filtering by any combination of node name, node ID, or node IP address. Provide any of this information and press **Show Rules** to display the specific list of node routing rules only.

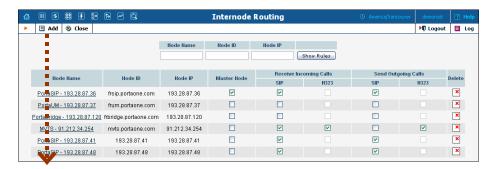


The Internode Routing screen provides the following information:

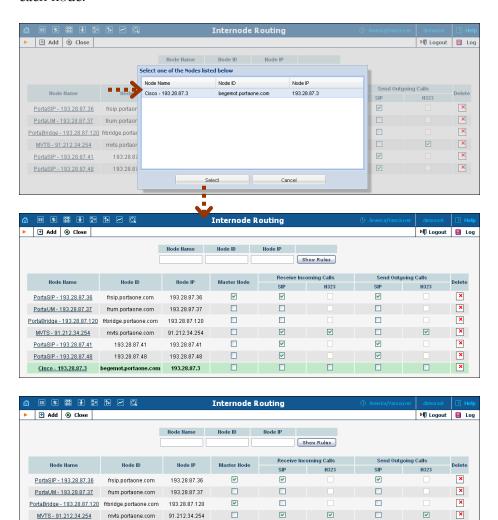
Field	Description
Node Name	The logical name of the node for use within
	PortaBilling®.
Node ID	For a VoIP node, this is equivalent to a hostname for
	an internet server (e.g. mail1.cyberdyne.com), i.e. a
	descriptive, human-readable name used for
	identification purposes.
Node IP	IP address of the node.
Master Node	If any node in the environment is marked as a master,
	any other non-master nodes will pass calls to one of
	the master nodes that supports the compatible
	protocol (e.g. PortaSIP® will look for any Master
	Node with SIP protocol enabled).
Receive	Indicates whether a node is able to receive
Incoming	SIP / H323 calls.
Calls	
	NOTE: If the node does not support SIP or H323 calls, the corresponding checkbox will be unavailable.
Send	Indicates whether a node is able to send SIP / H323
Outgoing	calls.
Calls	
	NOTE: If the node does not support SIP or H323 calls, the
	corresponding checkbox will be unavailable.
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove the rule from the
	list.
	NOTE: If a node is removed from the system, the rule for this
	node is also automatically removed.



To add a new rule to the system, click Add in the toolbar, and follow the steps shown in the following sequence of screenshots:



When the node selection window appears, choose the node you wish to create a rule for from the list. Note that only one rule can be defined for each node.



PortaSIP - 193.28.87.41

PortaSIP - 193.28.87.48

MVTS - 91.212.34.254 mvts.portaone.com

Cisco - 193.28.87.3 begemot.portaone.com

193.28.87.41

193 28 87 48

91.212.34.254

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193 28 87 48

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Call Handling

Often calls arrive to the network from gateways which do not support digest authentication. In this case, it is necessary to engage different modes of billing (by tech-prefix, by IP address, etc.) on the PortaSwitch® side. The Call Handling screen provides administrators with an easy way of defining a list of rules allowing PortaSIP® servers to handle incoming calls in the desired manner. It gives them a flexible choice of several authorization methods and the ability to configure rules directly from the interface, instead of time-consuming manual configuration. Rules are listed in order of priority, with the topmost rule having top priority. If no rule works for a given call request, digest authentication will be used.

An authentication rule combines an authorization method and call parameters. The different methods of user authentication are described in the *Advanced Features* section of the **PortaSIP Administrator Guide**. When adding a rule, you can choose one of the following six methods:

- **By IP** The User-Name attribute is the IP itself.
- **By CLI** The User-Name attribute is the CLI itself.
- **By CLD Tech-Prefix** The User-Name attribute consists of the CLD parameter ending with (and including) #.
- **By CLI Tech-Prefix** This method is similar to the previous one, except that the User-Name attribute is based on the symbols in the CLI parameter.
- By CLD Tech-Prefix and IP The User-Name attribute consists of the IP and all the symbols in the CLD parameter ending with (and including) #@.
- **By CLI Tech-Prefix and IP** This method is similar to the previous one, except that the User-Name attribute is based on the symbols in the CLI parameter.

NOTE: To discuss creating other possible authorization methods, contact the **PortaOne Support Department**.

Let's take an example: A PortaSIP® server receives a call initiation (INVITE) request from IP address 11.22.33.45. This INVITE request contains call information, including the caller's phone number (often referred to as CLI or ANI) 987#197800065 and the called phone number (referred to as CLD or DNIS) 12065551234. The administrator has defined the list of authentication rules shown in the first screenshot below. The rules are checked in sequence and, when the first match is found, the corresponding rule is used to handle the call. In this case, the first rule will be skipped (since although there is a match by IP address, CLD does not match), and the second rule will be used. As a result, PortaSIP® will perform authentication based on CLI, using 987#197800065 as the identification string.



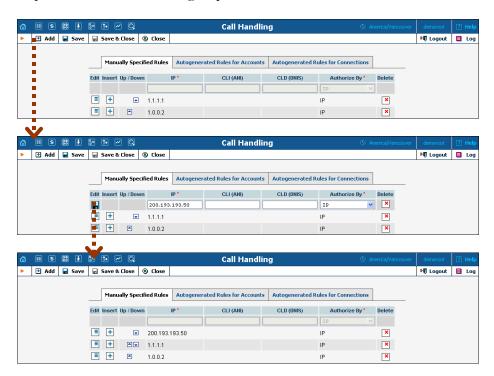
Due to this "first match" principle, it is important to rank more specific rules before less specific ones. If, in our example, we were to swap the third and second rules, then the IP 11.22.33.45 CLI 977#% rule would never be used, since the processing of every such call would stop at the second rule.

NOTE: IP authentication is applied by default for all nodes in the given environment. Think of it as if these rules were being added to the bottom of the list automatically in order to save you time. You can still override this by creating your own rule; for instance, if you need to do authorization based on CLI / DNIS for calls coming from your PSTN gateway. Since this rule is ranked higher, it will take precedence.

Manually Specified Rules

This tab allows you to view the list of all manually specified rules and to create new ones.

To add a new authorization rule on the **Call Handling** screen, follow the steps shown in the following sequence of screenshots:



Click **Add**, then fill in the required information and click **Save**. The newly added rule will appear at the top of the list.

Field	Description
IP	Remote IP from which a call request is received.



CLI (ANI)	CLI (ANI) pattern. This field can contain:
	Digits
	the '*' and '#' symbols, and
	• "%" – wildcard for any number of symbols, and
	• '_' or 'x' – equivalent wildcards for one symbol.
	If this field is empty in the rule, no filtering by CLI
	(ANI) is done.
CLD (DNIS)	CLD (DNIS) pattern that can contain the same
	symbols as in the field above. If this field is empty in
	the rule, no filtering by CLD (DNIS) is done.
Authorize By	Select one of the authorization methods.

You can manage rules using the following controls:

Control	Description
■	Edit this rule.
+	Insert a new rule above this one.
A	Move this rule one level up.
₩	Move this rule one level down.

All changes made to this list (e.g. rule added or changed, changed order of priority) are automatically provisioned by the system. This means that updated authentication information is sent to all PortaSIP® nodes in this environment (those which have PortaOne in the **Manufacturer** field and PortaSIP® in the **Type** field).

NOTE: Manually added rules have a higher priority than autogenerated rules, in case the IP field for these rules is the same.

Autogenerated Rules for Accounts



On this tab you can view the list of rules that were generated automatically while creating an account with an IP address in the ID field. When the new account is created, the list of rules is updated accordingly (a new rule is created at the top of the list). You can also delete selected rules using this tab.



Autogenerated Rules for Connections



Using this tab, you can view the list of rules that were generated automatically while creating a connection (VoIP from Vendor type) with the specified remote IP.

NOTE: If a Vendor Account has been defined for the connection, a rule will not be generated.

IP Centrex

This section describes the parameters of IP Centrex (hosted IP PBX) services which may be used later to configure this service for a particular customer.

Call Barring

Here you can define call barring classes, each of which describe a set of phone numbers (e.g. "Premium numbers", "Toll-free", "Mobile", etc.). These enable you to easily grant or deny permission to call these numbers, as part of an account's service configuration.



Field	Description
Name	A descriptive name for this class of phone numbers.
Matching	Checks whether a dialed number corresponds to the
Type	list of number patterns (see below) and processes the
	call accordingly. The following options are available:
	• Matches – Denies calls to numbers that are
	specified in the Number Patterns column.
	Does Not Match – Allows calls to numbers
	that are specified in the Number Patterns
	column and denies calls to other destinations.
Number	A list of patterns which define the phone numbers in
Patterns	this class (see below).



Barred By Default	Whether calls to this class should be prohibited by default for any account with the Call Barring feature enabled.
Delete	Click the Delete icon to remove the call barring class.

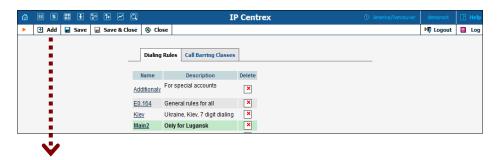


A number pattern is a set of pattern strings which phone numbers are matched against. A pattern string can be an exact pattern (a sequence of digits to be compared with the phone number dialed), where the number is regarded as matching if it is exactly identical to the pattern, or it can include wildcards (see below). If the dialed phone number matches one of the patterns, it will then be regarded as belonging to this barring class. You can use the following wildcards as part of a pattern string:

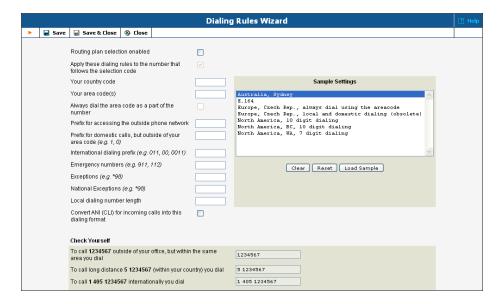
- **x** or _ (underscore) matches any digit in this position, e.g. if the pattern is 420609x23456, both 420609123456 and 420609723456 would match it;
- % matches a sequence of digits (any number of digits, including no digits at all); thus 420609% would match 4206091, 420609123456 and 420609.

Dialing Rules

Dialing rules tab is used to edit samples of dialing rules.







The upper part of the wizard screen allows you to enter important dialing parameters, such as your international dialing prefix. Several sample settings are provided for your convenience. For instance, in order to load sample settings for "traditional" North American dialing, select "North America, WA, 7 digit number dialing" and click **Load Sample**. Click **Clear** to reset all parameters. Click **Reset** to revert to the last saved settings.

In the bottom part of the wizard screen you can check whether you have described the numbering format correctly. Make sure for all three examples provided (local, domestic and international call) that this is the way you want to dial the numbers.

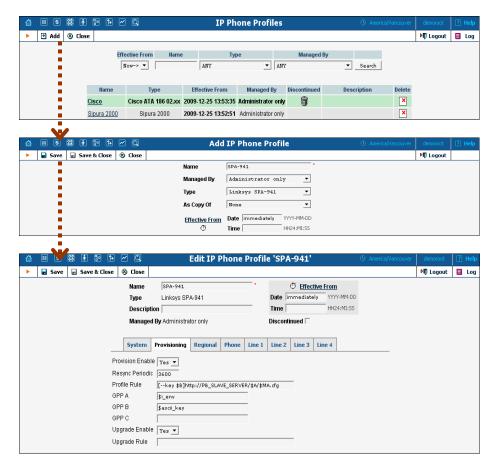
IP Phone Profiles

IP phone profiles and the IP phone inventory allow service providers to reconfigure a large number of end-user devices before sending them to customers, as well as those already on a customer's premises. Instead of entering the same values for codec, server address and the like into each of a thousand user agents, you can simply create a profile which will describe all of these parameters. After that, PortaBilling® automatically creates a configuration file for each user agent using account-specific parameters such as ID or password, which it will then fetch (for instance, from a TFTP server) and update.

If you decide later to change the address of the SIP server, you need only update it once in the profile in order for new configuration files to be built for each user agent. The user agents will then fetch them next time they go online. The config file is specific to each user agent since it



contains information such as username and password, and so the user agent must fetch his own designated config file.



Profile list mode:

Column	Description
Name	Logical name of the profile.
Type	Telephone adaptor or SIP phone.
Effective	Date and time when the profile becomes effective.
From	
Managed By	Administrator only (default) means that this profile
	will be used for your direct customers and is accessible
	only to your administrators. Select a PortaBilling®
	reseller to assign this profile for use by a particular
	reseller.
Discontinued	Indicates that the current profile is no longer in use.
Description	Short text description of the profile.
Delete	The Delete icon is only visible when the current
	profile's effective date has not arrived yet.



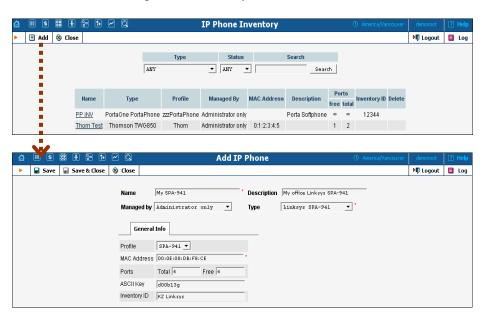
Add Profile mode:

Column	Description
As copy of	Similar to templates; a user can create new profiles
	using previously created ones, so there is no need to re-
	enter a large amount of information.
Effective	Set the time when the profile is to become effective.
From	Click the Stopwatch icon for the profile to become
	effective immediately.

In Edit mode, the Profile Management screen will differ depending on the UA.

IP Phone Inventory

The IP phone inventory allows you to keep track of IP devices (SIP phones, SIP ATAs, etc.) which are distributed to your customers. You will assign a profile that defines general configuration settings for each device (preferred codecs, address of the SIP server, etc). You can then assign a specific account (basically representing a phone number) to a specific port (phone line) on the IP phone. PortaBilling® will create a config file for auto-provisioning all of these devices, thus allowing you to easily manage thousands of user IP phones remotely.



Field	Description
Name	IP phone name.
Description	Short description.
Managed by	Administrator only (default) means that this IP
	device will be used for your direct customers and is



	accessible only to your administrators. Select a
	PortaBilling® reseller to assign this IP device for use
	by a particular reseller.
Type	One of the available device types (e.g. Cisco ATA,
	Sipura, etc.).
Profile	Select one of the defined IP phone profiles.
MAC Address	MAC Address of the IP phone.
Ports	Number of the IP phone ports (phone lines).
ASCII Key	The key which is used to encrypt the configuration
_	information.
Inventory ID	An ID which allows you to identify this device in the
	external system (e.g. your warehouse management
	application).

DID Inventory

DID inventory allows you to keep track of phone numbers (DIDs) that you purchase from various telco partners for distribution to your customers or resellers. In order to see the DID numbers currently available in the database, choose **DID Inventory** in the Management section of the admin interface, specify the search filters, and click **Search**. You can search for DIDs which:

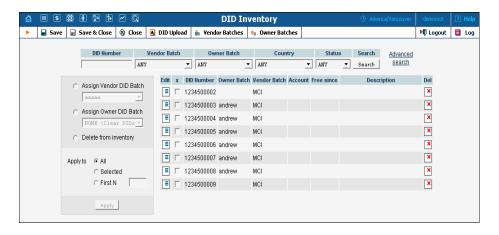
- match a specific phone number pattern, e.g. enter 1800% to find all 1-800 numbers:
- belong to a particular owner batch (to search for unallocated DIDs, choose NONE (Unassigned DIDs);
- belong to a specific vendor batch;
- are in use (there is an account using this DID) or are free (not used by any account).



Hint: Often a business will request a phone number that can be "spelled out" so customers can remember it easily (for instance 1-866-SIP-VOIP). You can search for such easy-to-remember phone numbers by entering the letter string in the **DID Number** field. For example, in order to search for all 1-800 numbers containing VOIP in them, enter 1800%VOIP.



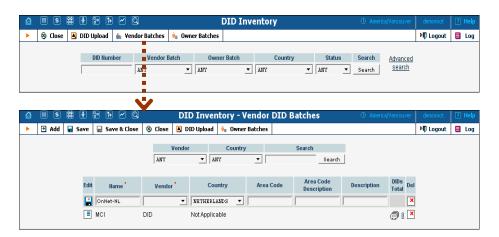




Column	Description
DID Number	Phone number.
Vendor Batch	Name of vendor batch this DID belongs to.
Owner Batch	Name of owner batch this DID is assigned to (if
	empty, the DID is unallocated).
Account	If the icon is shown in this column, this DID is
	currently being used by an account. Click on the icon
	to access the account information.
Free since	For DIDs used in the past but now available, the date
	when they became available is displayed.
Description	Comments about a particular DID number.

Vendor Batches

When you receive a set of phone numbers from a vendor, they will be registered in PortaBilling® as a vendor DID batch. Vendor batches allow you to keep track of which phone numbers were purchased from which vendors. (Every number entered into the DID inventory must reside in a certain vendor batch). The vendor batch also contains various administration parameters, e.g. a description of which country and city these numbers are from.

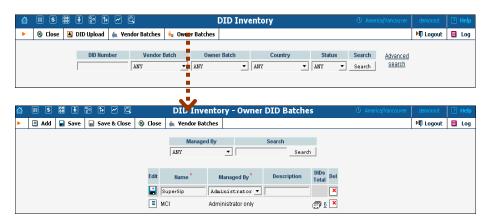




To add a new vendor batch, first select Vendor Batches in the toolbar, then click Add in the toolbar. The Country, Area Code, Area Code Description, and Description columns are optional, and serve only to simplify management of multiple batches. When you are done entering data, click the Save icon to save this row.

Owner Batches

After the DIDs have been entered into the system, you can create owner batches and allocate some of the numbers to them. An owner batch contains numbers to be provided to an end-user by a particular reseller or your administrators. The purpose of owner batches is to keep track of how numbers are used internally.



To add a new owner batch, first select • Owner Batches in the toolbar, then click • Add in the toolbar.

Column	Description
Name	Unique name of the batch.
Managed By	Designates who will be using the DID numbers in
	this batch. If you plan for the numbers to be used by
	your administrators for direct customers, choose
	Administrator only. If you plan to make these
	numbers available to a reseller, select the reseller's
	name here.
Description	Comments about this batch.

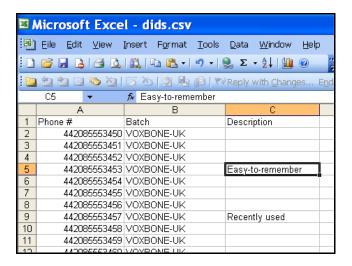
When you are done entering the data, click the **Save** icon to save this row.

Importing Numbers into the DID Inventory

You can upload DID numbers from a CSV file. The structure of the CSV file should be as shown in the picture below: the first column contains the

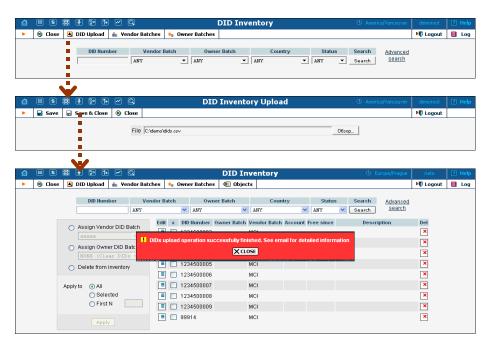


phone number, the second contains the vendor batch name, and the third contains an optional description.



NOTE: The first row in the file is skipped, since it usually contains column titles and not actual data.

To upload a DID file, first select **DID Upload** in the toolbar, then specify the file location (you can use the Browse button to select a file in the explorer window), and then click **Save & Close** in the toolbar.



A popup window will inform you of the import results.

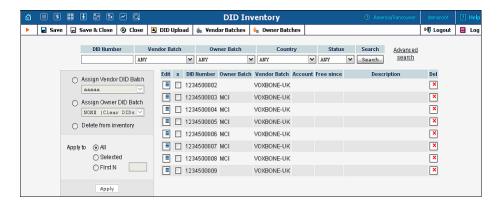


Managing DID Number Allocation

On the main screen of the DID inventory you can view DID numbers that match certain criteria (e.g. all numbers in a specific vendor batch). You can then perform number allocation for some of these numbers. This includes:

- re-assigning a vendor batch for some numbers (this may be required if you decide to change the way you organize your vendor batches, or if some DID numbers are now provided by a different vendor);
- allocating numbers to an owner batch, or returning them to the unallocated pool;
- deleting DIDs from the DID inventory.

These operations may be applied to all numbers matching the original search, only to the first N DIDs among them, or only to those you manually select.





Hint: If you would like to assign the first N unused numbers from some vendor batch to an owner batch, specify the vendor batch and NONE (Unassigned DIDs) as the **Owner Batch** select menu, then apply an assign operation to the **First N** numbers. If you just select DIDs from a vendor batch and then assign the first N to an owner batch, you might also re-assign to it some numbers which are already in another owner batch.

Press **Apply** to submit the changes. After the update is completed, a popup window will inform you of the results.

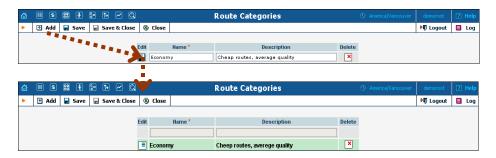


7. Routing



Route Categories

This screen allows you to define new categories into which you can divide your available routes. To create a new category, select • Add from the toolbar.

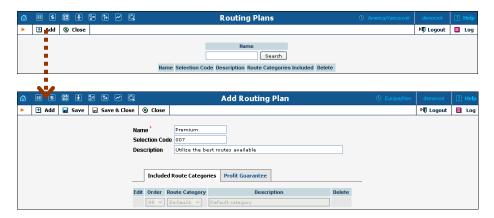


Column	Description
Name	Name of the route category. This is the name you will
	see in the select menu when assigning a route
	category for the rate.
Description	A description of this route category.

If you do not wish to define any custom route categories, the **Default** route category is always available.

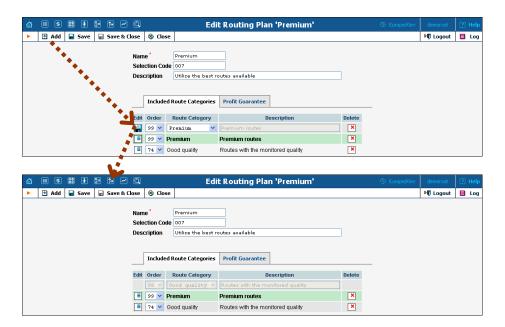
Routing Plans

A routing plan is a combination of route categories in a specific order. It defines which categories of vendors will be available for termination and in what sequence.





After a routing plan has been created, you can specify which route categories will be included in it. To add a new route category, select Add from the toolbar, then click the Save icon to save this row.

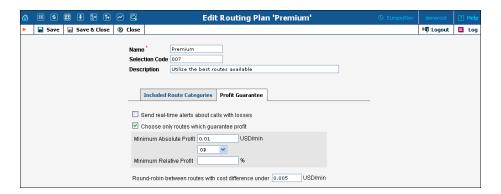


You can change the route category order by choosing an **Order** number. Remember that if a route category is not included in the routing plan, a customer with this routing plan will not have access to such routes. Click the **Save** icon to make your changes take effect.

Please note that a larger value in the **Order** column pushes the given route category towards the top of the routing list (i.e. 99 is the first route category which will be tried).

Profit Guarantee

On this tab you can specify how the system chooses routes for call termination, in order to maximize your profits.





If you switch off the "profit guarantee" in PortaBilling®, it is possible that your carrier will charge you more than you have charged your customer. (Sometimes these situations can arise even with "profit guarantee" switched on, e.g. when a random surcharge was not triggered, or if you charged your customer for just a few seconds, but were charged by a vendor for a full minute, due to different time rounding increments).

60

Please note that the **Profit Guarantee** functionality only calculates the approximate profit you could earn, by comparing the price per minute used to charge the customer with the termination cost of each vendor. A **PPM** (Profit Per Minute) control parameter is included in the **Adaptive Routing** feature. PPM is based on statistics for already completed calls. It calculates the amounts actually charged by considering all special rating elements which are applied to calls, such as fixed and relative surcharges, rounding intervals, and so on. As a result, it provides accurate profit figures that will help you to maximize profits in the future. For information about how to set up the PPM control parameter, see the previous section, "Routing Criteria".



When the **Profit Guarantee** functionality is activated, "unsuccessful" vendors will be removed by the billing engine from the routing list during real-time route calculation. This differs from when you specify the **PPM** control parameter on the **Routing Criteria** page. The latter only moves problematic vendors to the "penalty box", i.e. the very bottom of the routing list. This ensures that the system will first try to terminate the call via other carriers (with good call quality). However, if they all fail or become unavailable, the "penalized" carrier will have a chance to terminate the call.

Field	Description
Send Real-time	Turn this option on in order to receive real-time
Alerts about	email alerts whenever a customer (with this routing
Calls with	plan assigned) makes a call on which you lose money.
Losses	
Choose Only	When calculating a routing list for a customer with
Routes Which	this routing plan, compare the price used to charge
Guarantee	the customer with the termination cost of each
Profit	vendor. If the vendor's costs are higher than the
	customer's rate, exclude the vendor from the list (see
	note below).
Minimum	Allows you to create a more aggressive profit
Absolute Profit	guarantee route selection: the vendor's cost per
	minute must be lower than the customer's rate by at
	least the amount specified. (Amounts are specified in
	your base currency).



Minimum	In some cases, specifying the amount of profit per
Relative Profit	minute does not yield the desired results, e.g. for risky
	destinations such as Somalia you would like to get at
	least \$0.10 per minute, yet \$0.10 on calls to the US is
	simply not feasible, since you charge your customers
	only \$0.05/minute. In this case, you can use a relative
	threshold, so that for expensive destinations the
	profit must be high, while for low-cost destinations a
	small profit is acceptable.
Combination	You can specify that a route must satisfy both
of Absolute	conditions, i.e. both absolute and relative profit, or at
and Relative	least one.
Profit	
Parameters	
Round-robin	If you would like to share the load among several
between	carriers where the difference in cost is insignificant
Routes with	(e.g. carrier A charges you \$0.023 and carrier B
Cost	\$0.025), specify the maximum allowed threshold for
Difference	two carriers to be granted the same priority in LCR.
under	·



PortaBilling® allows at least two different price per minute values for rating (potentially, you can have an unlimited set of different prices applied within the same call when you use a rating formula). For comparison purposes, however, only one specific value should be used. PortaBilling® uses the value of the **Price_Next** parameter for profit guarantee calculations. In order for the profit guarantee to work properly when you use rate formulas to charge your customers, make sure that you populate **Price_Next** in the customer's rates with a meaningful value.

Test Dialplan

This screen allows users to test a dialplan for a specific telephone number or certain destinations at any moment in time.



To test a dialplan, type a number in the Phone Number field. The search can be performed in real time: select the **Stopwatch** ① icon or click the date input format link to set a date using the pop-up calendar.



Column	Description
Ctrl#	Sequential number of this route.
Destination	Matching destination from the corresponding tariff.
Country	Country where the tested destination is located.
Description	Destination description.
Penalization	Shows whether the connection is penalized or not.
Route	Route category for this route. See the Route Categories
Category	section for more info.
Preference	Routing preference for this destination. See the Call
	Routing section of the PortaBilling® User Guide for
	more info.
Huntstop	If one of the routes has huntstop enabled, then all
	routes with a lower preference will be ignored.
Price	Next interval price for the given destination (per
	minute).
Route to	The node (or remote gateway IP) where the call will be
	routed. Click the link to open the connection screen.
Vendor	Call terminating vendor.
Connection	Description of the vendor connection.
Tariff	The tariff used to bill this call. Click the link to open the
	tariff screen.

Routing Criteria

This screen allows you to predefine the quality requirements to be applied to your vendors. PortaBilling® will continually measure the quality parameters and adjust the routing if these fall below the specified thresholds. Any vendor who fails to satisfy your quality requirements will go to the "penalty box" – the very bottom of the routing list. This means that the system will first try to terminate calls using other carriers (with a good quality rating). However, if all of them fail or are unavailable, the "penalized" carrier will have a chance to terminate the call. For more information about adaptive routing, see the **PortaBilling Administrator Guide**.

Add / Edit Routing Criteria

To add new routing criterion, click Add in the toolbar. An existing routing criterion can be edited by clicking on its name in the list.







Field	Description
Name	The logical name of the routing criterion for use
	within PortaBilling®.
Description	A description of the routing criteria.
Sampling	Quality measurements will be computed for all calls
Interval	within this interval. Smaller intervals will make the
	system "quicker" to notice any change in a vendor's
	quality, but there is also a higher chance that a short-
	term problem on the vendor's side (which can be
	fixed in a matter of minutes) will penalize his route
	for a relatively long period of time.
Destination	A destination group set; you can define routing
Group Set	criteria for individual groups in this set.

Using the **Criteria Defaults** table, specify the initial default values to be applied to routing criteria for specific destinations which you will create later on.

Field	Description
Minimum	The minimum required amount of calls via a given
Calls	connection within the sampling interval in order for
	the statistics to be considered representative. If the
	number of calls is below the specified value, the
	quality parameters will not be matched against the
	threshold, and no routing adjustments will be made.
Penalty Time	The time interval for which a connection will be
	"penalized" (put at the very bottom of the routing
	list) if a given vendor does not meet the quality
	criteria.
The following thresh	old parameters require two values that define the warning and
penalty thresholds, re.	spectively. The warning threshold specifies when an alert will be
sent to the administra	ator (but no changes in the routing will be done). The penalty
threshold defines when	n the route should be penalized if the quality statistics are outside
the threshold value.	
ASR	Average Success Rate: the number of successfully
	connected calls divided by the total number of call
	attempts.

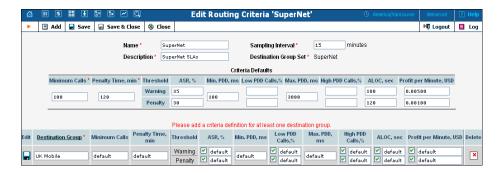


Min PDD, ms	Defines the minimum acceptable PDD (Post-Dial
	Delay), i.e. the time interval between the moment a
	connection request is sent to the vendor and the
	moment ring-back is received. Too low a PDD is
	suspicious, and in this case the vendor is probably
	doing "false ringing" to hide the long time it actually
	takes him to route the call.
Low PDD	Maximum acceptable percentage of calls with a PDD
calls, %	below the specified value.
Max PDD, ms	Defines the maximum acceptable PDD. Too high a
	PDD has a strong negative impact on your business,
	since during the delay time the end-user hears only
	silence, and generally assumes that there is a problem
	with the service.
High PDD	Maximum acceptable percentage of calls with a PDD
calls, %	above the specified value.
ALOC, sec	Average Length of Call.
Profit per	Profit per Minute (expressed in the monetary units of
Minute	your base currency): the aggregated profit, i.e. the
	difference between the actual charged amounts in
	your customers' and vendors' CDRs.

Click the **Save** button to save your progress when done.

Defining Routing Criteria for Individual Destination Groups

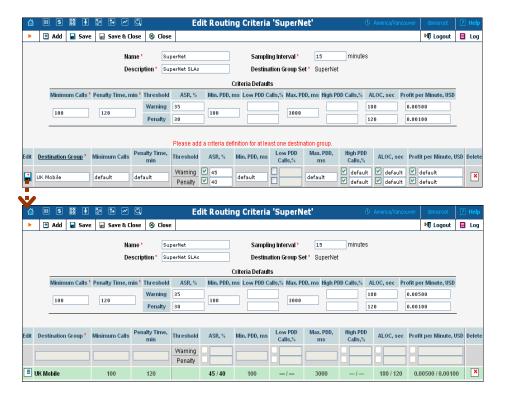
After the **Criteria Defaults** settings have been saved, click • Add in the toolbar to define routing criteria for the specific destination group. An existing routing criterion can be edited by clicking the • Edit icon on the row containing the details.



Click the **Destination Groups** column header link to choose one of the groups defined in the **Destination Group Set** from a searchable list inside the pop-up window.



When adding new criteria – all the fields are initially "default" – the values you have defined as **Criteria Defaults** will be used. This allows you to quickly define criteria for multiple destination groups with minimum effort. If you wish to override the default value, simply enter a new value in the field. If you wish to exclude a certain quality metric from the criteria (e.g. **Low PDD Calls**, in the example below), de-select the checkbox next to it.



When the criteria have been saved, the quality parameters are presented as follows:

- Parameter values, which override the default ones, are shown in black:
- Default values applying to these criteria are shown in grey
- For quality metrics that are switched off, dashes (--) are displayed instead of values.

Tracking Connection Status

When the value of a parameter reaches the predetermined threshold, the administrator receives an e-mail alert about the latest connection threats. Moreover, the administrator can track the current connection status on the **Tracking** page. This status is represented by different colors, as follows:

 GREY – the number of calls is not enough to apply filtering differentiation;



- GREEN the route meets the quality requirements;
- YELLOW the route is active, but some of its quality parameters are outside the warning thresholds;
- BLOCKED this route is currently being penalized.

NOTE: The penalized route will be on the "penalty row" for a certain period of time, specified in the **Penalty Time** box and then will be unblocked automatically. Alternately, you can click the **Unblock Now** button to unblock the penalized route manually.

 RED – the route was manually unblocked; this status will remain unchanged till the next time interval for which the statistics will be computed.



Access Numbers

This screen allows users to quickly and conveniently define how PortaSwitch® should process calls to special "application access numbers".



These are the numbers that your customers would dial from the PSTN network or their IP phone to access a specific IVR application; for instance, *98 for voicemail, 12125551234 to access a prepaid calling card IVR, or 18005559876 to access the audio conferencing facility.

Column	Description
Access	Actual phone number to be dialed by the user.
Number	

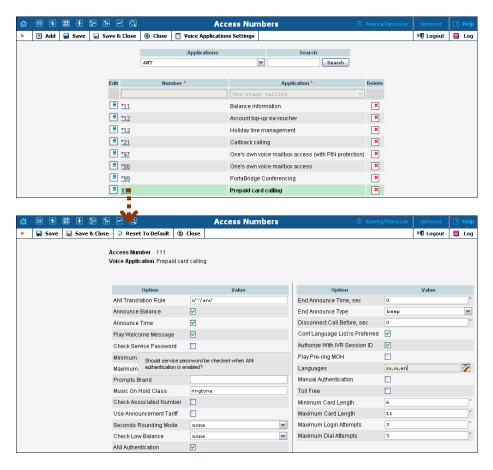


Application Which application is to be used to process the call.

To register a new access number in PortaBilling®, click ♣ Add in the toolbar. To edit an existing access number, click the **Edit** ♣ icon next to it.

Access Numbers options

Click on an access number to get the Access Numbers options page. Here you can view a list of all options for the selected access number and modify them.

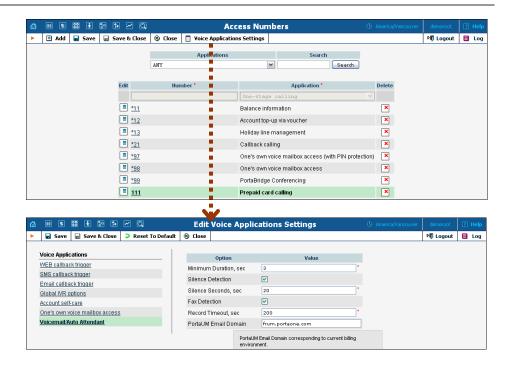




There is a helpful tool-tip for each option. Just point your mouse to the desired option to invoke it.

Voice Application Settings

This page shows the list of voice applications and allows you to modify options for the voice application you select.



Connections

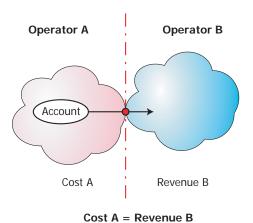
Definitions

Network

VoIP network – one or more VoIP entities that belong to a single operator.

Connection

Point of change of network ownership. Defined as a set of physical and logical parameters i.e. IP, Port, Timeslot, Call Type, Call Direction, etc.



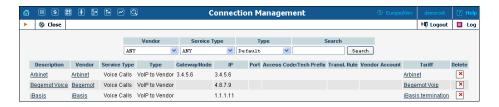


Operator

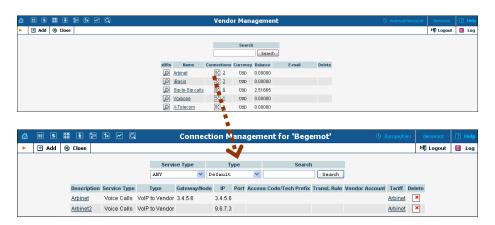
Network owner. Responsible for internetworking and wholesale in its network.

A connection defines the point where a call travels between the networks of two operators, one of whom is a PortaBilling® owner. At this point, we will create an xDR for the vendor (the other operator) describing our costs. Also, if this was an outgoing call, we will create xDRs for both the account and the customer.

You can access connection information directly from the main menu. In this case, all connections defined in the system will be displayed.



Alternatively, you can access a list of connections for a particular vendor. To do so, click the icon next to the vendor name in the vendor list, or click Connections in the toolbar on the vendor info screen.



To edit a connection, simply click on the connection description in the table. To add a new connection, first go to the list of connections for a specific vendor, then select **Add**.



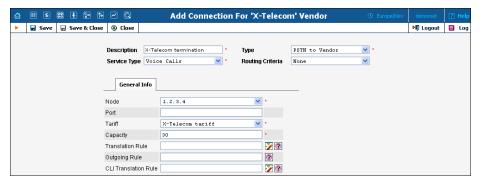


Field	Description
Description	A logical description of the connection.
Service Type	The type of service this connection is used to transport (voice calls, Internet connectivity, etc.). NOTE: While services are used to represent and bill your customers' activities to them, you use service types to define a connection, since in this case it is important to know what actual (physical) service was provided.
The following	The type of this connection. The available types depend on the service type chosen above. For the Voice Calls service, the applicable types are: • PSTN from Vendor – Vendor-related expenses for delivering calls from your customers to your network (e.g. toll-free lines) via a PSTN trunk to your gateway. • VoIP from Vendor – Vendor-related expenses for delivering calls from your customers to your network (e.g. foreign DIDs) via VoIP to your SIP server. • PSTN to Vendor – Your expenses for terminating calls on a vendor's network via a PSTN trunk on your gateway. • VoIP to Vendor – Your expenses for terminating calls on a vendor's network by sending them over an IP network to his gateway or proxy. column is only available for "VoIP to Vendor" and "PSTN to Vendor" connections:
Routing Criteria	Defines what routing criteria will be applied to this connection.

Other available fields on the **Add Connection** form vary depending on the service type and type of connection chosen.



Connections with Voice Calls service type and PSTN type

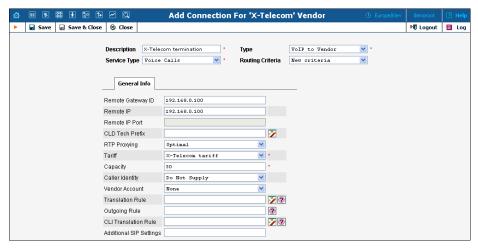


Field	Description
Node	Name of the node used for this connection. Not
	available for "VoIP to Vendor" connections.
Port	Only on PSTN-related connections. The specified port
	for PSTN origination or termination. The port can be
	set using wildcards:
	"_' – match any symbol
	"%" – match any sequence of symbols
	The wildcard symbols ** and *? should not be used.
Tariff	The tariff used to calculate the cost of terminating calls
	via this connection.
Capacity	The number of simultaneous sessions this connection
	can support. This parameter is only used to correctly
	scale the load graph for the connection, and not for
	actual call handling – this is done by the gateway itself.
Translation	Rule applied to convert a number from a vendor-
Rule	specific format into the unified format used in billing.
	Click the Wizard icon to launch the Dialing Rules
	wizard; click the test icon 1 to pop up the Test Rule
	window.
The following	column is only available for "PSTN from Vendor" connections:
CLD	Specifies the access number the customer dialed in
(DNIS)	order to reach your network.
Info Digits	Info Digits is ISDN Originating Line Information sent
_	by the gateway, which allows accounts to be billed
	depending on where the call is originated from. Simply
	associate the corresponding tariff with any OLI in
	Services and Rating.
	Please note that the gateway should be configured to
	support OLI.
	columns are only available for "PSTN to Vendor" connections:
Outgoing	If necessary, a received number can be modified before
Rule	sending it to the vendor. This is only applicable if the



	node which routes the call retrieves routing information
	from PortaBilling® (e.g. PortaSIP® or MVTS). This
	will be filled in automatically if you use the Dialing
	Rules wizard.
CLI	Translates the CLI (ANI) to a vendor-specific format
Translation	when routing a call to the vendor's network.
Rule	

Connections with Voice Calls service type and VoIP type



Field	Description
Remote IP	The IP of the remote gateway, e.g. 23.45.67.89. If a connection has an empty Remote IP attribute, calls going to any IP address (not explicitly defined in some other connection) will be regarded as going via this connection. If there are multiple connections with an unknown IP address, then the Remote Gateway ID and CLD Tech Prefix can be used to help identify a specific connection.
RTP Proxying	 Describes the NAT traversal capabilities of the remote gateway (the default value is set to Optimal): Direct – RTP stream should be sent directly to this node; RTP proxy should not be used. Optimal – This node is capable of NAT traversal; no RTP proxying is required unless specifically requested. OnNat – This node is not capable of NAT traversal; engage RTP proxy if the other party is behind NAT. Always – When sending a call to this node, always engage RTP proxy, so that no media stream goes to it directly.



7T	7T1 . :CC 1. 1 11
Tariff	The tariff used to calculate the cost of terminating calls
	via this connection.
Capacity	The number of simultaneous sessions the connection
	can support. This parameter is used only to correctly
	scale the load graph for the connection, and not for
	actual call handling – this is done by the gateway itself.
Vendor	Defines which username / password should be used for
Account	authorization of calls via this connection.
Translation	Rule applied to convert a number from a vendor-
Rule	specific format into the unified format used in billing.
Kuic	
	Click the Wizard icon to launch the Dialing Rules
	wizard; click the Test licon to pop up the Test Rule
	window.
CLI	Translates the CLI (ANI) to a vendor-specific format
Translation	when routing a call to the vendor's network.
Rule	
Additional	This is a set of proprietary parameters passed to
SIP Settings	PortaSIP® to activate special handling of
on octings	communications with the remote side. It can be used to
	trigger special handling of the SIP dialogue process in
	order to provide compatibility with a vendor non-
	compliant with SIP RFC, and so on.
	g columns are only available for "VoIP to Vendor" connections:
Remote IP	The port to connect to on the remote end. The default
Port	port for the chosen protocol (5060 for SIP, 1720 for
	H323) is used where no value is provided.
Remote	A distinctive name for the remote gateway. This is used
Gateway ID	when it is not possible to determine the identity of the
	remote party (and thus the connection / vendor that the
	call goes to) by its IP address alone. This ID will then be
	used to identify the connection, based on additional
	information available in the accounting record.
	The value in this field should take one of the following
	forms:
	A domain name (translated into the actual IP)
I	`
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net.
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net. All other restrictions related to the domain name
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net.
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net. All other restrictions related to the domain name (e.g. permitted characters) apply as well.
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net. All other restrictions related to the domain name (e.g. permitted characters) apply as well. The special matching keywords SIP-URI,
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net. All other restrictions related to the domain name (e.g. permitted characters) apply as well. • The special matching keywords SIP-URI, INTERNAL Or SIP-UA used internally in routing.
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net. All other restrictions related to the domain name (e.g. permitted characters) apply as well. The special matching keywords SIP-URI, INTERNAL OF SIP-UA used internally in routing. Another custom name that helps to identify the
	address using a DNS query at the time the call is routed). This must be a fully qualified domain name, i.e. it should contain at least two names separated by a dot, for instance mytelecom.net. All other restrictions related to the domain name (e.g. permitted characters) apply as well. • The special matching keywords SIP-URI, INTERNAL Or SIP-UA used internally in routing.



	remote ports on the same IP; then the Remote
	Gateway ID can help to distinguish the routes,
	e.g. PORT5020, PORT5021.
CLD Tech	If you have several connections with the same IP
Prefix	address (e.g. the same carrier offers you routes of
	different quality) and these can only be distinguished
	using the tech-prefix in the destination number, enter
	that tech-prefix here. This also automatically modifies
	the translation rules for this connection, such that the
	tech-prefix is appended to the number when a call is
	routed there, and removed from it when CDRs are
0.11	being processed.
Caller	Describes how outgoing calls for which the caller has
Identity	requested privacy are to be displayed to the vendor.
	Do not Supply – PortaSwitch® will remove all
	information about the caller from the call initiation info sent to the vendor.
	Supply – The outgoing call initiation request will contain special privacy headers which will
	contain the information about real CLI number.
Outgoing	If necessary, a received number can be modified before
Rule	sending it to the vendor. This only applies if the node
	which routes the call retrieves routing information from
	PortaBilling® (e.g. PortaSIP® or MVTS). This will be
	filled in automatically if you use the Dialing Rules
	wizard.
	columns are only available for "VoIP from Vendor" connections:
Caller	Describes how the system processes the calls for which
Identity	the caller has requested privacy.
	Do not Accept – Special privacy headers will not
	be processed.
	Accept – The information about real CLI
	number will be retrieved from the special privacy
	headers.
Assign	This parameter allows you to use different rate plans for
Access Code	the same service, based on where the call originates
	from. Define Assign Access Code for the authorization of the call in order to allow the
	appropriate entry specified in the product's Services
	and Rating tab to be selected. This field is mandatory
	and by default, is set to 'INCOMING.'
	, ,

The following two columns are visible only if you are using multiple protocols in your system and have the ShowConnectionProtocol feature enabled. By default this option is turned off, and every connection is assumed to be SIP-capable only.



Field	Description
H323	Check if this connection is capable of handling H323
	calls.
SIP	Check if this connection is capable of handling SIP calls.

Connection Load

PortaBilling® automatically updates load graphs based on the number of calls going through a connection. To access the load graph for a specific connection, open the connection details page and click the Load icon in the toolbar.



8. Statistics



Graphs

The default timeframe for all graphs is 30 hours. The dates above the graph are the boundary timeframe for the current graph. If the graph is shown in more than one color, a legend for color use will be displayed below the graph. If there are two graphs, captions will be provided on the left. The use of navigation is explained in the table below.

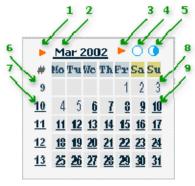
Icon	Description
Q	Zoom Out . Click the icon or the top part of the graph to see a 50% longer time interval.
Q	Zoom In . Click the icon or the bottom part of the graph to see a 50% shorter time interval and a more detailed graph.
4	Back in time. Click the icon or the left part of the graph to move back in time by 50% of the current timeframe.
\$	Forward in time . Click the icon or the right part of the graph to move forward in time by 50% of the current timeframe.

Reports

The middle portion of the report screen is a one-year calendar.

PortaBilling® keeps reports for one year, after which they are removed from the system. The current month is displayed in the bottom right-hand corner of the calendar.

Look at the following diagram of a calendar:



- 1. If present, this arrow notifies the user that a report for this month is available for download by clicking the month link.
- 2. Three-letter abbreviation for the month, followed by the year.
- 3. If present, this arrow notifies the user that two semi-monthly reports are available for download by clicking the links on the right.



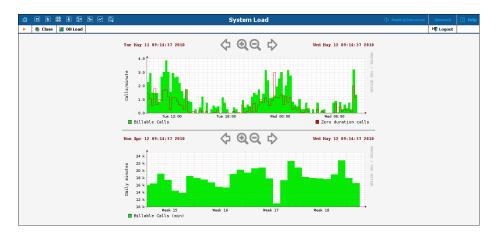
- 4. Click this icon to download statistics for the first half of the month.
- 5. Click this icon to download statistics for the second half of the month.
- 6. The number of the week in the current year. No report was generated for this week, so there is no link.
- 7. Same as 6, but here a report has been generated and may be downloaded by clicking the link.
- 8. The day of the month. No report has been generated, so the link is inactive.
- 9. Days with linked reports are bolded and underscored. Click to download the report.

If a report is available, the corresponding link is bolded and underscored.

NOTE: Links are not displayed if reports have not been configured.

System Load

The **System Load** graph provides a general overview of the billing system status in terms of the number of call attempts per minute and the total volume of calls per day.



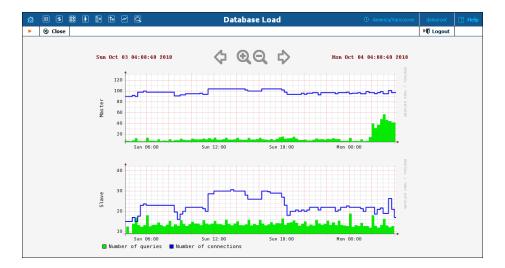
The **Calls/minute** graph at the top shows the number of calls, and is broken down into "Billable" and "Zero Duration" calls.

The **Daily minutes** graph shows the total call volume (in minutes) that passes through your system per day.

Database

The Database Load graph shows the load (in number of queries) and the number of active threads on the master and slave databases. This

information may be useful in the event that database interactions seem slow, or for other debugging scenarios.

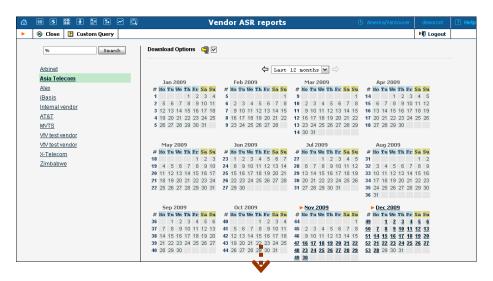


ASR

The Vendor ASR reports screen gives the user easy access to downloads of all ASR reports that have been defined for a vendor. Reports for the desired vendor may be found by selecting the vendor from a list on the left side of the screen, or by entering the vendor's name in the search field and clicking the **Search** button. The wildcard symbol "%" may also be used for the search.

Download Options

The default report download format is CSV. Check the box next to the **ZIP** cicon to download zipped CSV files.



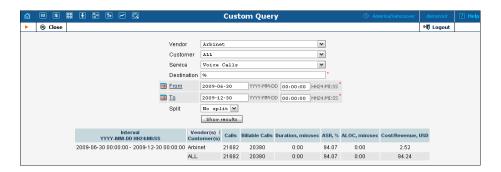


	А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	
1	Destination	Country	Description	Calls	Billable Calls	ASR; %	Duration; min:sec	ALOC
2	247		Ascension Island	2	0	0	0:00	
3	Not Matched		Unable to match in tar	255	1	0.392156862745098	11:37	
4	SUBTOTAL			257	1	0.389105058365759	11:37	
5		ALBANIA	Proper	1	0	0	0:00	
6	SUBTOTAL			1	0	0	0:00	
7	54	ARGENTINA	Proper	2	0	0	0:00	
8		ARGENTINA		1	0	0	0:00	
9		ARGENTINA	Buenos Aires	4	3	75	23:13	
10	SUBTOTAL			7		42.8571428571429	23:13	
11		ARMENIA	Proper	29		10.3448275862069	1:11	
12	SUBTOTAL			29		10.3448275862069	1:11	
13		AUSTRALIA	Proper	7	2	28.5714285714286	8:26	
14		AUSTRALIA	Mobile	1	1	100	0:35	
15		AUSTRALIA	Sydney	1	0	0	0:00	
16	SUBTOTAL			9	_	33.333333333333	9:01	
17		AUSTRIA	Proper	17	6	35.2941176470588	72:05:00	
18		AUSTRIA	Vienna	8	1	12.05.2005	14:25	
19	43650	AUSTRIA	Mobile	1	1	100	0:04	
20	SUBTOTAL			26		30.7692307692308	86:34:00	~
14 4	→ H Sample /				< [>

Custom Query

The Custom Query utility, which can be accessed by clicking the **Custom Query 2** button, enables you to view ASR and cost / revenue information for all calls going from selected customer(s) to selected vendor(s). This query can also be filtered by destination and a precise time interval. The Split selector allows the report to be divided into hourly and daily intervals.

Select a customer or vendor, or a destination (which may be specified exactly), or use a wildcard. (For example, all calls to England may be specified as "44%" in the destination field.) A date and time range for the search must be specified. To initiate the query, click the **Show results** button.



The results table contains two rows, one each for the customer and the vendor.

- o Calls
- o Billable Calls
- o Duration, min:sec
- o ASR (Average Success Rate)
- o ALOC (Average Length of Call), min:sec
- O Cost / Revenue, in the PortaBilling® owner's currency



The Custom Query utility is a tool for monitoring various parameters of your current call flow. It should **not** be used to obtain billing statistics for



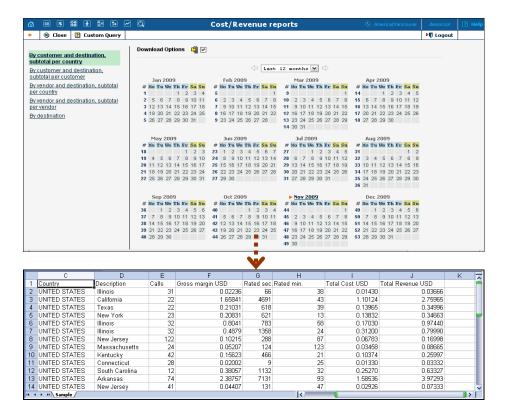
a particular vendor (use the xDR statistics for the corresponding vendor), and should **never** be used to obtain information such as "total minutes for a particular customer". Since this report operates with the vendor's xDR, it will provide figures according to the vendor's time rounding, not the customer's. This can make a significant difference (e.g. your vendor uses 1 second rounding, while customers are billed on a per-minute basis).

Cost / Revenue

The Cost / Revenue reports screen allows users to easily download all Cost / Revenue reports that have been generated in the system. Reports are grouped by the following call types:

- o By customer and destination, subtotal per country (default)
- o By customer and destination, subtotal per customer
- o By vendor and destination, subtotal per country
- o By vendor and destination, subtotal per vendor
- o By destination

The active selection is highlighted in green.



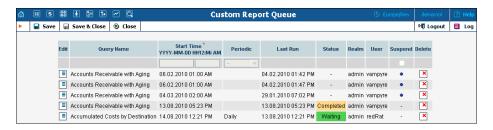


Custom Reports

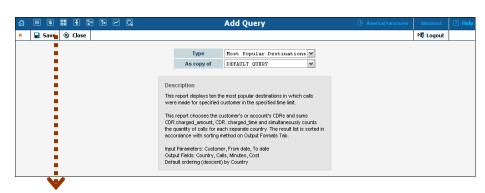
The Custom Reports section allows you to manage and execute custom report queries.



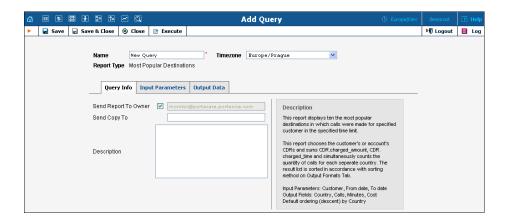
On the initial Custom Reports screen, you can view already existing reports. To execute one of them and see the result immediately, click the **Execute** icon for a particular report. Click the **Execute** button in the toolbar to see information about scheduled report execution.



Click **Add** to create a new report by choosing the type of report (one of the pre-defined types) and whether this report should be created as a clone of some existing report (inheriting all parameters defined in that report), or just as a blank copy. Press **Save** to proceed in defining the report.







Type in a descriptive name for the new query. This is the name that will be displayed on the Custom Reports screen. Define the Custom Report time zone that will be applied to the date ranges of the query execution. This TZ will also be applied to the date(s) in the query results and in the name of the file with the result report. Be aware that the *User's* time zone will be applied to all the *execution* dates (Start Time, Last Run and Completion Time).



If the TZ for the query execution coincides with the User's TZ, you can simply set the time zone to 'Auto'. In that case, the query will be executed in the User's TZ.

On the Edit query page, you can alter various parameters of this query. Click the **Execute** button in the toolbar to run the query and immediately see the result in your web browser.

Query Info tab

Field	Description
Send Report To	If this check box is ticked, after every query
Owner	execution the user who executes the report
	will receive a copy of the report result by
	email. (Make sure you have defined your email
	address in the user settings.)
Send Copy To	Send a copy of the report result to another
	email address.
Description	General description of this report.

Input Parameters tab

The contents of this tab are based on a particular report, and allow you to manage report parameters, e.g. for "Most popular destinations" you are able to specify the date range and customers.

For input parameters which contain date / time values, there are two methods of entering values:



- You can type in a specific value, e.g. "01-Jan-2007"; this value will always stay the same for any report execution.
- You can specify a moment in time as an offset from the scheduled report execution date. For instance, you can set up the "Customer's most popular destinations" report to run every night at 5 am, and specify that it should cover an interval from 21 hours to 10 hours **prior** to the report time. As a result, you will always receive a report that includes calls made by the customer during business hours on the previous day. Parameters may also be populated automatically with a date **after** the actual report time: for instance, every Monday you can run a report to obtain a list of invoices that will become overdue during the next seven days.

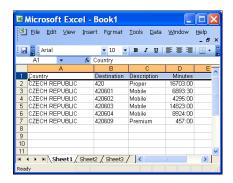
Output Formats tab

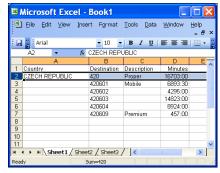
This tab includes two separate areas: Output Format, where you can define how the values of columns should be presented in the report, and Data Sorting, where you define how the report data should be sorted.

Column	Description
Column	Name of the report column.
Visible	Whether this column should be included in the report. If you uncheck this option, the given column will simply be skipped in the report result.
Format	Formatting of the column data (e.g. whether the total number of minutes should be displayed as 380 or 380:00).
Post Processing Rule	This field functions like the post-processing rules in templates (for more details, see the PortaBilling Templates Guide). It allows you to modify the actual value extracted from the database before it is shown in the report. For instance, if the value in the database gives the total number of seconds, you can divide it by 60 to display the value in minutes to the user.
Suppress Dup	If activated, duplicate column values in adjacent rows will not be displayed – see the example below.

The Suppress Duplicates option allows you to make your reports more readable by removing excess information. Compare the two datasheets below, in which the same data is shown, but where the right one has Suppress Duplicates enabled for certain columns.







Column	Description
Column	Name of the report column.
Sort	Specifies the sorting mode for this column:
	Data is sorted in ascending order
	(i.e. Andrew will be at the top of the
	list, and Zack at the bottom).
	Data is sorted in descending
	order (i.e. Zack will be at the top of
	the list, and Andrew at the bottom).
	This column is not used for data
	sorting at all.
Up / Down	If there are multiple columns used in sorting,
	their order is very important. Here you can
	arrange the sequence of the sort columns. For
	instance, if you want to sort data first by
	country name and then by the number of
	minutes, use the and arrows to move the
	Country column above the Minutes column.

Schedule tab

This tab allows you to schedule automatic report execution (single time or periodic) in the future, and to see when a report was last generated. Click the **Add** button in the toolbar to add a new entry.





Column	Description		
Start Time	Date and time when the report should be produced.		
Periodic	Specifies whether the report should only be produced once, or generated every day, week or month.		
Last Run	The date when the report was last executed (if applicable).		
Status	 Current status of the report: Waiting – Report execution has not started yet, and is scheduled for the future. Completed – The report was to be executed only once, and this has already been done. Running – The report is being currently produced. 		
Suspend	Allows you to temporarily disable report execution (but not delete the entry from the report schedule). This may be convenient if you are leaving for vacation and would like to avoid having reports piling up in your inbox during your absence.		

NOTE: Start Time specifies only the "preferred" start time for the report. Report execution will not start earlier than the specified time, but it may start later if there are some other conflicting tasks at the specified time. For instance, if two reports are scheduled to be executed at 06:00, only one of them will start at that time, while the other will start only after the first one has finished.

Reports tab

This tab allows you to browse results for the ten previous report executions. Thus, if you did not save the original result, you do not have to run the reports over again. Click the icon to see the corresponding file.

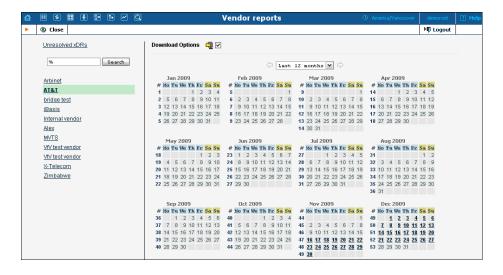






Vendor xDR Reports

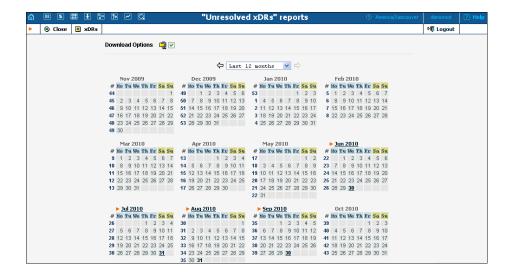
The Vendor reports screen allows users to easily download all reports that have been defined for a vendor. Reports for the desired vendor may be found by selecting the vendor from the list on the left side of the screen, or by entering the vendor's name in the search field and clicking the **Search** button. The wildcard symbol "%" may also be used.



Unresolved xDR Reports

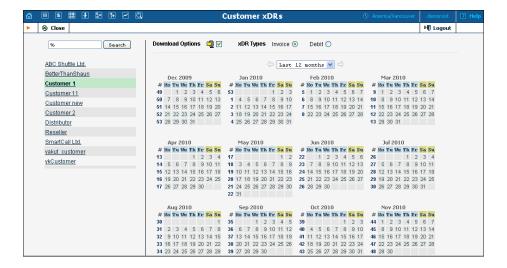
The "Unresolved xDRs" reports screen is accessible from the Vendor xDR. It allows users to easily download all available reports for calls which were not identified as crossing any connection to a vendor. The report periodicity can be set up on the **Company Info** screen -> Report Info Tab -> Reconciliation Period.





Customer xDRs

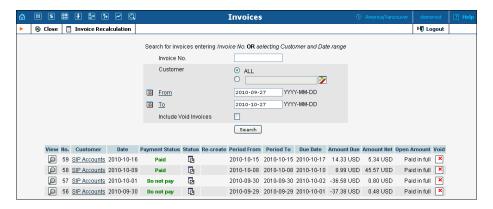
The Customer xDRs screen allows users to easily download xDRs that have been defined for a customer. xDRs for the desired customer may be found by selecting from the list of existing customers on the left side of the screen, or by entering the customer's name in the search field and clicking the **Search** button. The wildcard symbol "%" may also be used.



Invoices

The Invoices screen allows the administrator to view all invoices generated by the system in the current environment. The desired invoice can be found by its number. Groups of invoices can be searched by selecting a customer and a date range.





Select the **View** icon in the result list to view or print the selected

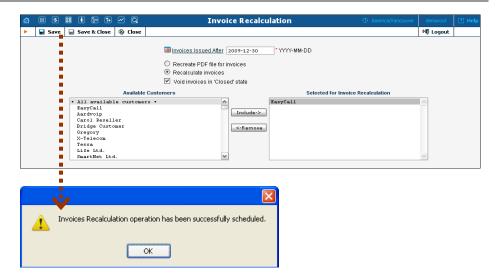
invoice. The **Closed** icon appears when an invoice has been delivered to the customer and cannot be changed. An invoice is considered delivered when the customer receives an e-mail with the invoice attached, or clicks the **View** icon in the Invoice section of the Customer Self-Provisioning interface. If the invoice is not locked, it will be automatically updated if the balance changes (re-costing of calls, for example); otherwise, a new invoice with a re-costing adjustment will be generated. You can change the status of an invoice manually by clicking the **Status** icon.

The **Re-create** icon allows you to recreate an invoice. By clicking this icon you can schedule invoice recreation. This will not affect any changes except the invoice date, due date, layout attributes, customer and / or company info, and PDF file renewal. Invoice recreation is useful when you want to renew an invoice date, or have made some changes to a particular invoice template, or if certain customer or company attributes have been changed.

Invoice Recalculation

Administrators can use the **Invoice Recalculation** page to recalculate invoices generated in the system since a certain date and for a specific customer (or customers). This may need to be done if calculations for a certain period were based on incorrect data (wrong rates, errors in tariffs, and so on).





Fill in the required information or perform one of the following operations:

Field	Description
Invoices Issued After	Click on this link to open a calendar in a new browser window, from which you can select the desired date. Alternatively, you can type the date in the box next to the link, using the required date format.
Recreate PDF file for invoices	Select this option to only recreate PDF files, representing invoices. This is used when there was a mistake in the invoice template (e.g. an incorrect text, a wrong company logo or another graphic design issue). This will generate new PDF files according to the current template settings, so the new PDF files may look different - but no figures (e.g. total or sub-totals) in the original invoice will be affected.
Recalculate invoices	Select this option to fully recalculate invoices - recalculate the amount of charges, payments, refunds, etc. for the given period, calculate a new invoice total and produce a new set of PDF files.
Void invoices in 'Closed' state	This box appears only if your choice is to recalculate invoices. Check it to void closed invoices and create them anew.
Available Customers and Selected for Invoice Recalculation	In the Available Customers box, select a customer (or customers) for whom you wish to recalculate invoices. To choose all customers at once, select the line <i>All available customers</i> on top. Then click the Include-> button. The customers selected will appear in the Selected for Invoice Recalculation box.



After you have made your choice, click **Save**. You will receive confirmation that the recalculation has been successfully scheduled. The system will perform it during the next statistics calculation period and send you a confirmation e-mail upon completion.

To check if an invoice has been recalculated, go to the **Invoices** screen and click on the **View** icon before the invoice number.

NOTE: During recalculation, xDR reports for the relevant customers are also updated.



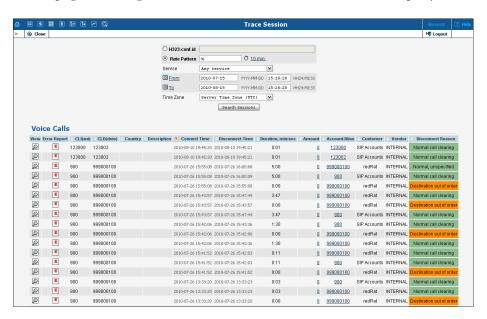
9. Help Desk



Trace Session

The trace session utility allows you to determine the characteristics of a specific call when you know the **h323-conf-id** or the **destination**, which may be specified exactly, or using a wildcard. (For example, all calls to England may be specified as "44%" in the destination field). A date range for the search must be specified; however, it is highly recommended to set it to the smallest range necessary, in order to reduce waiting time and server load. Ideally, the search window should contain one day only.

To initiate a query, click the **Search Sessions** button. If no results appear, try broadening the query. When the results appear, locate the desired call within the result set. If there are too many results, they will be divided across pages, although in this case it is advisable to narrow the query.



The result listing shows the origination number, the number dialed, the destination location, connect and disconnect times, duration, account and customer (in the case of product usage), vendor (in the case of normal vendor termination), and the call status while disconnecting, which is color-coded according to the table below. Select the **View** icon to go to a detailed page describing the call.

Possible reasons for disconnect:

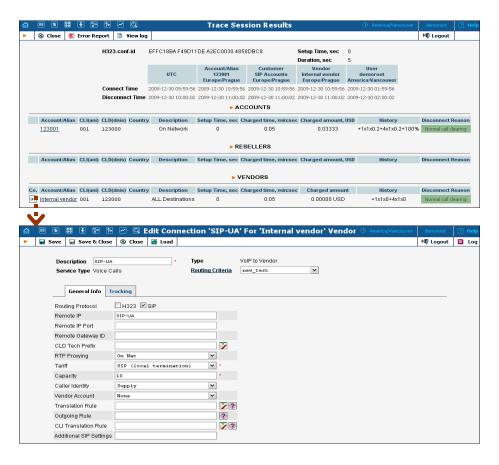
Reason		Reason	Color
Normal completed call		Calling side error	
Normal uncompleted call		Called side error	





Trace Session Detail

The detailed Trace Session Results page shows additional call details, such as the h323-conf-id for the call and the setup time, as well as a detailed breakdown of the charges applied to each entity (accounts, resellers, and vendors). You may view the connection details for a particular vendor by selecting the **Connection** icon. On the subsequent Connection detail page, you may view all connections for a particular vendor by clicking the **Connections** icon.



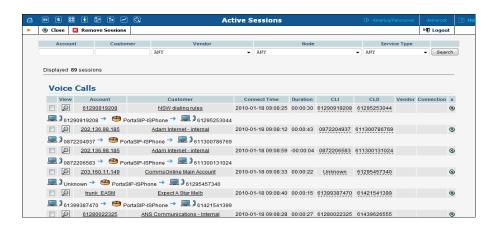
Active Sessions

The Active Sessions page shows calls that are currently in progress or have been completed recently. It indicates the time the call started, the elapsed call duration, and who is making the call, and describes which gateways the call is going through.



Since the total number of simultaneous calls in your system can be quite large, you can display only a certain subset of all calls, by setting a filter for:

- **Customer** name of the customer who is making a call;
- **Vendor** carrier to whom the call has been terminated;
- Node element of your network (PortaSIP® server, gateway, etc.) the call is going through (e.g. you would like to see all calls originating on your Cisco AS5300 gateway in New York);
- Call duration only displays calls lasting for more than a certain number of minutes.



Field	Description
Account	Account ID of the call originator.
Customer	Customer who originated the call.
Connect time	The Call-ID used to trace callback calls
	when one logical call consists of several
	independent SIP calls.
Disconnect time	Empty if the call is still in progress.
Duration	The total call duration.
CLI	Calling station ID (ANI) for the
	originator.
CLD	Called station ID (DNIS) – the
	destination number.
Vendor	Carrier used for call termination.
Connection	Specific connection for this vendor.
Checkbox	By ticking this checkbox for a particular
	call, you can group several active calls
	into a single group for further operations
	(e.g. remove them from the active call
	registry)



The line below these fields shows a schematic call flow diagram.

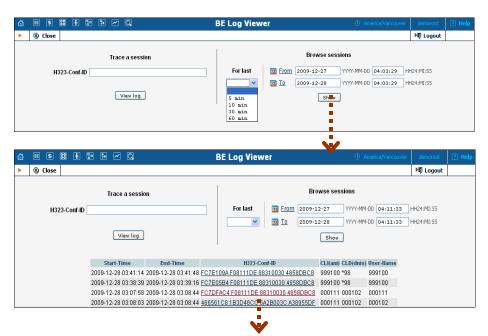
Sometimes a call displayed in the active calls registry may have already been disconnected (the most common reason for this being that one of your gateways was rebooted and calls were cut off, although billing never received accounting records about this). In this case, you are able to clean up such "stalled" calls from the web.

NOTE: A cleanup operation only affects billing's internal registry of active calls, and will not disconnect a call that is still in progress.

If you want to delete such calls, just mark all of them (using the checkbox in the column on the far right) and press the "Cleanup calls presentation" button. The "Call duration greater than, min." option allows you to autoselect calls with a duration greater than the entered value, so that you can quickly select suspiciously long calls.

BE Log Viewer

The **Log Viewer** page allows you to see a list of all sessions (voice calls, Internet access, etc.) processed by the billing engine, and to examine a detailed processing log for each of them, if required.







Field	Description
H323-Conf-ID	The H323-Conf-ID of a call.
For last	Display all sessions in a recent time period.
From, To	Choose a specific time period.

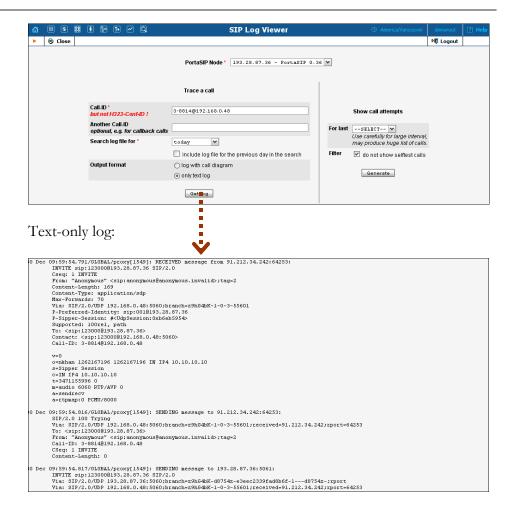
If you do not know the H323-Conf-ID for a call you have just made, you can use the right side of the form to display all call attempts made within a certain interval (this will also include failed call attempts, which makes it extremely useful for troubleshooting problems when you are unable to make outgoing calls, e.g. due to an authorization failure).

You will see a list of call attempts, with the call initiation time, H323-Conf-ID and CLI / CLD for each; click on the underlined H323-Conf-ID to see the billing engine log for it.

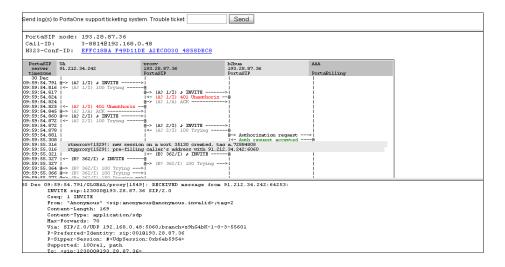
SIP Log Viewer

The SIP Log Viewer page allows you to view billing logs of PortaSIP® calls. You need to know the Call-ID of the specific call in order to trace it. If you do not know the call-id (e.g. you just made a phone call from a SIP phone and it failed), you can display all call attempts for a recent period and locate the call-id of "your" call according to CLD or other parameters.





Log with call diagram:





Field	Description
SIP Environment	The PortaSIP® node (virtual SIP
	instance) whose log files will be
	processed.
Call-ID	The SIP Call-ID (typical format is
	XXXXX@some.domain or XXXX@IP).
Another Call-ID	The Call-ID used to trace callback calls
	when one logical call consists of several
	independent SIP calls.
Search log file for	The day when the call was made.
Include log file for the	This option extends the search by adding
previous day in the	the previous day.
search	
Output format	Raw text log, or with diagram.
Show call attempts for	Displays all call attempts on this node, so
last	that you can find the call-id for a call and
	use it to obtain log information.

You can automatically submit this call log, with all the relevant details, to PortaOne's support ticketing system from the result page. Simply enter the relevant trouble ticket number in the input field. (First you need to open a ticket and provide a general description of the problem you are experiencing).

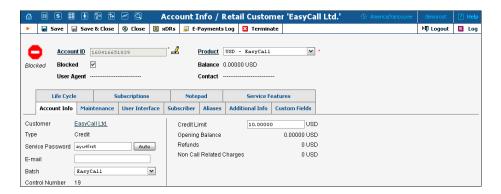
Account Info

The Account Info page is provided for Help Desk staff responsible for answering questions from account holders. The interface requires the account holder to give the Help Desk an account ID or a batch and control number. The Help Desk operator can also browse xDRs for this account by selecting the **Browse xDRs** icon.





Once specified, clicking on **Account ID** will take the user to the Account Info for that account.



The majority of account details on the Account Info page are read-only. This interface is similar to the one accessible via the customer's **Accounts**. Help Desk staff has the ability to modify only Web Password, Service Password, Account Balance, Time Zone, Redirect Number, Blocked Status, and Preferred Language. When making such changes, Help Desk staff should also provide a comment detailing the reason for these changes (for example, "user unable to call due to network outage, credited \$5"). Changes may be confirmed by clicking **Save** or **Save&Close**.



10. Appendices

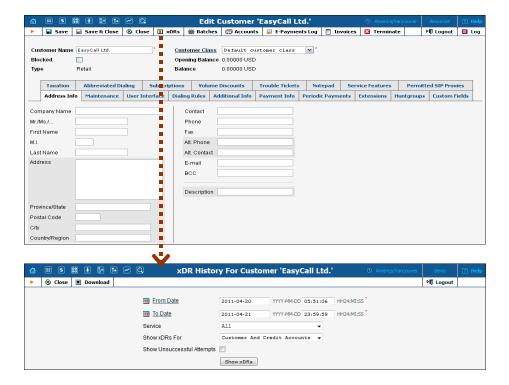


APPENDIX A. xDR Browser

To easily view the xDR history for a particular entity you can use the xDR browser. It is not directly accessible from the main menu, since it needs to be accessed in the context of a specific customer / account etc.

Let's assume that you want to view the xDR history for a particular customer. To go to the xDR view page click the **View** icon on the Customer Management screen.

The browser is also accessible from the Edit Customer screen by clicking the **xDRs** button.



On the xDR view page you can make an extensible search via:

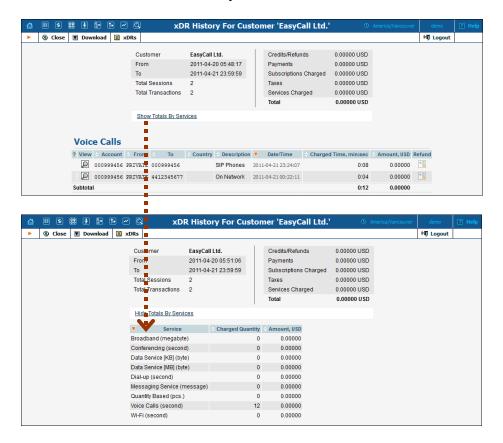
- a date and time range by clicking the **u**icon
- a certain service type
- required accounts type (for customers only)

If you want the information about the CDR_Failed to be included in the results list, check the **Show Unsuccessful Attempts** box.

To initiate a query, click the **Show xDRs** button. The result page will contain a summary displayed on the top of the screen and a table listing all of the calls and charges from a specified time period. If you want to



view information (charged quantity and amounts due) for all of the services, click the **Show Totals by Services** button.



Starting with PortaBilling Maintenance Release 23 a call session with several rating periods produces multiple xDR records, each linked to the applicable discount level / rate. This makes it very easy for both administrators and end-users to check the accuracy of all transactions billed. To view xDRs records for the same session, click on the icon:







APPENDIX B. Audio File Formats Supported by Music on Hold Feature

The Music on Hold feature supports the following file formats: 8svx, aif, aifc, aiff, aiffc, al, amb, au, avr, caf, cdda, cdr, cvs, cvsd, cvu, dat, dvms, f32, f4, f64, f8, fap, flac, fssd, gsm, hcom, htk, ima, ircam, la, lpc, lpc10, lu, mat, mat4, mat5, maud, mp2, mp3, nist, ogg, paf, prc, pvf, raw, s1, s16, s2, s24, s3, s32, s4, s8, sb, sd2, sds, sf, sl, smp, snd, sndfile, sndr, sndt, sou, sox, sph, sw, txw, u1, u16, u2, u24, u3, u32, u4, u8, ub, ul, uw, vms, voc, vorbis, vox, w6, wav, wavpcm, wve, xa, xi.

Please note that the uploaded media file should have an appropriate filename extension.