



Meet Me in Toronto

Editors note: This is the fourth in a series looking at the dominant “meet me” facilities in 10 major North American cities. Author Hunter Newby is chief strategy officer for TELx. Reader suggestions for the final city to be covered in this series of ten cities should be sent to Hunter at hnewby@telx.com.

Owned and managed by Trizec Properties, 151 Front Street in Toronto serves as Canada’s premier carrier hotel. Home to more than 150 telecommunications companies, it’s one of North America’s most connected buildings with nine unique fiber-optic networks, 25 diverse entrances and more than 7,000 strands of fiber.

It isn’t stretching matters to say 151 Front is at the heart of every major provider’s network in Canada. In some ways, every facilities-based telecommunications carrier in Canada has a footprint at 151 Front.

The building maintains its own fiber “meet me” room as an entrance and interconnection point. This location is limited to fiber only and is approximately 450 square feet in size. An independent operator, Remote Access Company Limited (RACO Canada), manages the largest neutral point of interconnection there. RACO manages all access at the electrical level to carriers in the meet me room.

Operating since 1995, RACO Canada facilities incorporate more than 25,000 square feet of fully operational carrier neutral, collocation space covering seven different suites at 151 Front Street. About 5,000 square feet of private office space also is available.

RACO is one of the most experienced operating collocation service providers in the North American telecommunications industry. RACO also is Canada’s largest carrier neutral collocation provider. Since 1991, RACO’s collocation sites have provided a carrier neutral place to house telecommunications switching, transmission and

Internet-access equipment, enabling the exchange of telecommunications traffic in a neutral setting.

RACO has succeeded due to its premier 151 Front Street location, carrier neutrality, on-site technical staff 24/7/365 support, quick circuit delivery times and cross border access between the United States and Canada.

The RACO contact is Peter Burns, sales and marketing manager, (716) 852-7950 ext. 233, peter.burns@racogroup.net, www.racogroup.net.

Attributes of the RACO Interconnect Facility

Facility Size	25,000 sq. ft.
Suite	3rd, 6th and 7th floors
AC Power feed	3,000 kva
Generator	2 x 1,500 kw
Control system	Yes
UPS	Multiple systems
DC plant	Multiple systems
HVAC	Multiple redundant circuits
Fire suppression	FM 200

Attributes of Carrier Hotel at 151 Front Street

Building size	297,000 sq. ft.
Union building	No
Building generator	Multiple
Generator rooms for tenants	Multiple
Roof access	Yes
Tenant conduit rights	Yes
Is there a building meet me room?	Yes
Is this MMR the featured site?	No

Carriers and Providers within RACO

Carriers and Providers within Building Meet Me Room

360networks	360networks
AT&T Canada	AT&T Canada
Bell Canada	BCE Bell
Bell Nexxia	Call-Net
Cogeco	Group Telecom
Cogent Communications	Rogers Communications
Equant	Telus
Global Crossing	Toronto Hydro
Group Telecom	Videotron
HydroOne Telecom	
Navigata	
Primus Communications	
Rogers Communications	
Savvis Communications	
Shaw/BigPipe	
Sprint Canada	
TeleGlobe	
Telus	
TorIX	
T-Systems (Deutsche Telekom)	
UUNet	
VideoTron	

Interconnection Guidelines

Can customers order cross connects to any other meet area customer?	Yes
Is the average turnaround time for cross connects 48 hours or less?	Yes
Is on-site technical support available 24/7/365?	Yes
Can customers access the site 24/7/365?	Yes
Can the technicians test and turn up circuits?	Yes
Does the meet area operator perform the cross connect?	Yes
Can the customer perform the cross connect?	No
Are all cross connects tagged and inventoried?	Yes
Is there a shared fiber panel (MDF, CFDP)?	Yes
Can the customer bring and install its own fiber distribution panels?	In their space, yes
Is there a shared COAX or copper panel?	Yes
Can the customer bring and install its own COAX or copper panel?	In their space, yes
Are there monthly recurring charges to cross connect in the meet area?	Yes
Do all of the building tenants have a presence in the interconnect facility?	No
What percentage is it?	80%
For carriers not in the meet area, the interconnect options include Trizec MMR or direct conduit build to RACO	

The costs and availability are determined based upon the order.