



## Q&A

### **Clear versus Signaling Time Slot on a Total Access 750 or 850 BCU FT1 Port**

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**Q:** In a TA 750 or 850 BCU with an FT1 port, when do use a Clear Time Slot and when do I use a Signaling Time Slot?

**A:** The signaling referred to is Robbed Bit Signaling (RBS), which is the most common form of signaling for T1 applications. Robbed Bit Signaling (RBS) "robs" the least significant, or eighth bit, of each DS0 in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> frames of every superframe to provide inband, or channel associated signaling. These signaling bits are what controls specific voice states, such as on-hook, off-hook, and ringing. So a "Signaling" time slot needs to be selected for most voice applications. A Clear Channel needs to be used in applications, such as data, where RBS is not used. Another common application for Clear Channel is in a PRI, where a D-channel or common-channel signaling is being used. When we are passing a PRI through our FT1 port, all channels, including the 24<sup>th</sup> (the D-channel) need to be set for "Clear Time Slot".

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