Document 1651

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Rate settlements in Minnesota and Colorado depressed U S West 's third-quarter profit n_of:x-i n_of:x-
                                                                                                                                 U S West said net income dropped 8.9 % , noting that the year-ago quarter included the sale of a building by its BetaWest Properties unit named:x-c named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i n:x n:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h named:x-c name
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ARG2 ARG1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    long-distance carrier business and diversified division n.x n_of:x-i n.x v:e-i-p n_of:x-i
                                                                                                                                                 business-telephone operations grew 3.3 % to $ 618.9 million from $ 599.4 million a year ago n:x v:e-i card:i-i-c nof:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c grev-i n:x card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c 
      New telephone lines posted healthy growth a:e-p n:x n_of:x v:e-i-p a:e-p n_of:x-i
            Business lines increased 3.7 % to 3.3 million n:x n_of:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i card:i-i-c card:i-i-c
    "On a truly comparable basis , we 've seen modest earnings growth this year from the operations of our company , " said Jack MacAllister , chairman and chief executive officer p:e-u-i q:i-h-h a_of:e-e a:e-p n_of:x-i _ pron:x _ v:e-i-p a:e-p n:x n_of:x-i q_dem:i-h-h n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ v_to:e-i-h-i named:x-c _ n
    "The major negative factor was the cumulative impact of regulatory activity over the past two years . "

q:i-h-h a:e-p a:e-p n:x v_id:e-p-i q:i-h-h a:e-u n:x p:e-x-i a:e-p n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h a:e-p card:i-i-c n:x _ _
    Expenses in the quarter dropped 11.2 % to $ 664.3 million from $ 747.7 million a year ago n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_temp:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c card:i-i-c card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c card:i-i-c card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n_
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    e 75 cents to close at $ 71.25 i card:i-i-c n:x x:e-h-h v:e-i p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c
                                                                                                                                                       Bell Atlantic said net rose 6.5 %, aided by strong growth in the network-services business and an increase in the number of new telephone lines named:x-c named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i n:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x v:e-i-p a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x n:x q:i-h-h n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x p:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               from $ 2.8 billion in the year-ago quarter p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c p:e-u-i q:i-h-h a:e-p n_temp:x
            Revenue jumped 5.6 % to $ 2.9 billion from $ n:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n:x
                                                                                                                                     financial and real-estate services jumped 23 % to $ 177.4 million from $ 144.1 million a year ago a:e-p _ n:x n:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card
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