Hosted PBX by Golden West

Answering Rules

After you set up your time frames, you can create different answering rules for your time frames. You configure answering rules using the Answering Rules page. To display this page, click the **Answering Rules** icon at the top of the page:

The left side of the Answering page has a **Rings for *n* seconds** drop-down list that allows you to specify the maximum ring time (one ring is generally 5 seconds). When that time expires, the caller will be forwarded to the **Call Forward When Unanswered** rule if defined; otherwise, the caller will be forwarded to voicemail if enabled. The right side of the Answering Rules page has buttons for adding answering rules, and specifying allowed and blocked numbers.

The following shows examples of answering rules:

- The extension has a rule to simultaneously ring many desk phones during Open Hours.

- **Cell Forward** rings many desk phones and a cell phone simultaneously.

- Holiday and closed hour rules go straight to voicemail.

The active rule is the topmost rule that matches the conditions in the corresponding time frame. In the example, the time is around 1 PM on Friday, so both **Open Hours** and **Cell Forward** rule match the time/day condition, but **Open Hours** is active because it is the topmost rule. You can change the order by using the arrows at left of each rule to drag the rules.
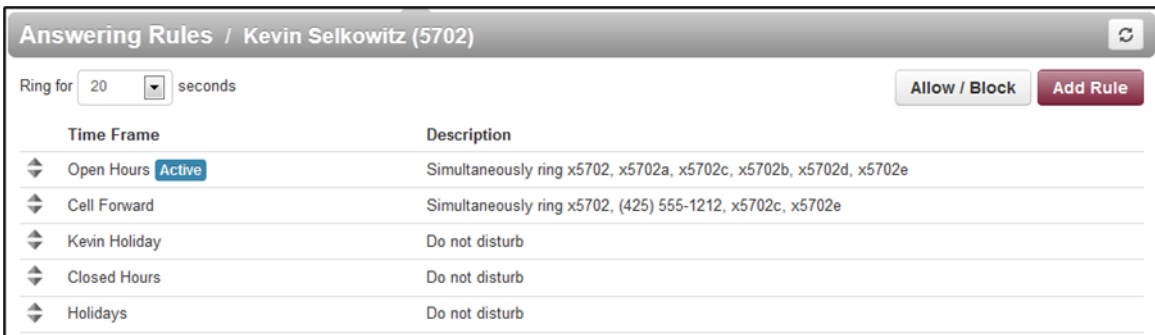
To Add an Answering Rule:

1. From the Answering Rules page, click **Add Rule.**

The Add an Answering Rule page appears. From this page, you can create rules to screen callers, forwards calls, and ring multiple numbers simultaneously.

2. Complete the fields in the Add an Answering Rule page and click **Save.**

Field	Description
Time Frame	Select the time frame when this answering rule will apply.
Do not disturb	No phone rings, goes straight to voicemail if available.
Call screening	Prompts caller to say their name, lets you screen the call before accepting.
Call Forwarding Always	Immediately forwards to the number specified. See "Call Forward Drop-down Options" below.
Call Forwarding On Active	Forward calls to the number specified when you have one or more calls active. See "Call Forward Drop-down Options" below.
Call Forwarding When Busy	Forwards calls to the number specified when your extension has used all available call paths. See "Call Forward Drop-down Options" below.
Call Forwarding When Unanswered	Forwards calls to the number specified if the call is not answered after the specified ring timeout. See "Call Forward Drop-down Options" below.
Call Forwarding When Offline	Automatically forwards if your desk phone loses communication (such as during a power outage). See "Call Forward Drop-down Options" below.
Simultaneous ring	Rings many phones at once. Check box options allow you to: • Include the user's extension. • Ring all your user's phones. • An icon to the right of this option allows you to specify a ring delay. Note: A simring rings handsets, not users. So, for example, if 111 is listed, the simring will ring handset 111. If user 111 has a call forward set to their cell, however, the simring will not occur at the cell since simring rings handsets, not users.
Just Ring User's Extension	Rings just your phone.

Golden West TELECOMMUNICATIONS