Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)

within the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)

ECC RECOMMENDATION (04)04

DATA-ONLY TERMINALS THAT DO NOT USE E.164 NUMBERS FOR THEIR SERVICES

Recommendation adopted by the Working Group "Numbering Naming and Addressing" (WG NNA)

INTRODUCTION

As new mobile systems are implemented throughout Europe, which provide new services and also services currently available on second generation mobile systems (GSM), the national Administrations need guidelines to be able to allocate appropriate number ranges for all these services. This recommendation aims at providing some specific guidelines dedicated to help defining appropriate number ranges data-only terminals.

"The European conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering

a) that E.164 numbers are used and identify the originator or recipient of specific communications services;

b) that E.164 numbers are also used for subscriber/terminal identification in customer support and billing systems;

c) that E.164 numbers are also used for subscriber/terminal identification in RADIUS access control systems used for GPRS in accordance with GSM 09.61 and that this use includes roaming;

d) that although the IMSI is also used as an identification of the user (SIM) of a mobile network, the use of IMSIs is less stable than that of E.164 numbers because when stolen terminals are replaced a new IMSI is assigned whereas the existing E.164 number may be used;

e) that there may be a rapid growth in the use of data only terminals that do not support any service that uses E.164 numbers and this may cause shortages of mobile numbers in some countries;

f) that the 3GPP standards imply that all mobile terminals have an E.164 number;

g) that the use of "E.164" number strings for data terminals as considered here may be in some cases wholly internal to an operator's network and management system and so "private" numbers instead of unique public E.164 numbers could be used.

recommends

1. that CEPT member countries should continue to allow E.164 numbers to be assigned to data-only terminals that do not use the numbers for their data services, but should take account of the extent to which existing numbers are used exclusively for management purposes when considering requests for more numbers from operators;

2. that if the demand for numbers that are visible outside an operator's own systems for this type of terminal grows significantly, then the ECC should study the possibility of creating special ranges of numbers for this application;

3. that if the demand for numbers that are not visible outside an operator's own systems for this type of terminal grows significantly, then CEPT member countries should consider creating a private range of numbers that are not true E.164 numbers for this purpose."

Note:
Please check the CEPT web site(http://www.CEPT.org) for the up to date position on the implementation of this and other ECC recommendations.