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"The authority of IFAST to manage the international IRM and SID/BID databases has yielded consistent network interoperability and billing accuracy."

Find us on the Web!

IFAST.org

IFAST Mission and Goals

The International Forum for ANSI Standards Technology (IFAST), is a not-for-profit organization incorporated in the U.S. in 2005 to promote international roaming and numbering and identification coordination. IFAST first formed as an Industry forum in 1996 under the direction of the Cellular **Telephone Industry Association** (CTIA).

To accomplish its mission, IFAST acts to:

1. Facilitate the identification and resolution of issues to enable the interoperability of systems between countries, carriers, technologies and standards;

2. Assign and manage International Roaming MIN ("IRM") resources in coordination with U.S. based MIN Block Identifier administrators and

3. Allocate and manage System Identification ("SID") numbers to operators and provide a global database of SID information for

use by operators and suppliers of CDMA2000 and database of BID other wireless equipment that uses this identifier for base station identification or for billing purposes. SID codes are used to facilitate roaming and to enhance products for testing, monitoring, location services and other

purposes. 4. Allocate and manage

Billing Identification numbers to operators and

provide a global information for use by operators and suppliers of CDMA2000 and other wireless equipment that uses this identifier for base station identification and for billing purposes. BID codes are used to facilitate billing.

International Outreach

Since IFAST maintains relationships with critical national and international authorities, government ministries, foreign embassies and industry experts, IFAST is able to provide enhanced code-conflict technical solutions and resolutions.

IFAST conducts an Annual Meeting of Members to review progress, goals and to review and revise assignment guidelines.

Current editions of the IFAST IRM and SID Assignment Guidelines can be found on the IFAST website.

IFAST welcomes the opportunity to assist the global wireless community. Currently IFAST serves 63 carriers in 32 countries.

Volume 1, Issue 1 January 2015 "IFAST maintains a focus on identifying and resolving specific issues to enable the interoperability of systems between countries, carriers, technologies, and standards, thereby protecting the investment made by the industry in the ANSI-41 family of standards while evolving to a seamless global network."



CODES: IRMs and SID/BID Management

An **IRM** is a 4 digit prefix to a MIN, assigned to a series of mobile devices to enable accurate billing for international roaming by minimizing conflicts with North American MINs. The 4 digit prefix (IRM) is managed only by IFAST.

A **SID** identifies a geographic portion of an operator's network. The SID is transmitted in CDMA/EVDO systems and is used only for billing purposes in other systems. the sole US and international SID code administrator as a result of a clarification statement by Cibernet (see 'CIBER Notice' dated June 18, 2014, for additional details) and an ongoing MoU with the FCC.

As the SID administrator for the US, IFAST accurately assigns and manages this limited resource for the FCC and is named as the Centralized [SID] Database Administrator for the FCC. **BID** codes used in CIBER and TAP inter-carrier billing records are numbers that are critical to identifying wireless systems for billing purposes. SID codes may also be used for billing purposes.

IFAST has provided code management services for nearly 20 years ensuring the uniqueness of the assignments which is critically important to the functioning of wireless networks of all technologies.

IFAST is now recognized as

Industry Leadership

Prior to 1997, SID ranges were allocated by the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), specifically subcommittee TR-45.2. Then in 1997 TIA transferred the global SID management authority to IFAST. Today, IFAST assigns blocks of unused SID codes to countries and international entities that do not have blocks, such as satellite carriers.

Global situations and developments have necessitated that IFAST increase its role in United States SID management and in 2007 IFAST entered into a MoU with the FCC establishing IFAST as a Cellular SID Administrator. With this assignment came the responsibility to administer and manage the process of assigning Cellular SIDs. In addition, IFAST was assigned the added responsibility of "housing" the official US SID database (now compiled as part of the IFAST global SID database) for continued management and development. Today, IFAST acts as the Centralized SID Database Administrator for the FCC.

Industry Relations

By maintaining an active liaison with industry technical standards bodies such as TIA's TR45, TR45.8, 3GPP2 and the Mobile Development Group (formally the CDMA Development Group), IFAST stays current on industry issues and technical standards development.

IFAST is currently championing the approved work item process of updating TIA TSB-29 via TIA and the parallel X.S0017 document (formerly N.S0017) in 3GPP2. TSB-29 is the standard for international implementation of wireless ANSI-41 systems.

Coordination and cooperation has been established with Cibernet who assigns BID codes.

IFAST At-A-Glance

IFAST Membership

IFAST <u>General Members</u> include all organizations who are assigned an IRM or SID/BID code from IFAST.

<u>Class A Member</u>: Any company, organization, individual or government /regulator expressing an interest in the mission and purpose of IFAST may apply to become a Class A member. Corporations, agencies, or organizations shall assign a single representative to attend meetings and conduct business with IFAST on its behalf. Applications are required and necessary to ensure the membership population remains well balanced in interests and purpose. Applications will be reviewed for approval by the Board of Directors. Applications may be submitted at any time.

IFAST Class 'A'

Message from the IFAST Board of Directors

Our current efforts in the international arena have provided us with additional tasks and responsibilities. Our commitment to our CDMA community members for 2015 is to offer leadership, seminars and informational sessions to increase the knowledge and understanding of the issues faced by our members and how to solve them through technology support. Additionally, we are looking to educate and enhance the international business community and emerging governments on the continued advantages of the CDMA technology for forward looking implementations.

Contact IFAST

IFAST welcomes inquiries and provides an open website containing useful information for the general public as well as a Member-only portal to enable quick online access to detailed IRM and BID/SID information useful to members and the industry as a whole.





membership provides

'TFAST's commitment to the work of the Communications Industry, including TLA TR-45, is important to the future of interoperability and industry growth worldwide."

Syed Zaeem Hosain Chairman of the Board IFAST



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