

POLICY FOR THE ALLOCATION OF TETRA MOBILE NETWORK CODES - TMNCs

1 INTRODUCTION

This agreed Ofcom policy replaces the interim policy for the allocation of TETRA Mobile Network Codes developed within the Civil Tetra Experts Committee (C-TEC) in 1998 and implemented within the Radiocommunications Agency in 1999.

2 REFERENCES

- [1] ETSI EN 300 392-1: "Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA); Voice plus Data (V+D); Part 1: General network design Clause 7 Addressing and Identities".
- [2] ETSI TR102 300-5: "Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA); Voice plus Data (V+D); Designers' guide; Part 5: Guidance on numbering and addressing".
- [3] ETSI EG 202 118 Services and Protocols for Advanced Networks (SPAN); the structure of the TETRA numbering resource, interworking and high level policy for administration
- [4] ITU-T Recommendation E.218 Management of the allocation of TETRA Mobile Country Codes.

3 SCOPE

This policy specifies the process and management requirements for the allocation of numbering resource for both civil and public safety implementations of TETRA. The allocation of E.212 Numbering resource is not covered by this policy.

4 POLICY

Following the approval of E.218 [4], the UK has been allocated two TETRA Mobile Country Codes (TMCCs), 234 and 235. Behind these TMCCs there exist TETRA Mobile Network Codes (TMNCs).

The UK approach to TMNC administration is one of alignment (as opposed to translation), which refers to the common relationship between TMNCs and E.212 MNCs.

The TMNC is 4 digits long, while the E.212 MNC is three digits long.

In support of the alignment approach, the TMNC resource behind the TMCCs of 234 and 235 is divided into two parts.

The TMNC range from 0000 – 0999 is not assigned directly. Rather, because they are aligned with the E.212 MNCs, these TMNCs are assigned by the Ofcom Numbering Unit by default whenever a 2 or 3 digit E.212 MNC is assigned according to the rules of assignment of E.212 MNCs.

Note: Though the range is stated as being 0000-0999, because the UK only uses 2 digit codes, then only the numbers 0000-0099 will be affected, and the remaining part of the range 0100-0999 marked for future expansion of the E.212 equivalent.

TMNCs in the range 1000-9999 are allocated by Ofcom Operations Business Radio to operators of TETRA networks that may be considered as private, in that they:

- do not require E.212 numbering resource;
- do not directly interwork with operators who do have access to E.212 resources.

Ofcom Business Radio will administer the non E.212 numbering space in the range 1000-9999 for assignment to appropriately licensed end users.

Furthermore, Ofcom Business Radio will ensure that details of the assignments are maintained and will notify any change in non E.212 numbering policy to the Ofcom TETRA Numbering Administrator.

5 TMNCs

Ofcom may decide to generate an application form for the purpose of applying for TMNCs, which would be available on the Ofcom website.

The TMNCs assigned shall be up to four digits.

NB. Since the TMNC is a 14 bit string, a 5th digit could be used in the TETRA MNC (the highest number represented by a 14 bit binary string is 16383). Care should be exercised however with this option - it should only be used when TMNCs are used up, or where an application is for a TETRA to TETRA 'island' with absolutely no possibility of interworking with E.212 networks.

6 ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL TETRA MNC (TMNCs)

When applying for additional TMNCs, network operators shall need to justify the request either through high utilisation, conformance to ETSI standard, or supporting a multivendor environment.

7 REQUIREMENTS ON NETWORK OPERATORS

Network operators shall ensure that accurate records are kept of numbers allocated, and that appropriate management processes are employed. A company TMNC contact needs to be communicated to Ofcom, in addition to any changes of staff over time. Audits may be carried out and resources that are being misused, or that fail to meet the minimum required level of utilisation, may be withdrawn.

Any change in the rationale used to obtain the TMNC should be notified to Ofcom. Where this contravenes the TETRA Numbering Resource Conventions, bi-lateral discussions between the network operator and Ofcom will be undertaken to resolve the issues.

8 REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSIGNING TETRA NUMBERING SPACE

An organisation requiring the assignment of TETRA numbering space shall specify when the space will be required, the scope of any application and the potential number of users (in confidence).

Trevor Allison
Executive Engineer
CBS & PAMR
Ofcom

Nicholas Good
Numbering Programme Manager
Numbering Unit
Ofcom

5th November 2004