NEW SPECIFICATION FOR THE TOTAL ACCESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (TACS)

The Department of Trade and Industry has today announced improvements to the ‘Total Access Communications System (TACS) Mobile Station-Land Station Compatibility Specification’. This lays down the technical requirements for the cellular radio systems and mobile radio equipment.

The new specification has been upgraded to Issue 4 as of experience gained by the UK cellular network operators. It should improve signalling reliability, and hence call reliability, and also simplifies the registration logic.

A number of overseas TACS cellular operators are also showing interest in incorporating these changes into their networks.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. Copies of the specification can be obtained upon application

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2. Charges, including postage and handling, will be:

   £25 per copy within the UK
   £40 per copy outside the UK

3. Applicants are required to include their telephone number with their application.

4. Many of the changes to the behaviour of mobile stations can be introduced without additional support from the TACS land network. However, some innovations are not compatible with existing TACS systems so they have to be updated.

   ENDS

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