



**SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION
NUMBER
(SID)**

**ASSIGNMENT
GUIDELINES
AND
PROCEDURES**

Version: 2.5

August, 2013

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1.0 Purpose and Scope

This document contains the guidelines and procedures for the assignment of System Identifier (SID) codes for use in ANSI-41 based mobile systems.

- 1.1 The SID administrator manages the assignment of the SID resource.
- 1.2 These guidelines were developed by the consensus of representatives of entities within the ANSI-41 based wireless sector of the international telecommunications industry, as well as from other international wireless networks interoperating with ANSI-41 based networks, as represented at the International Forum on ANSI-41 Standards Technology (IFAST).
- 1.3 These guidelines apply internationally among carriers using ANSI-41 based mobile systems and, or providing roaming into ANSI-41 based systems from other wireless network technologies. These guidelines do not supersede the regulations, procedures or requirements of any other appropriate legal or regulatory authority.
- 1.4 Additional information may be found on the IFAST website, ifast.org

2.0 SID FORMAT AND FUNCTION

- 2.1 The SID is a 15 bit identifier (0-32767) transmitted from a base station over a radio interface, that identifies a mobile system conforming to one of several TIA wireless standards (e.g. IS-2000 'cdma2000'). The SID is used by Mobile Stations to identify systems that they are monitoring.
- 2.2 The SID is also a 16 bit identifier used within a wireless network to identify wireless systems. SID codes that do not fit within the 15 bit range (i.e. 32768-65535) can be used for various network purposes, such as identifying portions of a wireless system for accounting purposes.
- 2.3 A BID (Billing ID) is a SID code that is not transmitted from any base stations, but is only used for network identification purposes. A BID may be a 15 or 16 bit SID. BID codes are assigned by IFAST and Cibernet Corporation.

3.0 ASSUMPTIONS AND CONSTRAINTS

These guidelines are based on the following assumptions and constraints:

- 3.1 These guidelines and procedures should provide the greatest latitude to those providing ANSI-41 based mobile systems, as well as other wireless networks providing roaming into ANSI-41 based systems, while permitting the effective and efficient management of a finite resource.

- 3.2 The IFAST has oversight and management responsibility for SID assignments and conflict resolution. The IFAST has appointed the IRM Administrator to function as the SID Administrator.
- 3.3 These guidelines do not describe the method by which SID codes are transmitted across and processed by networks. Network interworking arrangements are contained in other standards, documents, or business agreements.
- 3.4 Participation by ANSI-41 based companies as well as other wireless networks is recommended but strictly voluntary.

4.0 ASSIGNMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRINCIPLES

The assignment principles defined below allow wireless networks the greatest possible latitude in providing seamless international roaming capabilities between them.

- 4.1 Blocks of SID codes may be assigned to national regulatory authorities. IFAST will not charge for these assignments. These national authorities will assign individual SID codes to carriers within their borders.
- 4.2 When a national regulatory body is unable or unwilling to assign National SID codes to its national carriers, IFAST may take on this role using the assigned national ranges.
- 4.3 Blocks of International SID codes may be assigned directly by IFAST to entities that are licensed to provide wireless service across national boundaries (e.g. global mobile satellite carriers) provided that the terminals that can access that system are able to operate according to one or more standards that require the use of a SID code.
- 4.4 Blocks of International SID codes may be assigned to Cibernet Corporation for use as BID codes, upon pending exhaustion of the current BID resource. Only SID codes with the high order bit set to "1" will be assigned for this purpose (i.e. 32,768-65,535).
- 4.5 The SID administrator will:
 - Assign SID codes in a fair, timely and impartial manner to any applicant that meets the criteria for assignment (Section 5).
 - Assign SID codes on a first come, first served basis from the available pool.
 - Make all assignments based on the procedures in these guidelines.
 - Treat sensitive information received from applicants as proprietary and confidential, and not to be shared with non-administrator personnel.
 - Annually attempt to contact national regulators who are not currently performing SID assignment and inform them of their right to perform this function.
- 4.6 Information that is requested of applicants in support of a SID application shall be uniform and kept to a minimum.
- 4.7 These guidelines have no effect on SID assignments made prior to the approval of these guidelines unless the assignee agrees to participate in the IFAST process. Use of all assigned resources shall be consistent with these guidelines.

- 4.8 Application fees and annual maintenance fees may be charged to entities receiving either international or national SID code assignments from IFAST. Changes in the fees listed in [Annex A](#) of this document will be made by the IFAST Board of Directors, to be ratified at the next IFAST general meeting. IFAST will submit an annual bill to each IRM assignee. Payment is expected within 30 days. However, if payment is not received within 5 months of billing, the assignee will receive a letter indicating that if payment is not received in an additional 30 days, the assigned SID(s) will be returned to the SID inventory for reassignment. Reassignment can occur following the normal “dormant” period (6 months).
- 4.9 A SID may be reported as ‘Grandfathered’ when it is believed to be currently in use but it has neither been assigned by IFAST nor is known to have been assigned by a national authority. Carrier identifying information will not be reported in these cases (e.g. on the website) but will be retained by the administrator. A carrier holding one or more grandfathered codes must start paying maintenance fees before applying for any SID assignments from IFAST. Assignment fees do not apply.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF SID ADMINISTRATOR

The assignment guidelines in the following paragraphs should be considered by a potential SID applicant before submitting a SID application and will be used by the SID administrator in reviewing and processing a SID application:

The SID administrator will:

- 5.1 Assign SID codes, upon request, to any country that operates, or will soon operate, an ANSI-41 based cellular network, that wishes to provide international roaming with other countries that operate compatible networks and that agrees to assign SID codes to entities licensed to operate within their boundaries.
- 5.2 Assign SID codes to international wireless networks which are licensed to provide wireless service across country boundaries (e.g. mobile satellite carriers).
- 5.3 Assign SID codes to national carriers when the national regulatory body is unable or unwilling to do so, or if the national regulator specifically requests that IFAST perform this duty.
- 5.4 Document the assignment of SID codes to national carriers by national regulatory authorities upon provision of official documentation from the national authority to a carrier indicating the assignment of specific SID codes. These assignments will be distinguished from IFAST assignments.
- 5.5 Initiate assignment when the applicant has paid all fees owing.
- 5.6 Assign SID codes in a fair, timely and impartial manner to any applicant that meets the criteria for assignment.
- 5.7 Make all assignments based on the procedures in this document.
- 5.8 Treat sensitive information received from applicants as proprietary and confidential, and not to be shared with non-administrator personnel.

- 5.9 Assign a SID block no larger than requested. An applicant must provide a justification for the number of SID codes requested.
- 5.10 Assign SID codes to permit the most effective and efficient use of a finite resource in order to maximize the existing allocated resource inventory.
- 5.11 Charge an application and/or annual maintenance fee associated with an application for assignment of one or more SID codes.
- 5.12 Report SID usage to each IFAST meeting and through a publicly accessible website. The information made public includes the SID assignment range and the name of the assignee organization.
- 5.13 Report SID codes as 'Reserved' when they are not available for general use. This may be because the SID code cannot be validly used or because it is allocated to a shared industry use. Assignment and maintenance fees do not apply to SID codes in this state. The reason for the reservation will be reported.
- 5.14 Support carriers in identifying and resolving SID conflicts.
- 5.15 Process the application within 30 calendar days and inform the applicant of the result. This includes a 2-week IFAST application comment cycle. If the application is denied, the SID Administrator will provide a detailed explanation.
- 5.16 Optionally, following a request, place a SID code in "Pending Assignment" status for a period not to exceed 60 days following notice of intent to apply for the code. The SID code will not be considered for assignment to another entity during this period. There is no fee associated with placing a SID code in this status.

6.0 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SID APPLICANTS AND ASSIGNEES

Entities requesting SID assignments and entities already assigned one or more SID blocks shall comply with the following:

- 6.1 Meet all conditions specified in these guidelines. Copies of the guidelines may be obtained from the SID administrator or from the IFAST website (<http://www.ifast.org>).
- 6.2 Apply in writing to the SID administrator.
- 6.3 Include the appropriate payment with their application.
- 6.4 Pay annual maintenance fees for previously assigned SID codes within 90 days of notification.
- 6.5 Payment in full of SID fees is the responsibility of the SID applicant or assignee. The net amount received by IFAST is to be the total amount invoiced. IFAST shall not be responsible for paying any costs associated with the transaction (e.g. bank fees and taxes from the country of origin)
- 6.6 Provide information to justify the SID assignment when requested by the administrator.
- 6.7 Comply with all applicable regulations.
- 6.8 Certification that a SID code is in use within one year of its initial assignment.

- 6.9 Return a SID code if the associated license to operate is canceled by the national or international authority.
- 6.10 IFAST requires the following procedure to be followed in the event that a SID assignee wishes to return one or more SID codes that are no longer required for operational use:
- The assignee must ensure the SID fees for assignments are current.
 - The assignee must submit to IFAST, on or before the date of return, a letter, on official company letterhead, listing all SID codes to be returned.
 - The letter must contain an effective date after which the assignee agrees the SID codes will no longer be used.
 - The letter must be signed by an officer or other official of the assignee responsible for the SID codes or roaming operations.
 - An electronic or faxed version sent to IFAST is acceptable. The original however, must be forwarded to IFAST. Regular first-class post may be used.
 - The assignee must certify that none of the SID codes being returned, that may have been sub-assigned to another entity, are still in use by that entity.

7.0 SID RETURN AND RECLAMATION PROCEDURES

Guidelines for the return of SID codes include the following:

- 7.1 The returnee will indicate, in writing to the SID administrator, the list of SID codes being returned.
- 7.2 The returnee will agree to cease using the SID codes no later than the date indicated in their letter to the SID administrator. The administrator will immediately return the code to the SID pool on the date indicated by the returnee.
- 7.3 SID codes with overdue fees will be reported on the IFAST website. All efforts will be made to contact SID assignees before SID codes are reclaimed due to non-payment of fees. SID codes will first be reported as “Owing” for a period of time specified in [Annex B](#), then “Being Reclaimed”, then “Dormant”. Following these three phases, without payment of owing fees, the SID code(s) will be returned to the list of unassigned SID codes.
- 7.4 The time periods for SID reclamation will be set by the IFAST Board of Directors, to be ratified at the next IFAST general meeting. They will be included in [Annex B](#) of this document.

8.0 SID CONSERVATION AND ASSIGNMENT AUDITS

Assignment and management of SID resources are undertaken with the following conservation objectives:

- 8.1 To efficiently and effectively administer and manage a limited resource through code conservation, and
- 8.2 To eliminate or delay the exhaust potential for the available SID resource.
- 8.3 The Administrator will track and monitor SID assignments and assignment procedures to ensure that the resource is being used in an efficient and effective manner. Ongoing Administrator procedures that foster conservation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - An active reclamation program to reclaim unused or misused SID blocks or individual codes,
 - Strict conformance with these guidelines by those assigning SID codes within a SID block,
 - Appropriate and timely recommendations to the IFAST for modifications to these guidelines, if they are found to result in inefficient use or assignment of SID blocks or codes,
 - Periodic specific and random audits of assignments and assignment procedures.
- 8.4 The Administrator may conduct an audit of an Assignee's assignment records. The audit may be precipitated by a complaint from outside the Administrator's organization or by the Administrator. The purpose of an audit will be to verify the Assignee's compliance with the provisions set forth in these guidelines.
 - 8.4.1 Audits will be conducted at the Assignee's premises or at a mutually agreed to location and at a mutually agreed to time.
 - 8.4.2 The Administrator will not copy or remove the information from the premises nor will they disclose the information to non-Administrator personnel.
 - 8.4.3 The Administrator will expect to review the following information to ensure conformance with these guidelines and the proper use of the SID resource:
 - Need for SID codes based on national license assignment or customer forecasts,
 - Verification of assignment for each SID code,
 - Date of assignment of each SID code,
 - Activation date of each SID code,
 - Indication of SID assignment to national carriers or the appropriate elements of a multi-national carrier network, and
- 8.5 Audit results should be used to identify and recommend to the IFAST specific corrective actions that may be necessary. Examples of specific corrective actions which may be proposed are as follows:
 - Modifications to these assignment guidelines to reflect the specific circumstance revealed by the audit,

- Additional training for Assignees concerning the assignment guidelines,
 - Return of assigned SID blocks or codes,
 - Requirements for supporting documentation of future SID requests in non-compliant situations, or
 - Modifications to the process in which records are maintained or SID codes are assigned.
- 8.6 Audit results with respect to Assignee information and/or recommended Assignee process modifications shall be treated on a proprietary and confidential basis.
- 8.7 Failure to participate or cooperate in an audit shall result in the invocation of SID reclamation procedures.

9.0 MAINTENANCE OF GUIDELINES

It may be necessary to modify the guidelines periodically to meet changing and unforeseen circumstances. The need for guidelines modification may be identified by the administrator, any entity in the international wireless telecommunications sector or the IFAST Forum. When need for modification is identified by other than the forum, the identifying entity will submit the modification issue to the forum. The forum will coordinate the modification process. Questions or concerns regarding the maintenance of the guidelines may be directed to:

Secretariat

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10.0 APPEALS PROCESS

Disagreements may arise between the SID Administrator and SID applicants or assignees in the context of the administration and management of these guidelines. In all cases, the SID Administrator and SID applicants/assignees will make reasonable, good faith efforts to resolve such disagreements among themselves, consistent with the guidelines, prior to pursuing any appeal.

Appeals may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following options:

- The SID applicant/assignee will have the opportunity to resubmit the matter to the administrator for reconsideration with or without additional input.
- Guidelines interpretation/clarification questions may be referred to the IFAST for resolution. Unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the parties, these questions will be submitted in a generic manner protecting the identity of the appellant.

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- The applicant/assignee may pursue the disagreement with the appropriate governmental/regulatory body.

Reports on any resolution resulting from the above options, the content of which will be mutually agreed upon by the involved parties, will be kept on file by the administrator. At minimum, the report will contain the final disposition of the appeal; e.g., whether or not a SID block or code was assigned or reclaimed.

Annex A: Schedule of SID Fees

The following fees apply to SID assignments as of July 1, 2005:

Type of Fee (per individual SID code)	Amount (US dollars)
Initial assignment of an international SID code (includes first year's maintenance fee)	\$1,000.00
International SID maintenance fee renewal for one year.	\$500.00
Initial assignment of a national SID code (includes first year's maintenance fee)	\$500.00
National SID maintenance fee renewal for one year.	\$250.00

Note that International SID codes are assigned to “entities that are licensed to provide wireless service across national boundaries”. National SID codes can be used by mobiles outside the assigned country but must only be broadcast by base stations within the assigned country.

Annex B: SID Reclamation Time Periods

The following timing applies to the reclamation of a SID code due to unpaid maintenance fees as of July 1, 2005:

Time Period	Explanation	Starts when
Invoicing	SID maintenance fees will soon be due. An indication will be placed on the IFAST website (e.g. a "\$" beside the SID code).	Maintenance fees are due within 90 days.
Owing	The SID code is marked "Owing" on the IFAST website. The name of the assignee is still shown.	SID maintenance fees are overdue between 1 and 179 days (less than 6 months, approximately).
Being Reclaimed	The SID code is marked "Being Reclaimed" on the IFAST website. The name of the assignee is still shown.	SID maintenance fees are overdue for more than 180 days and less than 360 (approximately 6 to 12 months).
Dormant	The SID code is marked "Dormant" on the IFAST website. Information about the assignee is no longer shown on the website, but is retained by the SID administrator.	SID maintenance fees are overdue for more than 360 days and less than 540 (approximately 12 to 18 months).
Unassigned	The SID code is available for reassignment.	SID maintenance fees are overdue for more than 540 days (more than 18 months, approximately).