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ANATEL

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Re: SID Code Usage in Brazil

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IFAST has received a number of reports that SID code usage in Brazil does not conform to the blocks associated with various countries and other international entities at the IFAST web site ([www.ifast.org](http://www.ifast.org) - follow links to SID codes) nor in the TIA recommendation TSB29 (currently at Revision D).

SID codes are transmitted by every AMPS, N-AMPS, D-AMPS (TIA/EIA-136) and CDMA2000 (TIA/EIA-95, IS-2000) base station to identify the system it belongs to. They enable mobiles to determine which of several systems that are available will provide the best service, they are extensively used for sharing billing records between carriers, and also used to identify the location of a mobile when analyzing billing records for roaming fraud.

There has never been a formal assignment of authority for these codes. Codes were initially assigned to US cellular carriers by the FCC. The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA – [www.tiaonline.org](http://www.tiaonline.org)) subcommittee TR-45.2 recognized in the late 1980s that the codes had to be globally unique, and established a division of codes among countries in TSB29. Several years ago that responsibility was transferred to IFAST.

Our understanding is that SID codes in Brazil are assigned according to a different method and that, in order to share billing records, mapping of the SID codes between a Brazilian value and an external value (or vice-versa) must occur at appropriate times. This is less than desirable, because errors in the mapping tables can cause loss of billing information, erroneous billing or difficulty tracking fraudulent activities. Furthermore, mobiles roaming in Brazil may make wrong choices about the available systems.

IFAST is interested in pursuing a resolution to this problem. We are having a meeting on March 24-25, 2003 in Brazil. This might be an excellent opportunity to meet and establish a group that can develop a proposal. If you are not the appropriate contacts for this matter, please feel free to forward this message.

Regards,

David Crowe,  
SID Administrator