



GSM MoU TWG

Terminals Working Group

SUBJECT: IMEI format and structure changes

To: 3GPP S1/CN/SA
Ref: IMEI proposed format changes
Date: 28th February 2001

Dear Mr Cox,

I hope that 3GPP will be pleased to hear that the adhoc group named as GISF (Global IMEI Strategy Forum) which was formed to consider the various issues relating to the IMEI structure and format has convened on several occasions and that good progress has been made to date. The GISF is made up of both sides of the industry and I am pleased to report that representatives from Japan and N.America have been regular contributors to the discussions and recommendations that this group hopes to make before the end of this year.

An analysis of the current IMEI structure as set out in TWG document TW.06 has revealed that there are at least 77 blocks of 10 to 12th numbers available, and this is not counting the blocks that have been under utilised because of poor co-ordination in the allocating procedure. Based on estimates of future requirements from both the manufacturers and operators it is the considered opinion of the group that there is sufficient numbers available with a small change to the format of the existing 16 digit numbering system.

As co- Chairman of the group I am confident that a full report and set of recommendation will be completed by the 4th quarter of 2001, and I shall endeavour to keep 3GPP full informed of the progress of this group throughout the year.

Yours sincerely

David B. Nelson

David B.Nelson
GSM TWG Chairman